

**Transcription:** Grand Canyon Oral History

**Interviewee:** Shirley Patrick (SP)

**Interviewer:** Tom Martin (TM)

**Subject:** Family life and employment at Grand Canyon during the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s

**Date of Interview:** November 17, 2017

PART 3

**Method of Interview:** By phone with Shirley from her home in San Diego, CA

**Transcriber:** Sarah Palazzolo

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**Keys:** Bob Middleton, Jake Baranka, Shorty Yarberry, John Riffey, Louie Farnsworth, South Rim water in 1954, Mayo Zabriski, Dorothy Dunnagan, Leo Schnur, Grand Canyon Hospital,

TM: Today is Friday, it is November 17, 2017. This is a Grand Canyon Oral History interview over the phone with Shirley Patrick, my name is Tom Martin. Shirley, are you ok if I record this conversation?

SP: Yes, sir.

TM: Thank you very much. Shirley, this is our third interview. At the end of our second interview, I turned the machine off and then you told me this wonderful story about Jack Verkamp and a rug. Would you mind to tell me that rug story again please?

SP: Oh, yes, I would. Jack was a wonderful person. He was just a stalwart soul. He ran Verkamp's. He always was very, very nice to all of the locals that used to come in there because he had beautiful things. He used to do a lot of the buying himself. He'd have the most beautiful rugs and the most beautiful jewelry. I happened to be there on a visit one time, it was nineteen... I'd left the canyon, been gone from the canyon a while. I was there in 1968. I was over at Arizona for some reason or other and I decided I wanted to go up to the Canyon and take a look. So I went up there and I went into Verkamp's as I always did, 'cause he had the nicest things. He was there and I was lookin' at rugs. I found this one Yei. It was quite large, very, very beautiful. I said, "Jack, I'd really, really like to get this Yei but I just didn't have the money." You know, money was pretty tight in the 60s, and I just don't have the money.

TM: Shirley, is a yei that's spelled Y-A-...?

SP: Y-E-I.

TM: Y-E-I, and is that Navajo for a rug?

SP: Yeah. No, it's a ceremonial, Yei is a ceremonial Navajo rug.

TM: Ok, thank you.

SP: It's a peculiar type of pattern in a Yei and it's ceremonial. Its figures on it, not just a pattern, but its figures. So anyway, I looked at that and I just fell in love with that. I said, "Jack, I'd just love to have that one, but I just can't afford it." It was \$165 and I couldn't afford it. He said, "Well, I'll tell ya what Shirley, I'll put it up here on the file cabinet in my office. As soon as you send me the money, I'll send you the rug." I said, "Ok, fine." So within a couple of months, I sent him \$165 and within a very short period of time, I had my rug. That's the way we used to do business at the Canyon. Your word was your bond. And for Jack, that's the kind of a guy Jack was. If he knew you at all, he was just as faithful as he could be. He didn't ask me for any note, I didn't have to sign any agreement, I didn't have to do anything for it. I said,

"Yeah, Jack, I'd like to have it." He says, "Yeah, I'll set it aside for ya. Send me the \$165." Soon as he got the money, he didn't have to sign a receipt he got it, didn't have to do anything. Next thing, I got the rug in the mail. That's how we used to do business. Especially with Jack, he was that honorable, fine man. Fine man. And good-hearted.

TM: Shirley, what can you tell me about John Cunningham?

SP: The only thing I remember about John Cunningham, he was tall and lean. He was the head of the mules and transportation, I guess, at Fred Harvey. I remember his house. You know where the divided highway is after you pass whatever that rock building is (now, I think is where they give permits or whatever). Used to be the old administration building for the Park.

TM: Yes, that's - yes.

SP: Well, ok. You know that divided highway that goes from there down to what used to be the old garage, that rock garage building?

TM: That's right, that's right, yes.

SP: Yeah. Well anyway, Johnny Cunningham... There are some houses along there, two or three houses, and then there was the building, beautiful rock building there that used to be the hospital.

TM: That's right.

SP: I think its Grand Canyon Association or something now, but that used to be the hospital. Well anyway, he lived, I think it was either the first or second house. I thought it was the first one, just past the Park administration building. I didn't ever meet his wife. I did meet his mother a couple times, 'cause his mother lived with him. They all called her grandmother Cunningham or something like that. You know, that's the way you used to be with people. She lived with them all the years I can remember. She lived there with Johnny Cunningham and his wife. Johnny Cunningham was great when it came to taking care of the mules and running the mules and taking care of the wranglers. I never, ever heard anything, anything the least bit negative about Johnny Cunningham. He was just an absolute saint. Great man, great man.

TM: Was he the head of the mules and transportation in 1953 when you were working at Phantom?

SP: I didn't know him in 1953. I just only knew Phantom Ranch. I didn't know anything else until I went to work later on at Grand Canyon. Then I realized that he was the head of the mule department because in 1954, that's when Ken was wrangling and Johnny Cunningham was the head of transportation. That's when I had a chance to meet - oh, who was that? Oh, that guy, the old guy, old cowboy that was there for so long.

TM: Shorty Yarberry?

SP: Shorty Yarberry, yeah.

TM: What do you remember about Shorty?

SP: Oh, Shorty, only thing I remember about him...couple of things. There used to be two barns there. The barn that was closest to the Park headquarters, the old Park headquarters, that was the mule barn. The other barn, down closer to the cafeteria, that was the horse barn. They used to run, I don't know, 60/70 head of mules during the season - a day. They had the three days they'd work and then the day they were off. They all had that day of rest. So they had quite a few. Those mules were in that barn nearest to the Park headquarters. That barn was right across the street, I think, as I told you, from the cowboy dorm. Shorty Yarberry, he lived in the cowboy dorm. They considered him an employee, but he didn't do much. He'd been there a long time and they used to do those things, you know, and he got to live there. I guess they paid him. So he was there, he would sit out there on a bench between the barn and the street, there, right across from the cowboy dorm. He would sit out there in the sun and the school kids would come and see him. He'd sit there by the hour and tell 'em stories. The kids loved him. But he was so stove-up from riding and everything, that they had to... They couldn't put steps going from the barn to the cowboy dorm, they had to have it on a slant to go from the barn to going up to the entrance to the cowboy dorm, where he stayed. When they used to take the mules in the wintertime, they'd take 'em down to that big area between Prescott and Ashfork. There was a lot of open land in there. As I recall, there were ranches down there, and they took a lot of the mules down there for the winter. So they used to have to herd 'em down there I guess, or something. But anyway, Shorty Yarberry used to go with 'em. They said that he couldn't get on and off the mules or a horse anymore. So they'd lift him up and he'd stay there all day long and they'd lift him down at night.

TM: Wow.

SP: He's a great old guy. Everybody loved him. Kids loved him, old people loved him, cowboys loved him. Great guy. So anyway, that was what I wanted to tell you about that. Then, some time after I left, they decided they were gonna move the horses up where the mules had been and move the mules down where the horses had been. Now, I don't know, I will not be surprised if within the next couple of years, you're not going to see any stock there at all. It's gonna all be buses or little carts, or something. I don't know whether it has to do with maintaining trails...they've got 'em now so that they will be there at the second coming of Christ, the way they're building 'em out of solid rock.

TM: Hey, another question for you about John Riffey. You got any Riffey stories for me?

SP: Honey, the only Riffey story I have, really, and it's not from him, directly, it's because of what I knew of him. The main Riffey story was he had to learn to operate the radios from Lehnert. Just like I did. 'Cause Carl put 'em in. So that's where I got acquainted, and that was in 1955-'56, in through there. The plane crash was in '56, right?

TM: Right.

SP: OK, well it was before that that I was talkin' to Riffey on the radio, so it was either late '55 or early '56, one or the other. So anyway, that's how I got acquainted with John Riffey. I went out there, one time I got the chance, I told you I went out there in 1960. I got a chance to ride out in the Park truck 'cause they were takin' out a piece of equipment. He operated all the equipment, did all the maintenance, everything. I remember when I was there at the Park and talkin' to him on the radio, we used to have to watch for fires, he had to watch for fires out there. That's when he got Pogo. They didn't have anybody to watch for fires for the Forest Service, so he decided he would go ahead and get an airplane. He would learn to fly it and he would hire himself out to the Forest Service to hunt for fires on Forest Service land as well as the Park Service. He was doing that with Pogo for a long, long time. He

bought the plane and learned to fly so that he could get out and look for fires. On top of that, he had all the equipment, the big equipment. He had a big truck out there and he had dozers and he had some different kinds of big equipment out there because he had to maintain that place. The only water they got there was rain water. Did you know that?

TM: Yes.

SP: Only water they got. He had a catchment, whatever you wanna call it, where it would catch the rain. He did laundry out there, took showers. They had enough water, with the little bit of water that they got and as careful as they were, they had enough water out there just from the rain and the catchment system. He maintained everything. Maintained the generators, the house, all the equipment. There wasn't much road maintenance, 'cause as you know, you've been out there, that road is horrible.

TM: It is.

SP: I've been wanting to go out there for years to take my grandsons out there to the Point, but we're gonna have to hire a four-wheel drive to do it.

TM: Yeah, it's rough.

SP: They've never, ever done anything to that driveway which is just as well because they'd have too many people out there. But, anyway, he maintained everything. So this particular time I got to go out there was the time that they were changing equipment with him. I don't know whether they were gonna pick up one piece of equipment, bring back something else, I don't know, but it was a 'dozer or something that they were takin' out there for him to use. That was in 1960. He had Pogo at that time. Anyway, that's the main thing I know about him. A great guy, wonderful person, most agreeable, happy. He loved what he was doing. Of course, he was alone. When I knew him out there, he wasn't married. He was out there by himself. Then, of course, he was married twice but he was out there alone when I first talked to him, first met him. I was very happy that he had somebody that loved being out there like he did! That's all I can tell you about John Riffey. Wonderful guy. Talked to him every day first thing in the morning, every work morning. Just a happy guy that loved what he was doin'.

TM: Fun. Mike Ebersole told a story about John describing rainstorms?

SP: I don't know about that.

TM: On the radio they would have a six-inch rain, and he'd say, "Well, we had a six-inch rain," meaning it was six inches between raindrops.

SP: Oh, really? I never heard that, that's a wonderful story to hear. He never discussed it with me on the radio. It was mainly just checking in to make sure that everything was working ok and, of course, about the weather to a certain degree, but I never got any of the specifics. Usually if it got to any specifics, one of the rangers would take the call. I just primarily made the call. There were some of the nicest rangers there you could ever meet. Pete Schuft was a great guy.

TM: Who?

SP: Pete Schuft. S-C-H-U-F as in Frank -T, I think is how he spelled it. Great guy.

TM: Spell that again?

SP: S as in Sam, C as in cat, H-U-F-T, F as in Frank, T as in Tom. Pete Schuft was his name, great guy. I don't know much about him. I'm just telling you the names of the rangers that were there when I was there, that was one of them. I remember when Bob Bendt first came. He had a new slot that the Park Service had just set up. He was the biologist, the park biologist. The first thing he did, I remember that... He was a fresh-outta-college guy. I think he was very young as I recall. The first thing, he went out and he set up perimeters around a certain area because they were trying to see how much of the growth the deer were eating and how much they were getting every year, you know, where they couldn't eat. Stuff like that was what he was doing. He was a great guy. And of course, Vern Ruesch was great. He was the guy who was the North Rim park ranger, I told you about that. Really, really nice guy. I told you there was Jimmy Kennedy. He worked in the office on both rims, real great guy. He was from Williams. His wife's name was Helen, a sweetheart of a gal.

TM: So in 1960, I'm gonna jump in here, in 1960, you were on the North Rim.

SP: Mhmm, for the summer.

TM: What happened in the winters?

SP: Everybody went home. Utah Parks used to have caretakers. They would hire caretakers. Usually, in those days, if you were still there by the first of October, you better have your car packed and ready to get out because a storm would hit and you weren't gonna be able to get out. That's the way the weather used to be in '60. Most all of the help that they had at the North Rim at that time during the season was all Mormon college students.

TM: This was Utah State Parks, this wasn't the Park Service?

SP: That's right. Utah Parks ran the hotel and dining room that that was in the Park. Instead of Fred Harvey, it was Utah Parks Company. They did an awesome job. They used to have wonderful programs at night that all the people that worked there, the waitresses and the waiters and the cabin-cleaners and all those people, they were all college students, and so they would put on entertainment programs. Sing and dance and do plays and things like that in the auditorium there. It was really nice.

TM: So you and Ken were seasonals?

SP: Oh yeah, on the North Rim. Yeah, everybody was seasonal. The seasonal people and the mechanic that went over there. Then they'd hire some seasonal people there. But, the main crew that would go over, would be transferred over from the South Rim. Bob Middleton, have you got anything there about Bob Middleton?

TM: No, tell me.

SP: Bob Middleton was the mechanic. He was a wonderful Mormon guy, his wife's name was Meta, M-E-T-A, wonderful woman. They had five children. He was the mechanic on the South Rim and then he would be detailed over to the North Rim as the head mechanic over there during the summer. He was a great guy, just a wonderful person. His wife was, too. Then they had a guy there, I think I told you about, was Red Valentine. He was there seasonal. He was outa Williams, I think.

TM: You know, I take it back, you did tell me about Bob Middleton last time.

SP: Yeah, I did tell you about Bob Middleton and I did tell you about Red Valentine.

TM: So, Shirley, you've got a child now, you and Ken have Kenny, Jr.

SP: Yeah, Kenny was there. He was born in 1960 and our daughter was born in 1954.

TM: What's your daughter's name?

SP: Deborah. Old-fashioned Deborah, D-E-B-O-R-A-H. I do not know anything about her at all. She went away to college and decided that she didn't want anything to do with - especially me. So I don't have any ideas where she is or what she's doing. She's 63 years old now. So, anyway I don't talk about her. I'd just as soon that not be on there, just between you and... Yeah, I had a daughter, Debbie, she was born in 1954, June of 1954, and Kenny was born in February of 1960.

TM: So, in 1960, you've got two children you're trying to take care of. Both of you are seasonals and you get laid off in the fall. How did you, what jobs did you take up then in the winter?

SP: Oh, no, Ken wasn't ever laid off. He worked North Rim in the summer and South Rim in the winter.

TM: Was he permanent, then?

SP: I was just working seasonal.

TM: Ok, so he was permanent?

SP: He was permanent and I was seasonal. The only reason I worked there in the North Rim was 'cause Jimmy Kennedy needed someone else in the office and they needed somebody to do the fire tower and I was available. I could manage with the kids and do the work, so I did it. I worked off and on a lot at the Canyon. I told you I worked for Josephine Wedoff and I worked at the cafeteria. I worked at Fred Harvey. In those days, we're talkin' the 50s and the 60s, if you wanted to work there was work for you. I hope you have something that tells you what the pay was. The best pay you could get was a hundred dollars a month, plus your room and board. Six days a week. That's what the pay was.

TM: You mentioned that from 1953, working at Phantom.

SP: Generally, that's what the pay was. Of course the waitresses, they got tips. I can remember one of the people there, what the - oh, dear...Jack...I can't think of his last name. He was the head of the mule trains. He was kind of a short, unusual-lookin' little guy, but a real sweetheart. He make sure all the mules were taken care of and got 'em out there first thing in the morning. He decided what person was gonna sit on what mule and stuff like that. He was married. He was not a good-looking man, but he had a beautiful wife. She was the sweetest thing in the world. I can't think of her name. I've got her name written down, I'll try to get these for you. They lived kitty-corner from us when we lived in the Fred Harvey house.

What I'm getting to is, she was an El Tovar Hotel waitress. They had to work three shifts a day, breakfast, lunch, and dinner. They'd have to be there, you know, at o'dark thirty in the morning and those uniforms had to be absolutely almost standing by themselves. They had to be so crisp and clean

and beautiful. The way they had to wear their hair and how they had to dress, I mean it was really, really special at El Tovar in those days. So you'd go in there early in the morning and then you'd be off for maybe an hour or two and then you'd go back for lunch, and then be off for an hour or two and you'd go back for dinner. I can remember her telling me, oh... I had some other friends that worked at Bright Angel, but the work was different. Hours were different, tips were different. But anyway she always worked at El Tovar, which was the cream of the crop. I guess, apparently along the Santa Fe Railway, El Tovar was very highly regarded. So anyway, these gals would come in the summer season. A lot of them would come during the summer season and work El Tovar and then they'd leave at the end of the season. Whereas Jack's wife, I can't think of her name, she/they lived at the Canyon full-time. So she worked at El Tovar full-time even though it was slow in the wintertime. But anyhow, to make a long story short, she said, "Well, the good thing about it is, the tips we get." Now, you figure that we were getting (I don't know how much they were getting paid, if they were getting paid the same) \$100 a month plus room and board. I don't know whether they got that much. I know they didn't get more. So, we're just assuming that and those hours, six days a week. She said, "Well the good part about it, the tips." I said, "Oh, really? What's so good about the tips?" "Oh," she said, "I made \$15 today."

TM: That's amazing.

SP: Fifteen dollars?

TM: Yeah.

SP: For working three shifts? That was considered "big money." See, fifteen dollars a day, six days a week, that's what, ninety bucks?

TM: A hundred - yeah, that's close to a hundred bucks.

SP: So she was makin' almost a hundred dollars a week in those days, that's in the 50s, off of tips! So, she said, people would stand and women would stand in line to be waitresses at El Tovar. Not because they made all that money, but, because the tips. Yet you look now, you know, these gals nowadays, if they aren't getting fifteen or twenty percent tips for just writin' down your order, they'll give you a nasty look. Not in those days, and those women had to be absolutely, the very best insofar as how they treated the customers. Their courtesy, their politeness, their demeanor. Everything about them had to be absolutely top-notch. So her husband, Jack, was the head of the mules under Johnny Cunningham. He's the one that took care of the dudes, putting the people on the right animal and stuff like that.

TM: When did you first meet Big Jake Barranca?

SP: Oh, Big Jake, everybody loved Big Jake and all the kids loved him. He was a big guy, that's what I remember because I was pretty little at that time. So he seemed pretty big to me. He worked in the garage. I remember reading the book you sent me and what I read about him there didn't jive with what I remember of Big Jake.

TM: What do you remember about him?

SP: Well, the main thing - I only remember him working at the garage. 'Course he stayed there a lot longer after I left, so whatever happened after I left, I don't know. Of course, the only garage I remember him working at was the garage there that was right across from the superintendent's house.

That was right at the hill going up to El Tovar, that building there that I think is...what's the name of the outfit now that has the hotel?

TM: It's a Xanterra.

SP: Xanterra. Yeah, I think that's a Xanterra office, at least last I knew it was.

TM: That's right.

SP: But it used to be the garage. They used to take care of everything that came in. Anybody that needed any repairs, they had the people there that took care of it. We used to have a nice gas station, too. You did hear about that?

TM: Yeah, that was a little further up the road? A little further east?

SP: No, the first one was at the entrance when the entrance was just a few feet before you got to the administration building, the old administration building.

TM: Oh yeah, that's right, it's up by the school, up that way.

SP: Well, yeah, but the entrance was between the school and the administrative building.

TM: And the gas station, ok.

SP: And the gas station was just as you came in the entrance, it was a beautiful rock building.

TM: Oh, yeah, yeah.

SP: Beautiful rock building.

TM: It's still there.

SP: No it's not. The entrance building's not there, it's gone.

TM: Oh, no, no, that's right, the gas station's still there.

SP: They had a gas station just as you came in. They did minor repairs. It was a small little thing. It may have had either one or two pumps, I'm not sure. But small. They sold gas there, very nice, and everything was fine. So you came in the nice little rock entrance, right there. You could walk just a few feet and you were at the administration building. That's how close the entrance was to where you paid to get in, that's where you paid, right there. Then of course they started movin' the entrance station out further and rebuilding roads and all this stuff. I can also remember, you probably heard this from somebody else, you probably heard it from - oh, the gal, what's her name, from the laundry?

TM: Mary. Mary Hoover.

SP: Mary. 1954 was the year they had to haul in the water. Has anybody talked to you about the water situation at Grand Canyon?

TM: Talk to me about it.



SP: Well, it's quite an interesting story. When I first went there, the only water came from Indian Gardens. That was the water. Not very much to manage all of the needs on the South Rim. But that's where we got the water. I can remember when I went there, they told you, (a) make sure you don't flush the toilet very much, (b) if you had laundry... I had an automatic washer, but I couldn't use it on automatic. I would have to put the water in the washer and do all the wash. I had a stationary tub and I would rinse 'em in the stationary tub and then spin 'em to put 'em on the clothes line.

TM: So, Shirley, in 1954, when the water was just coming up from Indian Gardens, there was a small spring down there, was the pump to push the water up to the rim, was it at Indian Gardens or was it a suction pump up on the rim?

SP: No, I thought that the pump was at Indian Gardens.

TM: That would make sense, ok.

SP: That's where I thought it was. But anyway, for part of this year that we were there, when we lived in that Fred Harvey house, there was insufficient water. For why, I don't know. They had to haul it in on tank cars. Then we really had to be careful with water. So it was all hauled in by train on tank cars for a long time.

TM: Ok. Would you go down to the train station and get the water down there?

SP: Oh no. They would go out and dump it wherever the water would come in from Indian Gardens. They would go ahead and take the water out of the tank cars and put it wherever the water was coming from. So you would still get it but there wasn't sufficient water to fill the needs of the South Rim, so they brought it in on tank car. That's how little water there was. In fact, that was the one thing that was wrong with Metzger's place - he didn't have water. I think he said one time they went down, I don't know how far, how many thousand feet they went down, but somebody said they'd go down four or five thousand feet before they would get water. So he didn't have water out there. Anyway, yeah, there was a time when water had to come in by tank car. You talk about being careful, we didn't waste a drop of water at that time.

TM: Let's go back to Jake Barranca for a little bit.

SP: Ok, yeah, Jake Barranca. Ok, so anyway he worked at the garage. Just a sweetheart of a guy. The only thing I remember him doing, I mean, I think he did probably oil changes and all the normal things. The only thing I remember about Big Jake, he was just a happy guy. Spoke kind of broken English when I knew him.

TM: Where was he from, do you know?

SP: I have no idea where he was from. I never knew where he was from or anything, and of course he was there a long time after I left. But the only thing I remember about Big Jake... This was in the time when you had a car that had tires with tubes. The tires had tubes in 'em and you had to fill up the tubes with air. We were there, I think Ken was with me, we were there for some reason or other in the garage and Big Jake was changing somebody's tire that had gone flat. But the interesting thing, as I told you, I know I told you this other day, when he changed a tire, he didn't use a tire iron. He used his hands.

TM: So, hang on a second. When I go down to Big-O Tires, they've got that machine there that kinda pops this little - you know - pushes up on the - brakes the bead.

SP: No...hell, no...not in those days.

TM: Then they have a gizmo that hooks in there and spins around. He did all that by hand?

SP: He did it by hand. When he had to take a tire off a rim to fix a tire, or actually, had to get to the...

TM: To get to the tube inside.

SP: To get to the tube, he had to break the tire away from the rim, take the tube out, patch it, put the tube back in in the tire, and then put the tire back on. He would break the tire - originally, when he would get the tire, he'd break the tire away from the rim pushing down on it with his hands. I saw him do it!

TM: Wow.

SP: That was the one thing that's so amazing. That's why, as I told you, I had heard - how accurate it is, I don't know - but I had heard that this knowledge about how powerful he was and how powerful his hands were, had brought about some sort of edict from the state or whoever it was, that if he ever was in a fight with his hands and hurt anybody, that would be considered a...what's the word?

TM: Lethal force?

SP: Lethal...lethal...

TM: Weapon?

SP: Lethal weapon. His hands were considered a lethal weapon because he was so powerful. Now, that's what I remember from the 50s, ok? Whatever came about after I left, 'cause he was there long after I left... To my knowledge, he was never married. I never knew him to be married. He had lots of friends and there were lots of girls that would go places with him and everything, but he didn't date or anything like that, as I remember. He was just a guy that... Everybody loved him, everybody enjoyed being with him, everybody enjoyed talking to him. Just a really, really fine person. That's all I can say about Big Jake.

TM: I love that story about...

SP: That's what everybody called him, was Big Jake.

TM: ...about Jake and John Wayne playin' poker.

SP: Yeah, I saw that in the book and I never heard that, but that's not to say anything about him. That was news to me.

TM: That was just a fun story, and again it just drove home the size of Jake Barranca's hands.

SP: Yeah.

TM: Just a giant, just a giant man.

SP: He was, as I say, there's a lot of things I don't know. I'm sure Mary Hoover knows a lot more about him, 'cause she was there a lot longer than I was. But we came from kinda different sides of the fence in some respects.

TM: Ok, so you guys are back at the South Rim in the winter of 1960-61 and Ken is workin' in maintenance.

SP: Yeah, he worked in maintenance most of the time that we were at the Park. We lived in the nicest little brown house. We lived in a Fred Harvey house when Debbie was born in 1954. I have to go back to somebody... Have you heard of anybody by the name of Mayo Zabriski?

TM: How do you spell it?

SP: Z as in zebra, A-B as in boy, R-I-S as in Sam, K-I.

TM: What was the first name?

SP: Mayo, M-A-Y-O.

TM: No.

SP: You haven't heard of him? Wonderful guy. He worked for the Park Service. His wife's name was Helen. Very, very good Mormons. They had three little girls, as I recall. He was working in maintenance. Have you heard anything about Louie Farnsworth?

TM: No.

SP: No. Louie Farnsworth worked for Santa Fe. He was also a Mormon. The Mormon presence in the Canyon... They were low-key insofar as the impact they had on the community. They weren't doing a lot of things to make their religion known, but, as a community within themselves, they were very cohesive. Louie Farnsworth: Avenue A housing was on the right-hand side of the Park area. It backed up to the main drag between the administration building and the old cafeteria. On two sides of the street, of that one street, Avenue A they called it, that was all Santa Fe. Those houses were - most of 'em - rock and wood. They were really, really nice houses. Louie Farnsworth was some sort of a, I'm not gonna call him a "supervisor" insofar as one of those guys goes around with a suit and a tie, he was a working supervisor for Santa Fe. So he had a big house there, I think he had something like seven kids. They lived in the first house on the left-hand side of Avenue A. It kinda was up a hill. Mayo Zabriski worked for the Park Service. He was in maintenance for the Park Service. Wonderful guy. And old Louie, he was a good guy, too. But Mayo was absolutely a champ.

But anyway, this is an interesting story. At Grand Canyon, when Ken and I were there and he was working for El Tovar, he worked the salad department and I was working in the office. I was gonna have a baby. They had a hospital there, but I didn't feel comfortable going to that hospital. After coming from Santa Monica, California, that just didn't seem "kosher" to me. And I had to have a place to stay. We were living in the Brown Building. Well, couldn't stay in the Brown Building. I had to quit 'cause I was having a baby. The mules hadn't started up yet 'cause Ken was waiting to be put back on doing the mule trips again. So anyway, I had to leave. Went out to my grandmother's in Ocean Park, California where she lived. I stayed there and that's where I was when I had our first child. I stayed there for a couple of months because I couldn't go back, 'cause there was no place to live. That's when I told you how Ken

had to work so hard with Fred Harvey to try to get a house. Finally got a house and Johnny Rudd's boys, wonderful boys, helped him get it all painted and cleaned up for me. Just happened that house came vacant. I think the guys name was Stevens, can't think of his first name. He was the guy that Ken used to have to see to get the house, who worked for Fred Harvey. So we finally got that house and I got to come back with the baby. Of course, I didn't work then so I was home. Ken was very, very sick for a while. How we ever made it, I'll never know. But the good thing about it, Fred Harvey was very nice. They let us stay in the house because Ken had gotten sick on the job. He worked at the service station. The old, old service station. He was working there and he got scarlet fever.

TM: Oh my gosh.

SP: Very, very sick. It was terrible. He was so sick. No money coming in. He didn't get paid, wasn't workin'. They let us stay at the house. We had the house and here we had the little baby, had to stay there and he was sick. Ken had periods in his life when he was absolutely exceptional. He was very talented, he was an artist. Tremendous artist.

TM: What kind of art? Would he paint?

SP: No, he did leatherwork.

TM: Oh, wow!

SP: Yeah. All freehand. He tooled leather. So he wanted to make some money. He had his own tools and everything. The word got out that he did leatherwork and, of course, there were guys that would come. Some of them would want a holster for a gun, or whatever, a belt, or whatever. I would scrounge up enough money to buy the leather and then he would make it. Some of the people were honest, especially the cowboys, some them were honest and would pay for the item when it got finished. Some of 'em, when it was all finished, they said no, excuse me, can't pay for it.

TM: Wow.

SP: So Ken was out all that labor, as sick as he was. He'd work as long as he had the energy to work and then he'd have to quit. He did that to try to make some money so we could have something to eat. We basically lived on pinto beans. You heated the house with an oil stove. I would put the pot of beans on that oil stove and it'd take many hours but they would finally cook. That's what we lived on was pinto beans and fried potatoes. Once in a while Ken would go out and he'd try to go hunting. He would maybe get some squirrel, or maybe he'd get, if it was the season, he might get some dove. Whatever was in season, he'd go out and try to hunt so that we would have some meat, otherwise than that we had none.

TM: Wow. How long was he sick?

SP: He was sick for a couple of months. He was very, very sick. I hear these people complain all the time and they make me sick. As if people didn't ever go through hard times before and survive. Yeah. But they had to do something for themselves, and Ken did. He did beautiful, beautiful leatherwork, all freehand. He didn't have the stamps that have the design on 'em and you stamp 'em into the leather.

TM: Yes, that's right.

SP: He never did that. His was all freehand. He didn't even draw. He might have put a little line or two with a pencil someplace, then all of it was freehand. If I ever get a chance to meet ya, I'll show you a purse...

TM: I'd love to see that.

SP: ...and a belt that he made for me that I still have. Absolutely stunning work. Then when these, here... We'd put out hard-earned money to get the leather and he'd do all the work, as sick as he was, and then they wouldn't want to pay for it. There were people like that at the Canyon.

TM: Did you go back to the North Rim in 1961?

SP: Let's see... '60 Kenny was born... I don't think I was working at the Park in 1961. I'd have to look back on my records for that, I can't remember. But anyway, this thing about when Ken was sick and Fred Harvey couldn't pay him, he wasn't working, but they didn't kick us outta the house. Which was very nice.

TM: Right, that's wonderful. Yeah.

SP: Finally he got well enough that he could go back to work. I don't remember that he went back to the service station. Well anyway, the part I wanted to get to is Mayo Zabriski. So anyway, while we were there in that house and when Ken was so sick and here I was with the new baby, only a couple months old, got a knock on the door at that Fred Harvey house and it was Mayo Zabriski and... Who's the guy I just told you about with the Santa Fe?

TM: Louie - Louie Farnsworth.

SP: Louie Farnsworth. They were at the door. We didn't go out, we didn't know 'em from Adam's off ox. So opened the door and welcomed them in. He introduced himself and Mayo handed me a gift. He said, "This is from my wife." It was a beautiful, purplish dress. All handmade, little baby dress and a little underskirt that he brought to give me. The baby was only just a couple of months old at the time. He came in - didn't know those people at all. We were Fred Harvey, Mayo was Park Service and Farnsworth was Santa Fe. He came in and that's what... I've still got the dress. Still got it in my cedar chest. He brought that and he was talkin' to Ken. I didn't get much in the conversation. They were talkin' to Ken and what Mayo said, "Well," he said, "when you get well enough to go to work," he said, "you come see me." Now, he was not a supervisor, he was just a worker for the Park, but very active in the Mormon Church, as was Louie Farnsworth. Now, we were not Mormon. But anyway, he said, "You come and see me." 'Cause Ken didn't know if he was gonna have a job or not. Hoping he would but he didn't know. So anyway, finally when he got well enough, I recall it was in April, (I don't remember much during the winter time) seems to me it was April. Anyway, some time, few months later, Ken got well enough and he went to see Mayo. Mayo is the one who got him a job with the Park Service. Then when he got a job with the Park Service, we had to leave the Fred Harvey house.

TM: Oh!

SP: You knew just exactly what to expect. It's the way things were. There was the Fred Harvey housing and there was Santa Fe housing and there was Park Service housing and there was then the trailer camp, or the camp where people could either have tents or trailers or something where they lived to work.

TM: Trailer City. Sure.

SP: So those areas, that's it - you didn't have any of that, you weren't workin' there. So anyway, got a chance to go to the Park Service, which was nice, because we had to get a place to live. Course you don't have any records or anything anybody's talked to you about the 3C houses and the units that there were out there? Anybody talk to you about that?

TM: No. Tell me.

SP: Oh, geez! That's a story unto itself. But anyway, I'll just tell you basically. The Park Service picked Ken up for a job and we had to have a place to live. They said, "Well, we have a trailer that's sitting out in the middle of the field out there in the 3C area." By the 3C area, that meant there was a five-unit building there. It was a nice, long building. This is where the 3Cs had lived, this is where some of the supervisors had lived during the 3C days. There was this one building that was five units. The other one, as I remember, was a duplex. So when we first get there, we... You qualified for housing based upon your points. If you were single, you got this many points; if you were married, you got this many; if you had this baby you got this much; a boy and a girl, you got this much; this seniority was this much. They had a, I don't know what you call it, they filled in the numbers and then depending on what that answer was, that determined where you came in on the housing list. Well, of course, we were at the bottom. But there was this trailer sitting out there. So they said, "That's where you get to live." We said, "Fine!" So we moved all the stuff that we had, that we could possibly manage, to put in that little trailer.

I've got pictures of Debbie standing on the front, I'll call it a front porch. It's not a porch, it's just a slab of wood which was the entrance to the door into the trailer. I've got a picture of her when she was about, oh I don't know, 10 months or a year old, standing in front of that trailer. We lived in that trailer for quite some time. I worked part-time for the Park and then I had some childcare. The two girls that took care of Debbie when she was little, she was just a couple of years old, something like that, were the Leding daughter and Ruesch's daughter. They were the babysitters for Ken's and my daughter Debbie, so that I could go to work part-time and then Ken was workin'. They were wonderful girls, those girls. They were young girls, I don't know, nine/ten years old, something like that and they babysat. Debbie was happy, no accidents, everything went just fine. They babysat Debbie so that I could work part-time. After a while, then, of course every so often someone would leave and then everybody on the housing list would get to bump up one. So finally we got to bump up to one of the middle houses in the five-unit 3C barracks, is what we called them.

TM: So, where is this exactly? I'm trying to figure out where that trailer would've been.

SP: I couldn't even tell you where it is now because there's so darn many houses out there for Park Service now, these big luxurious homes, I couldn't tell ya where it was.

TM: So, there was the old gas station you mentioned, which was just north of the entrance station. And off on the east side of the road, the road going north down to park headquarters...

SP: No, wait a minute. The service station was where? No, it was not north, I would say its south. The entrance station was south of the administration building.

TM: Correct, right, but between the admin building and the entrance station, on the west side of the road was the gas station.

SP: That's right. Just inside the Park, yeah.

TM: Right. And so where was your...

SP: Ok, and the housing was just to the west. Just down a little ways, the roads are still there, just a little ways down from the old gas station. It became an upholstery shop or something many, many years later. But anyway, just past where the gas station was, there was a road that went to your left. The first one going to your left was for the Fred Harvey houses. Then you went down and the next one was the Santa Fe houses.

TM: Alright.

SP: Ok? But, the 3C houses were on the opposite side. They were on the east side.

TM: Got it, ok. And on that east side there were little maintenance buildings up in there.

SP: Ok, ok. And that was west of the Park housing.

TM: Yes, got it. Got it.

SP: There was some Park housing to the east, adjacent to that construction area, I'll call it. There was some housing just a little to the east of that and that's where a guy the name of LeBlanc, Bob LeBlanc, have you ever heard of him?

TM: Nope.

SP: I can't think of his wife's name, but they had a house there. The other, right across from him on that same street was the full-time house for Jimmy Kennedy. I told you about him, that worked on the North Rim. So that area, just east of the maintenance area, I'll call it, of the Park Service. Then if you didn't go east, but you went through the maintenance area, and you would be going I guess east...

TM: There's two roads that lead outta that maintenance area.

SP: That lead out, and I think it would be going east. Then you had... The houses didn't have any street names. There weren't that many there. You went up that street and after you went up past... Let's see I'm trying to think, the first big, big house you went past was a guy who was the head of taking care of all of the equipment. Schier. Schier, Lawrence Schier. You heard about him?

TM: That name rings a bell.

SP: S-C-H-I-E-R? Lawrence Schier?

TM: Yeah...

SP: Great guy. Anyway, he was the guy who had to maintain all of the vehicles. That was his job there. Then the other guy that was in charge of the maintenance insofar as the houses and the stuff like that, that was Otis Hicks, ever hear of him?

TM: No.

SP: Otis, he was the head of that. The guy who was a...he wasn't the head of it, but he was very active on it, wonderful guy, oh dear god... His name just slips me, now. McPherson. Miner McPherson. Have you heard anything about McPherson? Everybody just called him Mac. McPherson was the guy who maintained the roads. That was the guy that Ken went to work for. When the Park took him, he went to work for McPherson, wonderful man.

TM: Now what year was that, '61?

SP: Let's see. No, no, no, Debbie was born in 1954, this was 1955.

TM: Oh, ok.

SP: 1955. Miner McPherson, M-I-N-E-R, Miner McPherson was his name. That was M-C-P-H-E-R-S-O-N. He was the man who was head of the roads. He's the one that taught Ken everything he ever knew or needed to know about building roads. So that's what he was doing and then I would work part-time whenever I got a chance. That's when I was working for Steve Leding part-time. But anyway, so we got to move out of the trailer and moved over to the 3C barracks. Well, the housing only went up about...oh my, from the maintenance area...may have gone up five or six houses on each side of the street. Then there was a great big empty area there. Right in the middle of that was where the trailer was. To the left of that was where the 5-unit 3C barrack was. Just kind of in front of where the trailer was, was a duplex where Mayo Zabriski and Helen Zabriski lived.

TM: This sounds very similar today's Hermit Circle area. They kept building out that way.

SP: Oh, listen, last time I was there I was totally confused.

TM: [laughing] Yeah, I bet!

SP: I was, I was lost. I went through there and I saw all these luxury buildings out there and I thought, boy, they've lost it. They've really made a very modern town out of the South Rim. It's very sad to me. It's very, very sad. So anyway, we lived in the middle and we lived next door to a guy by the name of Howard Shepherd on one side and Hubert Lauzon and his wife and kids were on the end one. Then there was us in the middle. Then next to us a couple of cowboys that bunked together. Jack Watson was one of them. Can't remember the other guy's name.

TM: What about Dan Davis? Where was he? He would've been around there somewhere.

SP: Dan Davis - he came as a ranger. I was already working as secretary to the Chief Park Ranger when Dan Davis walked in. So that had to be, well, it had to be '56, something like that, because he hardly got there and he was involved in the crash...

TM: Right, '55/ '56, yeah.

SP: ...that we talked about. So that's when I met Dan Davis. Of course, you had Dan Davis and you had Vern Ruesch and you had Pete Schuft and you had... What was the guy's name with the radios, I told ya?

TM: Carl Lehnert put in the radios.



SP: Carl Lehnert. Yeah, Carl Lehnert was great. Let's see, that's about it. Then of course Rumburg. You've never ever had a chance to interview Rumburg?

TM: No.

SP: That's too bad. I'll have to get his address for you. He lives, as I told you, down near the border in Arizona. He's older than I am. He's probably 92/93 years old now. I think his last position with the Park was Southwest Regional Park Director or something like that. But he was just a park ranger when I was there in '55/'56. But he's still alive, I still correspond with him at Christmastime. Now he would be somebody to talk about the Park, he would know a lot about it. Great guy.

TM: How do you spell his last name?

SP: Let's see, R-U-M-B-U-R-G.

TM: Ok. What was his first name?

SP: Joe.

TM: Joseph?

SP: Joe Rumburg. Uhuh, Joseph Rumburg. I'm sure you could look him up someplace in the Park Service files because he retired from the Park Service. As I told ya, he was the head, I think, of the southwest region or something like that. But he was just a ranger when I was there. He'd been there longer than Dan Davis. Dan Davis came, but Joe Rumburg was there when I got there. And Pete Schuft was there when I got there and Carl Lehnert was there when I got there. I can't remember the guy that was out at Desert View, can't remember some of the names.

TM: You're remembering pretty well what you are remembering, I gotta tell ya!

SP: Yeah well, we're looking back a damn long way is all I can say.

TM: Yes ma'am, yes ma'am.

SP: So anyway, it's really interesting, I really wanna get across how the housing was. So there was those 3C buildings, there was a duplex and there was the one that had the five units and there was the trailer that Ken and I lived in. Years later, they got rid of the trailer first and they put in units. I don't know how many units there were, three or four units. I got to live in one for a while, I can't remember all the circumstances. But anyway, some real nice units in that great big area. Then they started building the big homes in that big empty area, tore down the 3C places and put in those really nice homes up there to the, I'll say, it's to the east of where the other old houses were.

TM: Right, yes, yes.

SP: The house we lived in was called 47 Cottage City. No, not Cottage City, but 47 was the number of it. There was no street name, it was just number 47 and that was it. That house is still there, but they've added on to a lot of them and they look a little different. But anyway, they built a lot of nice houses out there and the people who were the most senior got those new houses. Joe Rumburg was one of them. Lynn Coffin, of course, being a chief park ranger, he had a real nice house. Otis Hicks had a real nice

house. Trying to think of some of the other names there. 'Course you've heard a lot about Charlie Shevlin, so you know about him.

TM: Mmm...never hear enough about Charlie Shevlin. Tell me a Charlie Shevlin story.

SP: Well, I don't have much to say about Charlie Shevlin. He was the Assistant Superintendent, I think, as I recall, under...

TM: McLaughlin, yep.

SP: McLaughlin was relatively popular. People seemed to like McLaughlin, but I never, ever got the impression that Shevlin was as popular as McLaughlin was. But anyway, Shevlin had a nice house out there. Another guy that I dearly loved, Waldo Wilcox and his wife, they had a nice house out there. Some of the newer homes were really nice houses. There was a lot of rock. Where like Shevlin was and Wilcox was, they were rock homes. They'd been there a long time. Beautiful homes. Then they started building all these other houses. Loads of 'em. So the Park had some really nice homes. However, in those days you couldn't have a lawn and you couldn't have pets. I can understand that. After all, they had wild animal there that were supposed to be free to roam. So you didn't have any pets and you didn't have grass. Then on the North Rim was another... I told you about the nice cabins they had on the North Rim and who lived there and how they were. The last time I went to North Rim I was absolutely sick. I was as sick at the North Rim as I was at the South Rim to see how they've developed. They got rid of all of the beautiful cabins that they had on the North Rim Park area. Tore 'em all down and put in these modern houses with garages and fancy bathrooms and washing machines. Really elegant houses they put on the rim where the cabins used to be. I thought, you know, we're just ruining it to modernize it so much. It doesn't need to be modern. You know, if people want modern, go to town and live modern.

TM: Hey Shirley, I wanna go back to the North Rim for just a minute, because I realized when you told me that wonderful story about Jack Verkamp after I had turned the machine off last interview, I also asked then for a clarification about the tower, the fire lookout tower that you were in, and you had mentioned that you had to stand on this insulated...

SP: Stool.

TM: Stool, yeah. And I was like, wait a minute, you need to stand on a stool? I'm envisioning a bar stool, you know? And you're standing...

SP: No, no, a low stool, probably about...oh, four or six inches off the floor. Just enough to have insulators for feet. It had the four insulators for feet and the pad, the board that I stood on, the four insulators were attached to the corners of that board. I stood on that board 'cause it was insulated so that I wouldn't get struck by lightning.

TM: So in a lightning storm, you'd have to stand there on that board while the kids were down in the truck with the flapping' tarp.

SP: That day. That day, that's exactly right, they put the flap down and they were down in the car. Well, they were insulated because they were on tires.

TM: Right, right.

SP: They were insulated down there, I didn't have to worry. I told Debbie, I said as long as you keep that flap down, you'll be fine. Just stay in the car, stay in the pickup, in the Blue Goose. You stay in the Blue Goose with the flap down.

TM: Did you have a chair to sit down on up there?

SP: No! No, nothing to sit on.

TM: Wow. And there was - there must have been the machine with the little circle, you kinda turn it around to point it in the direction of where the smoke was?

SP: That's right.

TM: Right? That would have been in the center. I guess.

SP: That's right.

TM: So, if you wanted to sit down, what would you do?

SP: Well I could either sit on the floor or I could open up and go down through the door of the floor and sit down on the first level on the tower.

TM: On the stairs.

SP: Yeah - there'd be a landing, you know, every so far there'd be a landing. I could go down the stairs. Shimming up into the floor of the thing, down the first flight, there was a place that I could sit.

TM: And then when you needed to go to the bathroom, was it like down the stairs [thump thump thump thump]?

SP: I had to go all the way down the thing and over to an outhouse.

TM: Got it. Got it. Alright, sorry, I'm sorry, I digress, I just wanted to go capture that as well 'cause I realized we had talked about it the last time but I wanted to capture that. Ok, back to the South Rim housing. Now this is 1961, Ken gets a job workin', he's had scarlet fever, now he...

SP: Well, in '60, in '61...

TM: He got a job for Zabriski...for Mayo.

SP: Oh, Well, no, no, that was in 1955.

TM: Oh! I'm sorry.

SP: Yeah, that was 1955, that was right after Debbie was born, he got to go to work first for the Park.

TM: I'm confused of the timeline. When Ken got scarlet fever, was that back in '55 then?

SP: That was in nineteen - the year Debbie was born, 1954.

TM: '54, ok. Alright, thank you.

SP: 1954 he got the scarlet fever. I think in 1955 is when he got a chance to go to work for the Park Service, that Mayo Zabriski got him into the Park. And then, wait, and then in '55 we moved into the trailer.

TM: That makes sense because Mayo, you mentioned, brought around a purple dress, a little baby's, a baby dress...

SP: That's right, that was in '54.

TM: ...because he had seen you guys had had a little girl. That makes perfect sense. 'Cause I got confused there. I was thinking that was '60/'61, when Kenny was born and I was like, wait a minute. How many children did you have with Ken?

SP: Two.

TM: Ok. So then, in '60/'61, now Ken is working. Is he still working maintenance with NPS in '60, '61?

SP: In '60, '61 he was. He worked maintenance at the Park until he got the crazy idea that he wanted to leave and play music. So we left the Park in, oh, it's hard for me to remember the exact year, but it was probably, I'm going to guess 1965. That's coming pretty close. It could be off. It could've been '64, but it's either '64 or '65 is when we left the Park. I think it was '65.

TM: So, what were you doin' in '62 and '63?

SP: I was working at the Park Service as I recall. Yeah, I was working at the Park Service and Ken was working Park Service. He was playing music a lot at the... I'm sure you've heard from Mary Hoover about the Shalimar Ballroom.

TM: Tell me about it.

SP: Well, that was the place to go in Williams was the Shalimar. It was at the east end of town on the right-hand side of the road and it was a bar and a dance hall. Ken got himself together a little two or three piece band. One guy's name was Ernie Allison and the other guy's name was...oh god, can't think of it...it'll come to me. So he had that little band. He played around Flagstaff and Williams in that little band. Didn't make a lot of money, but his interest was in music. He loved writing and he loved performing and music was his love.

TM: So the Shalimar, how do you spell that?

SP: S-H-A-L-I-M-A-R. Yeah, Mary Hoover will be able to tell you all about that. 'Cause that was just the place to go. Then, right across the street from that was a restaurant, one of the first... It was kinda like a Denny's, only it wasn't Denny's. I can't remember what the name of it was, but it was a nice little restaurant. Everybody would go there after the dance and eat and then drive back up to the Canyon. So Ken was playing music on the weekends as he could get a job. He did that when he was on the North Rim and when he had jobs to play, he would... Lot of times I had to drive for him, to get him back and forth, because they'd have to play like a Sunday afternoon and he had to be to work at Monday morning. So it was tight. But music, at that time, was the love of his life.

TM: So you said he liked to write. What kind of writing would he do?

SP: Music.

TM: Oh my gosh.

SP: Oh, he wrote some of the best songs you've ever heard. He had a memory like a steel trap. After work he'd sit with his guitar. He would sit there and would hum and would play some chords and pretty soon I would ask him what was going on and he'd say, "I've just written this song. What do you think about it?" He would play the melody and lyrics. He never ever had to write 'em down. He never forgot a thing. I've never known anybody that had any better memory than he had. He remembered all the music. He wrote many songs. The timing was off for him is all. A different time in a different place, he would've been a major country music performer. Because, you know, you've heard that before in a lot of cases, the timing is everything.

TM: Yeah, that's right. That's right.

SP: His timing...his timing was off. But insofar as his talent for music - I've never heard of anybody that had any greater talent to write or to perform than he did. It was all self-taught.

TM: That's amazing.

SP: Really good. So, anyway he spent all his off time that he possibly could playing music. When he was on the North Rim, he'd play in someplace in... Oh what's that town, not Kanab, but the place before you get to Kanab?

TM: Fredonia?

SP: Fredonia, yeah. There was a bar there and he'd play in Fredonia some weekends. The people that were so big there, their names were the Swapps, have you ever heard of them?

TM: Only just.

SP: Glen Swapp? S-W-A-P-P, Swapp. They were very well-known Mormons and they worked at the Park part-time. A lot of them would come in at the summertime and work there sometimes, where we met them. 'Course they were pretty well-known in Fredonia and I guess in Kanab, too. They loved country music and so Ken and they got along fine. So he would play in Fredonia occasionally during the summer.

TM: And he was playing the fiddle and the guitar, or just the guitar?

SP: Just the guitar. He did build his own pedal steel and played a little pedal steel. Never ever professionally. No, he was an extremely talented guy. Extremely smart. Sometimes, you know, we don't take advantage of the good things and we fall to some of the not so good things. He had the talent and the ability, but professionally, he didn't achieve the goals he intended. So anyhow, beside the point.

TM: Yeah. '62, '63 there at the Park...

SP: 'Course every time you'd have to move houses because people would leave and then you'd get more seniority and then you'd go up in the numbers and if a house was vacant, you got to move. So we did get

to move a couple times and had better housing. Had very, very nice housing at the end. I did not want to leave, but in those days, if your husband wanted to do something, you did it.

TM: That's right. Yeah...yeah.

SP: You know, it's different now. But in those days, whatever he wanted to do, we did it. So he wanted to leave and play music and that's when the bottom fell outta everything, after that.

TM: Ok. Before we go there...

SP: Yeah, I don't wanna go very much there.

TM: Yeah yeah yeah, no, no.

SP: Grand Canyon parts, that's the last part of what I really wanted...

TM: Yeah. Bud Dunagan, Dorothy and Bud Dunagan, does that name ring a bell?

SP: Oh, of course! Of course, I visited them a year or two ago. Oh yeah, I knew both of them before they got married.

TM: Tell me.

SP: She was a nurse at the old hospital there at Grand Canyon. I'm trying to think of the doctor's name. The only thing I can think of is Doc Lacy and I don't know whether he was the doctor when she was there or not. The other names... I don't think he was, he came along later. I can't remember the name of the doctor was there.

TM: It might have been doc Schnur?

SP: Schnur, yes, Schnur.

TM: Leo Schnur?

SP: Yeah, Schnur, that's who it was. I knew it wasn't Lacy. Lacy was there later on in the 60s. But Schnur, he's the one that was there. Dorothy Dunagan married Bud. And the other girl that was a nurse was really great. Ellen, Ellen Goza. Can't remember what her maiden name was. She married Goza. He was the guy who had to do with the mules, one of the bosses of the mule guys.

TM: That was Jay?

SP: Huh?

TM: Is that right? Jay, Jay Goza?

SP: Jay. That's right, Jay Goza. He was one of the dude wranglers. He was one of the more senior ones. Then I think he became the guy out at the South Kaibab where they took care of the packing. I think Jay Goza went from being a dude wrangler to being out there doing the packing. Then Jay and Ellen left. I don't remember, Colorado or where they went. He wasn't well, as I recall. Anyway, then they left not

too many years later, left the Park and I never heard from or about them again. I'm sure that Dorothy Dunagan did, because she and Ellen Goza were very, very close.

TM: OK. And then Bud, he was the deputy sheriff?

SP: Yeah, he was a dude wrangler when I first met him.

TM: Oh, he was a dude wrangler, ok.

SP: He was a dude wrangler first. Then somehow or other he got in with whoever to become, I think it was deputy sheriff there, or something like that. So then he just went up from there. But Dorothy Dunagan, I hear from 'em every Christmas. I've been there to see them once. I wanted to go last year, but I didn't get to go last year to see them but I do want to go see them again. She has the most amazing, *amazing* assortment of Indian rugs you've ever seen. She must have thirty or forty that she's picked up during her lifetime. She's got ones that they made in the 50s and the 60s. They're not these new commercial ones they've got now. These were the old ones and oh, I'm telling you, I was just absolutely awestruck when I went to see her and Bud a couple of years ago. The Indian rugs she showed me. She's got 'em all over the house. They never left Arizona and she'd been collecting them all those years. There's not an inch of space in her house that doesn't have an absolutely beautiful, historic Indian rug.

TM: Wow.

SP: Terrific. After I left Arizona, I didn't keep up with anybody there. I was going from hither to hither and yon so I didn't keep up with anybody, but I was so happy when I got back. One thing I do wanna mention is about... What was the gal who was the head of the, not the old-timers, but the association. What was her name? She and her husband went to Florida and they both passed away there. What was her name? Her maiden name had been Cummings. Schick! Schick. Doesn't it ring a bell to you? I can't think of her first name.

TM: Nope.

SP: She was either the secretary or something of the...

TM: Ida?

SP: That was the mother. Ida Cummings. I remember her when I first went to the Canyon and they had the old Babbitt Store there and they had the soda fountain.

TM: Right.

SP: That's where everybody used to go was to the soda fountain there and Miss Cummings. But they all, it was so cute, because here I'm coming from California, ok? So they called me a prune-picker, they didn't like me at all. "Oh, you're one of those lousy prune-pickers." So I came here and most of the people came from more rural settings. They were used to being around stock and they were in small towns and it was entirely different than what I was used to. But anyway, I do remember how it'd just give me such happiness when I'd go in there. The dude wranglers would come in there to get something to drink, you know, Coke, or whatever they got, and they'd call her Miss Ida. They'd always walk in there and they'd say, "Hi Miss Ida, we'd like to have so-and-so." I mean the politeness and the courtesy and

the warmth was so beautiful to see in those days. I can't remember it offhand, the name of the other lady that worked there with her. Of course that was Mrs. Schick's mother, Ida Cummings. Mrs. Schick, when I met her, to me she was just a saint. I fell in love with her the first time I talked to her. She was just a wonderful, wonderful person. Then found out that Ida Cummings was her mother. Ida, I just remember Miss Ida. I can't think offhand of the other lady's name. I'll know it when I hear it, but the two of them... And they were older women. 'Course at that time, you know, I was 25 years old, so anybody, you know, 27 or 28 is old. I don't know how old she was, she may have been in her forties, maybe even her fifties, I don't know. When you're in your twenties, anybody that age is doggone near ancient!

TM: Antique, yes.

SP: So I don't remember her being young but she was relatively young woman. I'm trying to think of the other lady's name. Ida Cummings and... Can't think of the other one. But anyway, so, what else is there that you're missing, you've got holes in?

TM: I don't know. [laughter]

SP: There ya go, there ya go. We pretty well talked our time, haven't we?

TM: We did and we have. Should we talk one more time, kinda wrapping up loose ends? You wanna do that?

SP: Any time you, anytime, my time is your time.

TM: Ok, how about Monday? I'm trying to figure this out. We leave for Tucson...alright, I tell you what, let me end this...

SP: We can do it the last week of November if you want to, if Thanksgiving gets in the way.

TM: You know what I'm going to do right now is I'm going to wrap up the tape recorder here so stand by for a minute.

SP: Ok.

TM: Today is the 17th of November, 2017. This is the end of part three, oral interview with Shirley Patrick. Hold the line Shirley.