

Angie Luukkala's
Interview with
Werner Maki

me: I'm Angie Luukkala interviewing Werner Maki on December 11, 1990.

His House

me: When and ~~were~~^{ne} were you born?

Mr. M.: National Mine

me: Um; ~~what~~ ~~year?~~ ~~you~~ ~~born~~

Mr. M.: 1934

me: Do you have any Brothers or Sisters?

Mr. M.: One sister um, Mrs. Jack Swanson, she lives in National Mine.

me: Do you know where and when your parents were born?

Mr. M.: No... I don't

me: What years did you attend National Mine?

Mr. M.: Graduated in 1952.

me: Do you remember the names of any grade school teachers or anyone that you can describe?

Mr. M.: What comes to my mind is, Mrs. Colkason, Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Magnuson my first grade teacher.

me: Did you have a Favorite?

Mr. M.: No, I didn't have no favorites.

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

Mr. M: Well, one thing with Mrs. Gleason she put on a good Christmas program every year. That's one thing about her. She really put on a nice show (play).

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

Mr. M: Off hand, no.

me: Or maybe high school teachers?

Mr. M: Mr. Gleason he was our coach, Mr. Bath, Mr. Annala.

me: Were any your favorites?

Mr. M: No I didn't have no favorites teachers.

me: How did you get to school each day?

Mr. M: Walked

me: How far was it?

Mr. M: Two miles

me: How long did it usually take you?

Mr. M: From 20 to 25 minutes.

me: Ha! I must of been hard when it was cold out.

me: How did the kids dress when you went to school? Was there a dress?

Mr. M: No, there was no dress code, well dress pants no overalls. That's what it was, we couldn't wear no overalls at that time.

me: Ha! Ha! Ha! What kind of subjects were taught at that time?

Mr. M: Oh, the basics, uh, in high school we had to take one year of algebra, one year of geometry.

me: Did you have a special subject that you enjoyed? Or that gave you difficulty.

Mr. M: Algebra was difficult for me at that time. I'm trying to think, I can't remember if I had a favorite subject or not.

me: Did you have any special fads or sayings, or things you like to do?

Mr. M: No, I didn't have none.

me: How were the kids expected to ~~set~~ behave?

Mr. M: It was strict, very strict, our principle and our superintendent Mr. Bath and Mr. Annala were very strict.

me: Did you ever get suspended or expelled or?

Mr. M: I think I got suspended once for fighting.

me: Really

Mr. M: Ya!

me: what kind of extra curricular activities were offered.

Mr. M: The only thing we had was basketball

me: Did you play baseball?

Mr. M: well during the summer we played baseball

me: Do you remember any special moments about baseball.

Mr. M: High school we just had pick up teams, we'd go to each location ~~and~~ that played but mostly with Basketball.

me: Well, I heard you were a pretty good Baseball player.

Mr. M: Softball player.

me: Ya, Softball player.

Mr. M: Well in high school aah! Basketball was #1 we had won the class E district tournament in 1952. That was the highlight of my senior year. Then started softball after that.

me: Do you remember any special moments about baseball or any winnings.

Mr. M: Oh, out of the, there had been many great moments in playing softball. The biggest one was from 1960 to 1970. Woody's bar, a team behind me that stayed together for those ten years, and played together, we had the same manager Sam Gonoff for the same ten years which made us a very good team. 4.

me: Did you receive a trophy or win any tournaments?

Mr. M: I've received many trophies, the highlight of it is I think in Rhineland out a ten years going to Rhineland I was MVP four times, and MVP Pitcher 3 times out of ten years that I went to Rhineland,

me: Did you have any good seasons?

Mr. M: Off hand we're, Ever season was a good ~~year~~ season, I don't even remember having a losing season, One year I had, I think I pitched four games in one day and pitched two no hitters, back to back on the same day which stands out in my mind, In 1989 I was the first one from the U.P. to be inducted into the state hall of fame then 1990 I was the first one in the U.P. hall of fame for playing softball

me: We can go back to school.

me: Did you have any special programs or any plays you can remember, that you loved to do.

Mr. M: I don't remember of any plays, that I, off hand, I can't think of any plays.

me: Do you remember what kind of lunches were like and what kind you had?

Mr. M: Well up to, I think it was our 11th grade we had to ~~bring~~ bring our own lunch and 11th grade and 12th grade we had start having hot lunches.

me: ~~do~~ like what range did it cost?

Mr. M: Hmm. I don't know if it was 50¢ a lunch or was it cheaper, 25¢ a lunch, I can't really remember.

me: Um! what did you do after lunch everyday, did you have a recess or did you have to go straight to class.

Mr. M: No, we had a lunch and a basketball season we'd go play basketball.

me: Who was your principle when you were in school?

Mr. M: Principle ... Principle was ... Oh! I might have these backwards, Principle was Mr. Bath Principle was Mr. Annala, Superintendent was Mr. ~~Ann~~ Bath, Mr. Annala was a very good teacher, and was really strict, he was, if you wanted to learn something you learnt it from him and a Algebra and Mr. Bath we had for, No, Mr. Annala we had for Geometry, and Mr. Bath we had for Algebra.

me: Did you have lots of homework?
Mr. M: The only ^{time} I took homework was to make
sure I, if I know where gonna have, and
test and I wanted to play basketball, He'd
say well you better study* and then I'd
take homework otherwise I very seldom
took homework home.

me: (Ha! Ha!) What was it like? was it hard
or simple?

Mr. M: Well, it was, if you study it was easy.

me: What did you do after hours did you and
your friends have any special things?

Mr. M: We a, when younger you sleigh ride, but
when we got older we skied, ski jump,
I use to ski jump, we use to have a
hill on, a bump on every hill in National
mine and we use to ski till dark, otherwise
that was the only enjoyment we had, go
show on a Friday night.

me: Where did you usually hang out? anywhere

Mr. M: No place, Oh, over somebody's house

me: Could you describe the graduation
ceremony at National Mine?

Mr. Maki: Well, we didn't have no home parties
like everyone has now, all I can
remember, after we got our diplomas
we lined up in the Gym, everyone shook
our hands, then everyone went on their
own ways, 7

me: What special memories do you have of graduation?

Mr. M: I don't, I guess mostly it was glad to get out of school, that's all I remember of graduation.

me: Where you ever to maintain contact with your childhood friends?

Mr. M: Some of um, that I kept contact with, some of um, but not all, all the graduate class a, kind of went their different ways, but theirs a few from my class around here yet.

me: Now that you are retired from baseball what do you, do you have any special thing, you like to do?

Mr. M: Camping and cross country skiing?

me: Do you work still,

Mr. M: I'm a prison guard at Marquette Branch Prison?

me: Well, I think that about covers it!

Mr. M: Ha! ha!

me: Thank you very much!

me: Warner Maki has 3 children, twins, Cynthia & Cristine ages 33, and a daughter Susan age 30 and 7 grandchildren which he likes to spend time with.