

PETROLEUM INDUSTRY ORAL HISTORY PROJECT TRANSCRIPT

INTERVIEWEE: Yvonne Royer

INTERVIEWER: Aubrey Kerr

DATE: March 26, 1992

Side 1 – 46:00

AK: I'm Aubrey Kerr, today is Thursday, March the 26th. And I have with me Jean McClause, and we are in the home of Mrs. Yvonne Royer and Rita Royer and the address is 13020 31st Street out in the East part of Edmonton. And what I would like to get from you, Mrs. Royer is your earliest recollections - where you were born, how your father and mother came out to this part of the world and a few other details.

YR: Yeah, I was born in Rhode Island, United States, I'm Yvonne Royer. I was five years old when I came out here with my mother and dad.

AK: What year was that?

YR: 1909.

AK: So you were born in 1904?

YR: 1904.

AK: Right.

YR: And we settled, at first we went to my Grandad's for a couple of years until he built a shack on the farm, my dad, and we did quite a bit there and my dad was working for the railroad when their railroad came in the, CNR past. He was blacksmith on the railroad and then we, and he used to come at night at home. And then in the morning he went back, and we did that for quite a while. We kept on the road like that, that he kept going back and forth.

AK: And where was your actual home? Where did you have your home?

YR: We had our homestead on Southwest 58 Range 12, Southwest 58 Range and the Fort Range, it was on Southwest 58.

AK: Right. Now, you mentioned your grandfather. I take it that your grandfather was here before your parents came and what brought him out to this part of the world.

YR: Well, I guess he came to, you know, to try and develop the place from Rhode Island, and so him and his wife and his kids, they came on a wagon, and when they were brought up, but I don't know just which area it was. But it was about three, four years before we come and then he wanted us to come

here and live. So when we came we got off at Fort Saskatchewan, on the train, and then went through the river on a big wagon. That was the first of April.

AK: Well that must have been as far as the railway had come then, it had not come to Edmonton.

YR: No, no, just as far as the Fort. Then there was some people, called Mrs. Barrette and they met us there with their wagon and we crossed, and my granddad took us from up there to their, to his place. That was then called Meadowville, it was called then. And when they got the post office and there they called it Val Soucy.

AK: Yeah, that S-O-U-C-Y. Right, now who named that?

YR: Well the family of the Soucy's went there first before my granddad.

AK: And where did they come from?

YR: Kankakee, Illinois.

AK: is that right? It's interesting that you people of French extraction would be attracted out here. Were your forefathers, did they come from Quebec or from France?

YR: My father, they came from Rhode Island. That's where my father was born. Yeah, but I meant before, before that, his father.

YR: I don't know. Really, I don't know, his father might have been from France, or I don't know.

AK: Right. But it so happened that there was a somewhat of a colony of francophones that built up out there, wasn't there.

YR: Yes, there was, we were quite a few bunch of Frenchmen up there, and that's how we started. There was the Odettes, there was, Paquin??? and there was the Soucy's, there was Pete Soucy and there was Sam Soucy and there was Edward Soucy and there was Joe Soucy.

AK: Right. So where did you take your schooling?

YR: I didn't have much of a schooling I took my schooling at first in, we went to Pinehurst. It got so bad that Mrs. Soucy's daughter Anna taught us in the morning. We went to the neighbor, to the neighbor.

AK: Was that because the school was overcrowded.

YR: No, it wasn't overcrowded but the school was quite far, it was way in the Pines then, and we went there for the full noon??? and I didn't get much of, and then they moved the school to Pinehurst, just, they moved it nearer, about two miles closer from the Pines going north, so then we were closer to the school.

AK: What did that mean in terms of a walk? How far did you have to walk?

YR: Well, then, I couldn't go too much up there, so I walked to Woodgrove School. And I walked to Woodgrove School that was four miles in the morning and four miles at night.

AK: The same distance whether you liked it or not and was at in tough snowy weather.

YR: Yes, very snowy weather and there's, well I miss quite a bit of school because it was hard to get through.

AK: Yeah. Did your parents not have a horse that you could use to go to school with?

YR: No. I was too young then to run the horse, and then my dad got horses after he got done working because when he came out from the States, he had five dollars left in his pocket.

AK: Yeah, there was a lot of them came with nothing.

YR: Yes, and then I went with him, he had to go to the city, but we had oxen, so we went to Edmonton with a big wagon, sitting on the big wagon with a team of oxen.

AK: An that would take you all day to get in, wouldn't it?

YR: Yes, more, because we'd go as far as halfway and stop and then the next morning we'd go to that ??? Hotel, that's where we had a room.

AK: Where was that, on 97th Street?

YR: That was, there was an Eaton's there, a small Eaton's store, very small.

AK: Oh, near the tracks.

YR: Yes, so...

AK: So that's how you would get your supplies.

YR: No, my granddad hauled the supply. He hauled it with, he had horses and a ??? and he was hauling the stuff, you know twice a week, there was people wanted to go in in, he'd drive them in, they'd pay him so much to drive them in and they got their stuff and their stuff, and then they'd come back with him.

AK: Right? Yeah, so he was kind of like a taxi in a sort of a way. Well then, how far along did you go to school then?

YR: Then I went to school after that, they moved it to Mr. Walker's Farm. And then I had a horse that my dad had, a pony. I used to write that on horseback and I used to go to school then, and with the Walker kids, and then I'd go back at night. So...

AK: Well that was ??? Do you remember what grade you went to?

YR: I went to grade 4, that's, I quit...

AK: That was it, eh?

YR: That was it.

AK: And then you had to stay home and work?

YR: Oh, yes. Well, I stayed home and helped my mother and all that, and we went out picking berries and my sister, then took the oxen and she plowed. She wasn't old, but she ran the plow so we could make a garden and fixed it.

AK: Well, did you have other land that you're broke to plant crops in, like wheat?

YR: Not right away, we had after my dad went to work after the railroad was set they was finished there. He went to work for Mr. Desrosiers at Lamoureux. He had a blacksmith shop. He was working for fifty cents a day. And that last about three or four years. And then we came home and my granddad and him and us kids, my sister and I, we helped to clean the bush, to burn the bush there for about six acres I guess there must have been. And then they plowed that up and they fixed that up and that's how we started. And after that my dad quit and he started a blacksmith shop in the barn that we had where we kept couple of cows, and then he worked for the, you know, for the farmers fixing ???

AK: Then they'd hear about him being able to shoe the horses, eh?

YR: Oh yes, he would shoe the horses. He'd get mad sometimes at them too.

AK: [inaudible] Well the horses had to be looked after.

YR: Looked after, so that's what, that's how we did our living.

AK: So then did you stay in that area for how long?

YR: Oh gosh, I was when we moved, when my dad moved, I was 16 years old when we moved to Lamoureux.

AK: Where's that, Lamoureux?

YR: It's across the river from Fort Saskatchewan.

AK: And that's Lamoureux?

YR: Lamoureux, yeah. We called it... in French it's Lamoureux.

AK: Yeah right.

YR: Yes.

AK: And you called it Lamorrie?? in English. And then you lived there for?

YR: WE lived there at Lamoureux for about two, two and a half years and when I was 17 and a half. I married Emil Royer.

AK: Emil? Yeah, I should have asked you what your maiden name was. I forgot...

YR: Nadeau.

AK: That's N-A-D-E-A-U?

YR: Yes, Nadeau. And we got married and my dad moved to Gibbons and he had a blacksmith shop there for a long time. I can't remember the year that he moved to the city and started with the Southern Oil and stuff like that.

AK: Oh, he got an agency...

YR: Yeah, an agency ???

AK: What company did he get an agency with?

YR: I think that it was Texaco.

AK: Oh yeah, old McCall Frontenac, Fire Chief and Havoline and all that neat stuff, yeah.

YR: So and then we turn around and we stayed on my father-in-law's place for a couple of years and we turned around and bought my dad's place, the homestead, so went back to the old place where I used to live. And we stayed there for all quite a few years, '39, July 1939. Yeah, we moved into Redwater.

AK: But by 1939 how many children had you had?

YR: Five. I had my son and then I had my son, I had my son and my daughter that's in California. And then there was... Rita...

RR: There was two boys.

YR: Oh, tow boys, but they died. And I know when I went to the hospital in Edmonton, there was the Soucy boy, drove, he had an old car and he drove me to Edmonton with my husband and it was 40 below zero so, you know starting from there in old car getting into the city...

AK: Yeah, terrible.

YR: Yes.

AK: And then Rita came along.

YR: She's the youngest.

AK: She's the baby, eh.

YR: Yes.

[00:15:54] AK: Well, that's interesting. So what encouraged or what, why did you move into Redwater?

YR: Well, I got lonesome. And my... like his dad, Philip Royer, that was my husband's dad, Emil, and we moved, and we bought dad's place, and we stayed there for a few years. And anyway, we was froze out and froze and ??? out...

AK: In Redwater?

YR: Yes. And Val Soucy, then it was Val Soucy. And everything was frozed out, we could hardly, you know, make it. So we went to Municipality, they gave us to keep the seven of us, the gave us, the five of us, they give us seven dollars a month.

AK: For the five of you.

YR: Yeah for the five of us.

AK: Well how generous eh?

YR: Yes, generous, until...

AK: Well now where were you living at this time that you are getting this help.

YR: I was living on the farm.

AK: Oh, outside... how far away from where downtown Redwater is?

YR: Oh, five miles.

AK: Oh, I see. So you were in the municipality.

YR: Yes, right in the municipality.

AK: And this was just when the war was starting was it? 1939, '38?

YR: Yeah, about '39. I had uncles in the war, and cousins...

AK: Now well then...

RR: [inaudible]

AK: Yeah, I guess. So when did you actually move off of the farm into the actual village, into the village?

YR: In the village. We moved in '38, '39. 1939 that we moved into Redwater.

AK: Right. And was there, was your first adventure with the egg grading or was that something that was already there?

YR: Not right then. There was nothing there then, and well, he started with charging batteries, you know for the farmers around, he had a charger.

AK: Your husband.

YR: Yes, and we did the best we could. And I'm telling you the grub wasn't too much on the table at that time. And then I got in with Edmund Produce, they came out and they wanted us to start up a chicken, you know to start up a grading station. Well, I didn't know anything, so I had to go to school for that, till noon.

AK: Who were these people, who are the people that were running the Edmonton outfit?

YR: That was Superstein??

AK: Superstein, yeah well, he still continued to run that. Yeah, because you know just... well in Edmonton, yeah because you see they got. this is this is an aside, I must put it in here, because when Atlantic Three was blowing out at Leduc, they come into Superstein's place and they bought all the feathers they could put their hands on, and that was where they got them. And so that's a connection, now that was 1948 of course, by that time you were well established. Yeah, so Superstein made a deal with you.

YR: Yes. So...

AK: You were going to... how did you get the eggs in, did the farmers bring them?

YR: Yes, the farmers bought some and my husband had an old truck and he went out truckin' for eggs, he'd go around and pick up a bunch.

AK: Yeah, gathering them up, eh?

YR: Yes. And then Superstein wanted us to get chickens. So my husband was buying the chickens and turkeys and in the fall, and then Rita and I, we packed turkeys, I'm telling you she can tell you that, in crates at night. I went, I was buying at the house and at night while my husband was on the road, and he'd sleep in the day 'because he was all night.

AK: Right. Well now these turkeys, were these after you had slaughtered them? Or were they live.

YR: The farmer...

AK: The farmer slaughtered them, but they weren't cleaned, were they eviscerated, did you take their guts out?

YR: No, they didn't, they should...

AK: Yeah, I know they wouldn't keep as well.

YR: No, and then he'd haul them right... put them in the crates and put them on the train the next day, right away. So we kept them where it was cold.

AK: Right.

YR: And then we had up there when we were, at our ??? on our own, we were buying and doing the cleaning at the house.

AK: Oh, you started to do the...

YR: Yes.

AK: That was both chickens and turkeys.

YR: And turkeys... no well we didn't do the turkeys because they were too heavy for us, for me to handle. So we did the chickens, but my... one day there was a lady, I had to get a lady. I used to do the butchering and the lady, and put them in the water to 28 degrees and my husband had to...

AK: To get the feathers off?

YR: Oh, yeah, my husband had made a roller, a plucker, and he's the one that was passing them on the plucker and then we'd have to throw, after the plucker would throw them, put them in cold water, and then we'd open them after they were cool enough. There was this lady and I one day we did 500.

AK: 500 birds.

YR: Cleaned them, and...

AK: Now you'd ship them by train, would you?

YR: No, then he'd take them in right away with his old truck.

AK: Oh, is that right?

YR: Yes.

RY: What time of the year was it, was it cold in then?

YR: Oh, yes, it was in the fall.

[00:22:54] Yeah, well just going back a minute. I am intrigued by those terrible hardships of being frozen out and, and the crops, of course that meant there was no crops.

YR: There was no crop at all. It's a good thing we had little patch of potatoes and garden stuff to help.

AK: So it was just absolute subsistence.

YR: That's right. Well, then, then you continued this and maybe Rita can chime in here if she wants to.

YR: Yes.

[00:23:36] AK: The thing that I like to try to find out from different people, you see, the first thing that went out at Redwater is they were doing seismic work. Now do you remember when they did the seismic work?

RR: They started the seismic in '47 I believe. I think it was 1947.

AK: You remember the name of the crew or anything?

RR: Who was the boss there, they come from Texas.

AK: Rick Roberts? Craig Spraggins?

RR: What was the name of that fellow...

AK: He was the Party Chief, was he?

RR: He was the boss of ??? Mom, you know who I'm talking about, Laverne and her husband... Laverne, you know, the people that... the seismic crew that was in Redwater.

YR: Yes. They were, I don't know, I think they were from ??? Texas, yes from the States.

AK: Yeah.

YR: Yes. His name... I don't know their name.

AK: Yeah, well, here did they stay when they were in Redwater?

RR: They had a trailer.

YR: Yes.

RR: Him and her had a trailer.

YR: Because I remember Rita helping, they'd haul water by the pail at the house.

AK: Oh, they'd get water from you people.

YR: No, they'd get water from the town, it wasn't...

RR: They stayed in the hotel.

YR: Yeah, they must have stayed in...

AK: Well the hotel was there and it didn't burn down until a little later.

RR: '48, I think it was the fall of '48 that it burned down, wasn't it the fall or winter of '48, spring of '49?

YR: I don't remember.

AK: Well, it was around in there anyway. And that created a terrible commotion. But this part, this seismic crew, you remember the name of the company that was doing it.

RR: Highland.

AK: Highland. All right, they the fellow that ran that was Zeigler, there was a fellow named Zeigler, was one of the Party Chiefs, but I don't know this Laverne could have been another...

RR: Well this was his wife's name.

AK: Well that's interesting that it was Highland, because, you see, Imperial had seismic crews and that was the first instance of your seeing anything that looked like oil business. Well, then after they did that there must have been a kind of a lapse then...

RR: A little lapse, not too much, because we went to the States, and there was a little lapse, and then they came in right away with the rigs. And then they started drilling when we were in the States.

YR: We were gone when they started drilling...

AK: Well, what time, what year did you go to the States?

RR: 1948.

AK: Yeah, because the well sputtered in in July.

RR: Yeah, and we were in the States then.

YR: When we got back, then they took...

AK: Tell me how you got to the States. Did you take the train all the way or drove...?

YR: No, it was a friend of ours that took us in.

AK: How many together did you go?

YR: There was four.

AK: Four of you. And what kind of a car was it, do you remember?

RR: '47, '48, it was a new car, Ford.

AK: Oh yeah. And you, you'd travel, how many miles a day would you get?

They had the man which music so he how many days did it take for you to get to?

RR: Oh gosh [inaudible] Froshkanic??? was the one that drove...

AK: Froshkanic.

RR: They had a band and they...

YR: They had the band.

AK: A which?

RR: A musical band.

AK: Oh, a band. Now how many days did it take for you to get to ...

RR: About 3 days.

AK: It would have taken more than that, wouldn't it?

YR: No.

AK: You must have been really going.

YR: Well, we stayed one night.

RR: We stayed one night. We stayed at the border that night.

AK: You got to the border.

RR: We got to the border, and the next night, we stayed in Butte, Montana. I'll never forget that dirty hotel!

YR: No, me neither, I'll never forget.

RR: That's something...

AK: Well then who were you visiting in California, some relatives?

YR: My daughter.

AK: Oh, your older daughter. And is she still there?

YR: Yes, but now she's moved to Apple Valley.

AK: Oh, yeah, right. So that was, then you were away for how many weeks?

RR: One month.

AK: One month. And then when you come back, the discovery had been made.

YR; Yes, the discovery had been made.

AK: And was there a big commotion in the town?

YR: Yes, there was a big commotion in town and that's when Rod which is, that the name Morris? He wanted to rent the chicken house, you know, because they had no place. So right away they...

AK: So did you... yeah. Who else besides Rod Morris came to see you? Was it just Rod himself?

YR: Just Rod came and was talking to my husband outside. I didn't know Rod then, I seen that he was talking, and my husband come in and he said, well, I think I'll rent the chicken house Imperial ????. I said, sure go ahead and he said, rather than have chickens in there, he said, they need it bad so he ???

AK: What do you do about the chicken business then, did you just stop?

YR: Well, we had... yes.

AK: Did you get another place, or?

YR: Oh yeah, then we stopped for a while until that was over and my husband built a big chicken house outside of town.

AK: Yeah, but that house that you were in on the street, you were grading eggs in there.

YR: Yes.

AK: And that came right out onto the street, and then the back was, was this lot and then on this lot was this long, old chicken house.

YR: Yes, that was... yeah, and then when we sold, they cut the... because they didn't want it. And husband took it for the chickens, and he made it for the young chickens.

[00:30:37] AK: All right, but let's go back a bit, when you moved in and started in on this thing that Superstein wanted you to do, were those buildings there or did you put them up?

YR: The buildings, oh, yes, they were there.

AK: But had somebody else raised chickens there?

YR: No, at first he was charging batteries and we had a few chickens for ourselves.

AK: Oh, I see. But then this turned over and you started to get into the...

YR: And then we started after that. Well, I went in to learn how to, in school to learn how to grade eggs. I got a few straps from one of them the teachers.

AK: Is that right, where did you go to school to learn this?

YR: In Edmonton. in... Superstein, where they used to buy poultry, but they had a room in the back, you know, and there was teaching.

AK: Yeah. Well, they...

YR: But they tried to ??? for my arithmetic and boy, you know, 'cause the way that they have the eggs places, and then you got to keep count of the large, the medium and...

AK; Well that's right, and see the ??? But with all this you had some boarders you said, over and above Rod and Mike Woodhead.

YR: Yes...

AK: And did Rod and Mike live in the chicken house?

YR: No, they had another guy, a cook and Woodhead was living in the chicken house.

AK: Right? And he had, your daughter was saying that he had his train layout in the back room. That's where all his stuff was. But he'd eat with them in the, a part, in the kitchen. I forgot the, he was tall...

AK: Very tall, yeah. And very polite.

YR: Yeah, oh, so polite.

AK: Extremely polite, very correct.

YR: Yes, he'd come to the, you know on New Year's Eve, there was a dance and we stopped to Happy New Year, and oh, please please just a minute, please. I'm sorry, I'll get to the door and so we wished him... and he was so excited.

AK: Yeah right. Well he was all by himself. He finally, he later married, you know.

YR: Did he?

AK: And he's retired on Vancouver Island.

YR: Oh my gosh.

AK: Yeah, he packed it in with Pan-Canadian. He was with Imperial then he went with Pan-Canadian, and I've kept in touch with him over the years.

YR: Oh, yes. And he was always ???

AK: Very correct, yeah. Well, then these other people that were in your house, you boarded them, did you? You boarded some?

YK: Yes, there was seven guys that boarded for three months...

AK: Do you remember their names?

YR: Rita might remember their names.

[00:34:08] AK: Well now, Rita, we were we were talking about the boarders in your mother's place and you could remember some of those names?

RR: That boarded at the house... I'm going to have to think about this.

AK: Well, were they roughnecks?

RR: Yes. Yes. They were from the oil...

AK: Any particular contract outfit?

RR: No, Imperial Oil, they were from the production department and geological department. You know, some from each.

AK: Was there a fellow named...

YR: The one that married the Cooke girl, what was his name?

RR: Ashton...

YR: Gordon Ashton.

AK: What about Jack Nesbitt?

RR: No, Jack Nesbitt, I know Jack...

AK: He's been quite unwell. He's still alive, but I'll mention you to him, we're going to see him on Saturday.

RR: Well, was he, he was in one of them.

AK: Yeah, but he lives in Edmonton, he's very alert and he's quite helpful.

RR: It was a bad thing that went around that one time, everybody said he had died. But well this was many years ago.

AK: Terrible.

RR: Yes, and we went to this Imperial Oil banquet in the city here. There's shots ??? there was about one thousand people there anyway, and I was dancing and all of a sudden, ??? oh, and I just about died, and a lot of other people too, said, my God and he says, no, I heard this but I'm alive and kicking.

AK: Well Wilf???, you see Wilf's claim to fame is that magnificent photograph of him with the bales?? hanging onto the bales that are coming out of the hole and he's looking up. Imperial Oil took that picture and it you know, it's a real, it's a real PR picture. I'm going to put get that from him. But... so you, Rita, did you continue to work in the egg grading and...

RR: No I didn't work in the egg grading. I just helped...

AK: Around, eh?

RR: I'm just trying to see, some of these fellows here that... this is one is ??? one is my husband, one is my brother-in-law.

AK: Is that right? Yeah. Now these are, these this this crew here was off of a, some tour sheets that I got, this is a hole that was drilled in 1951 on a farmout from Imperial Oil. And you remember George MacCallum?

RR: Yeah, I remember George MacCallum.

AK: He's retired now and living out at Sundre

YR: Oh, is he not...

AK: Yeah, I wrote him a letter and he's never replied. There's a of these people don't reply to my letters.

RR: Yeah, I knew all these people ???

AK: Is that right?

RR: Yeah that's too bad.

AK: Yeah Canyon got... Doug Gamble, he lives in Didsbury. This is the original crew and Gene copied this down off the list in the ???

RR: Adam Smith, was it the Adams who rented one of our places? Who rented the old barn?

YR: Oh, there's so many ??? [talking at once] that old barn.

AK: Where was it, right near the egg grading station.

RR: It was across the street.

AK: Oh, and there was an old barn, and what did they do with this barn, did they...

RR: Well, we had to take it, we tore it down...

YR: And my husband took it, and he cleaned it all up, and because they had no room to stay. So he cleaned it all up and he put a good floor in there, and put paper around, and there was, they had 2 renters in that barn, there was 2 parts.

AK: Oh, and what were they, like contract companies, or oil companies?

YR: No, they were with the Imperial.

AK: Oh, they were Imperial Oil people.

YR: Yes.

YR: William was one, Bruce Williams...

RR: But who was the first one who stayed? Was it Bruce?

YR: Yeah Bruce and the one that stayed in that old house. I don't think he worked for Imperial

RR: No, he was a truck driver. He was a water truck driver. [inaudible]

AK: Well, Rita, you...

RR: Who was it who was boarding at that house, there was 7 of them but I can't remember... [inaudible]

AK: Well, it's okay. [00:40:22] Rita, you were growing up there, and you had, did you have any jobs before you went with Imperial Oil?

RR: Yeah, I worked for Avenue Grocery Store, well Mrs. ??? had it then, for a year, couple years, and then...

AK: And then you married Lonsdale?

RR: Yeah.

AK: What was his first name?

RR: Ken. And then I quit there and I had children. Yeah, and he, Ken got killed in a car accident in 1959 and in 1960 I went to work for Imperial, switchboard operator.

AK: Who was the superintendent then? It wasn't George Bannantyne, I think he'd gone.

RR: No, it wasn't... no here was there before.

AK: Labby Laberge?

RR: He was one of them, oops, where is he... he was one of them but not before, there was somebody before him.

YR: I don't remember his name.

AK: Well, it wasn't it certainly wasn't Don Hall. He hadn't advanced that far. Well, then none of the old hands were there like Paulson, or...

RR: Oh, Paulson, well yes, Paulson is still in Redwater.

AK: No, Maurice Paulson.

RR: Oh, Maurice Paulson, no.

AK: No, but in all those people, we talked about that a little bit ago, they'd all moved on because they were key people and they got senior jobs then they brought other people in. Do you remember who the petroleum engineer was there then?

RR: Him, if I could remember his name.

AK: Now the other person that comes into this story, I might as well get, maybe your impressions of him, was a fellow named Mitro Koziol, who became the mayor of Redwater, Mitro Koziol, he lives in Saint Albert.

RR & YR: [inaudible]

AK: He was the mayor of Redwater for a little while. He worked for the energy, he worked for the Conservation Board.

YR: ??? he must have been...

AK: What about Frank Manyluk? Do you remember that name? He was the head engineer for the Board. And then well, there was some other people there, like Edgcombe, Rod Edgcombe, do you remember that name? He's retired now.

RR: John Gray was an engineer there, you remember, from Imperial.

AK: Yeah, I don't know him. ??? had gone, hadn't he? What about Bruce Beatty? Was he up there? No. Then how long did you stay with them?

RR: Four years.

[Looking at photos]

AK: Oh, yeah right. Okay.

AK: RR: You were wondering about...

AK: Wonderful. Wonderful picture of you and your, the five generations, you and your son. His first name is, your son's first name is...

YR: Wilfred.

AK: Wilfred, and he's 69, and then his son must be about...

YR: Rita knows.

AK: Yeah, yeah and so there's... and what's the name of the little baby?

YR: The baby? What did they name the baby, Rita?

RR: Matthew.

AK: With 2 T's? Oh Matthew. Yeah and his surname is... oh Anderson, not Royer.

[00:44:37] Mrs. Royer, what I'd like from you is just a few words of summarizing what you think about the whole, your whole life in Redwater and all that. Whatever words you'd like to use.

YR: ??? Redwater. What am I going to say? My whole life has been working, working.

AK: Yeah. Well, you raised a wonderful family. But I mean, is there anything else that, like your philosophy or anything?

YR: No not much, every, you know bless my husband and that was... it's going to be 13 years, that he's gone, and you know, things like that and I've...

AK: Well, you've survived.

YR: Oh, yes.

AK: Well, that's what I wanted to hear from you.

YR: Oh yes, I survived.

AK: And I can tell by that voice that you have survived, and you're going to.

YR: Yes, I'm not gonna give it up.

AK: That's what I want to hear from you. Oh, that's wonderful. And I really thank you very much and we'll be talking to you again, I hope.

End of Interview