

Jesse Ogea's Interview with Mr. Annala

me : When + where were you born?

Mr. A: May 13, 1946. I was born in Ishpeming.

me : How many brothers + sisters do you have and what are their names?

Mr. A: Two brothers, two sisters. Sisters names were Louis and Betty. My brothers names are Robert + Terry.

me : When + who did you marry?

Mr. A: I got married in November 30, 1984 to Patty Gravedoni.

me : How many children do you have?

Mr. A: One

me : What's his name?

Mr. A: Larry Jr.

me : When + where were your parents born?

Mr. A: My father was born in December 20, 1906. My mother was born February 21, 1917.

me : Were they born in National Mine?

Mr. A: I think my dad was born in National Mine, I think my mother was born in Ishpeming.

me : What years did you attend National Mine School?

Mr. A: I graduated in 1964, so I started kindergarden, would of probably been in 1951.

me: Do you remember the names of some of your grades school teachers?

Mr. a: I remember my kindergarten teacher, my kindergarten teacher was Mrs. Dorothy Gleason. She was the music teacher at National too. 1st grade was Mrs. Magnusen. 2nd grade was, I don't remember. 3rd grade, I don't remember. 4th grade was Mrs. Warha. Fifth grade was Mrs. Johnson. 6th grade was Mr. Benzji, Fred Benzji

me: Where there any mean teachers?

Mr. a: Ahh, some of them were pretty strict. Mr. Benzji was pretty mild, Mrs. Johnson was pretty strict. Lower grade teachers weren't real strict.

me: Do you have any interesting or humorous stories about your grade school teachers?

Mr. a: The only one I remember about was Mrs. Johnson. She'd come around and grab you by the ear or slap your knuckles with a ruler.

me: Do you remember some of your junior high school teachers? Could you describe them?

Mr. a: This my junior high teachers, ahh, I can't remember any except Stewart oja, I had him for Michigan History.

me : Do you have any interesting or humorous stories about them?

Mr. a: No.

me : What was the first day of school like?

Mr. a: What first day of school? My very first day. I can't remember any years.

me : Any grade school years that something happened?

Mr. a: No. I remember my first day of high school years but nothing happened.

me : How long was a school day?

Mr. a: About the same as today.

me : How did you get to school each day?

Mr. a: Walked.

me : How far was it?

Mr. a: About half a mile.

me : What kind of subjects were taught?

Mr. a: English, History, Geometry, Science, typing bookkeeping.

me : What was your favorite subject? Why?

Mr. a: Math. Cause I was good at it.

me : What was your most difficult subject? Why?

Mr. a: History. Too many old dates to remember.

me : How were kids expected to act and behave? What punishments were given if they didn't?

Mr. A: Well, the teacher made you behave. If you didn't they would make you go out + sit in the hall or go to the principals office.

me : How did kids dress? Did boys have to wear pants and girls have to wear dresses?

Mr. A: Girls always had to wear dresses, Boys could wear any kinds of pants.

me : Did boys have to have a certain length of hair?

Mr. A: No dress codes for hair except that you weren't allowed to have unorthodox ones. No different colors

me : Were there any special fads or sayings when you were in school?

Mr. A: There were some but I don't remember any of them.

me : What kind of music did you listen to?

Mr. A: We listened to a lot of country music there wasn't really rock n roll.

me : What kinds of extra curricular activities were offered?

Mr. A: During school they basketball, baseball, track.

me : Which ones did you participate in?

Mr. A: None of them.

me: Did any of the teams win a trophy or tournament? What effect did this have on the school?

Mr. a: I don't think our team won a trophy while I was in school.

me: How far did the teams travel & how did they get there?

Mr. a: They always travelled by bus, they went on some long bus trips.

me: Who was the Principal when you were a student? Describe him?

Mr. a: Mr. Linberg was the Principal when I was in high school. He was a pretty strict guy. He was one of our teachers, he taught, Science, History.

me: What were your books like back then?

Mr. a: I imagine they're the same thing as now.

me: How much homework did you get?

Mr. a: We never had a lot of homework, maybe one assignment.

me: What was lunch time like?

Mr. a: I never ate lunch at school. I used to go home.

me: What was recess like?

Mr. A: I don't remember.

me: Did you have any special plays or programs?

Mr. A: We always had Christmas programs, Mrs. Gleason was the director.

me: Did you participate in any of them?

Mr. A: Occasionally.

me: Did you have any main parts?

Mr. A: I was mainly just singing.

me: Do you remember interesting or humorous stories about them?

Mr. A: There was always somebody forgetting their line. But nothing really specific.

me: Were there strict rules to follow?

Mr. A: Yeah. Everything had to be in the right order.

me: What happened if somebody was caught laughing?

Mr. A: No, she never punished. She just hollered at you.

me: Describe a graduation ceremony?

Mr. A: It wasn't very long, some of your class advisors gave some speeches, teachers gave a speech + handed out diplomas.

me: What are some memories you have of graduation?

Mr. A: Everybody was happy to be getting out of school.

me: Did you be able to remain in contact with some of your friends?

Mr. A: There is a lot of kids I went to school with around. We still see each other.

Me: Did you have any teachers that had an impact on your life?

Mr. A: Not really. Some teachers were nicer than others.

Me: Did you have any special yearly picnics or outings?

Mr. A: Yeh, we used to on field trips. When I was in grade school, we used to go to the airbase once. Senior class trip we went to Mackinaw Island.

Me: Were there any tragedies while you were in school?

Mr. A: No, I don't remember anyone of getting hurt.

me: What do you think the biggest change in school was since you were in school?

Mr. A: The music, the dress codes are probably a little more lenient now, we weren't allowed to wear long hair. We had to wear neat clothes, no ripped up clothes.

Me: Is there a big change you might have seen in school?

Mr. A: I don't really see any.

Me: What are your fondest memories of National Mine?

Mr. A: All the years of school were fun.

(8)

me : If you had a message to the students today, what would it be?

Mr. A : Buckle down + study. get a good grade to get a good job.

me : Is there anything else you'd like to add?

Mr. A : No, nothing except that I'm glad that I've been part of all, the 75 anniversary of National Mine.