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Maria Van Luven's Interview
with
FRED VAN LUVEN

Me: Hi my name is Maria Van Luven, and I'm interviewing my dad Fred Van Luven. The purpose of this interview is for Red Dust, and the Date is December 11, 1990. The location of his house is in National Mine.

Me: When and where were you born?

Dad: Born in Sault St Marie, um 1952.

Me: Do you have any brothers or sisters?

Dad: Yes, do I have, mine

Me: What are their names?

Dad: Elaine, Marsha, Mike, Barry, Sandy, Penny, Tammi, Dot and
Pattie.

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

Dad: No, probably the Sault but I don't know ~~where~~ when.

Me: Around what years did you attend National Mine School?

Dad: 1965 to 1970.

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

Dad: I remember most of my high school teachers, there still around, I don't think I'm so old, I should be on this Red Dust thing. That's for History.

Me: Um - Could you describe what they were like? Any of them.

Dad: Hmm. They were pretty friendly they were nice, they taught you stuff, some of them were struck we laugh about that.

Me: Did you have any favorite high school teacher?

Dad: Uhh, probably Stanley Roberts,

Me: Why?

Dad: because Stan would grab a kid and ~~throw~~ ^{throw} him through the door, he wouldn't mind that

Me: Do you have any interesting or humorous stories about your high school teachers?

Dad: Kern Goulette blew up Stan Roberts turtle one time in biology, put a fire cracker in him and blew him up

Me: O.K, How did you get to school everyday?

Dad: We walked

Me: You walked?

Dad: We walked from down here up to the school

Me: How did the kids dress?

Dad: I think we had bell bottoms then, and we could wear ingenire boots

Me: Was there a dress code?

Dad: Yes there was you had to have a belt on, and stuff like that. I don't think you could wear engineer boots, I think they quite that in my junior year you had to wear shoes or dress boots like

Me: What kind of subjects were taught at that time?

Dad: your basic subject English, math, algebra, history

Me: Did like um, boys have to take home ec or anything?

Dad: I don't, I think we might of had one, I don't think, no we didn't have any ~~thing~~ ^{thing} our class, we didn't have any women take it.

Me: What was your favorite subject?

Dad: English

Me: Why is that?

Dad: because I like Spelling, and I like a writing letters, and I like reading

Me: What gave you the most difficulties?

Dad: Uhh, American history, or civics, civics I think

Me: Why

Dad: cause I didn't care for government things

Me: Were there any special fads or sayings in your school?

Dad: Hm, probably was I don't remember, let's see, Uhh, know the fad would be like the Beatles haircut,

Me: Were you or any of your friends suspended?

Dad: (ha, ha, ha) Yes, we all were (ha, ha, ha) I was suspended many times,

Me: Can you name any of them?

Dad: Uhh, ya, but I don't want you doing any of them

Me: (ha, ha, ha) I won't

Dad: Let's see the first time I got suspended I think I was smoking in school, another time I was suspended I ~~had~~ had an altercation with the school teacher down town, Uhh, I never got kicked out off school for that drinking part, I kicked off the track team, that's about it

Me: Ok what kind of extra curricular activities were offered?

Dad: Base ball, basket ball, and track.

Me: Did you partici pate in any?

Dad: I did them all, I played uh, baseball, basketball, track, school plays,

Me: Was there any special ~~thing~~ games?

Dad: Special games?

Me: Yeah, like, that had an effect on the school?

Dad: No, we didn't win any trophies or anything like that, we had some good games, we almost won the districts, when _____ Creek went down state. They beat us and then went down state.

Me: Umm, O.K., do you remember any funny stories about like extra things.

Dad: No, not about maybe sports, at a school play I played a black guy, a black servant in my junior play. That's about the funniest one.

Me: O.K., what was luncheon like?

Dad: We had good food, we had the best cooks in the world, back then, Andrea Anderson, and Uj. Culbert cooked; and Helen Solka cooked. They were great.

Me: Like what did they cook?

Dad: They cooked everything down in the kitchen, for the whole school, it wasn't these prefab things that they haul around.

Me: O.K., where did you eat lunch?

Dad: In the gym, same gym right there.

Me: Did you have to pay anything for them?

Dad: Of course, I don't know what it was though.

Me: O.K., umm, who was the principle when you were in school?

Dad: Fran Ruesing.

Me: Umm, was he nice then?

Dad: Umm, he was real nice.

Me: Probably better than Mrs. Hontala.

Dad: He talked to us about hunting, and fishing, and everything else. He didn't let us get kicked out of school all the time.

Me: What did you do after school hours,

Dad: We hung around down at the store, Country Market,

Me: O.k. umm, what was the graduation ceremony like?

Dad: That was in the auditorium, which is now the lunchroom, yess
I to go down to the stage, there was a stage down on the bottom
chairs, you know theatre chairs, pretty nice, marched in with
candle then, you could sing, that's it.

Me: Did you get your class ring?

Dad: Oh yeah, you got your class rings with little tassel caps, still have
my class ring.

Me: Were you able to maintain with close, with any of your close
friends?

Dad: All of them just about, there's out of 21 graduating there's
15 living ~~in~~ right in the area, close to me or near me.

Me: Do you still hang around with them? Like.

Dad: Sure, a lot of them, all of them in fact.

Me: Did any of your teachers have an impact on your
life?

Dad: Uhh, yeah, Mr. Sapping I never had him as a teacher,
but he was, he was a buddy when I was in school.

He uhh, taught me to, bid my time and calm down
when I was going to fly off the handle, and I
didn't get kicked out of school many times cause of him.

Me: What's your occupation now?

Dad: I work for the township, I'm a tax assessor, and

water distribution man.

Me: Thank you for your time.