

Westman Oral History collection**Interview Date: 1982-05-24****Narrator (interviewee): Emma Pratt****Interviewer: Phyllis Cairns****Location: Sioux Valley, Griswold, Manitoba****Transcriber: Brianna Workman****Date Transcribed: 2014-09-29**

00:00:10

Interviewee: Today is May 24th 1982. The following is an interview with Mrs. Emma Pratt, matriarch at 98 of Sioux Valley, Griswold, Manitoba. Mrs. Pratt and I are visiting in the comfortable living room of her Sioux Valley Indian Reservation home. Her cottage is located in a section of the reserve known as Prattsville. Hence she is surrounded by many members of extended family. She is intensely proud of her children. For instance, her son Donald is a World War II veteran. He has a beautiful baritone voice and is an ordained Anglican pastor. He ministers to the Anglican parish in Sioux Valley. Her granddaughter Barbara Cameron is an LPN. Her grandson Stacy Pratt plays hockey with Brandon Wheat Kings. Daughter Ida Whitecloud is an liaison position with Brandon and Fort LaBosse school divisions where Sioux Valley children attend school. Grandma Pratt still makes quilts, and quilts, and more quilts. Mrs. Pratt will try to recall for us her life as a child and young married woman. This interview will be conducted by Phyllis Cairns for the Westman Oral History Association Project, Voices of Yesteryear.

00:02:24

Question: I wondered if you would uh, tell us your full name please? Go right on.

Answer: Uh...Emma Gordon[?] Pratt.

Q: Thank you. And when were you born and where were you born?

A: Portage La Prairie out at the village along near the river.

Q: Mmh mmh...

A: Just 2 miles out of Portage.

Q: What year?

A: 18...1884.

Q: 1884...well for goodness sakes. That's...That's a long time ago isn't it?

A: Ya.

Q: And uh, could you tell us the names of your parents?

A: Well they never, the Indians never had uh, a parents, they never went by their parent's names.

Q: Oh I see.

A: You just had a given name. An Indian name.

Q: Mmh mmh.

A: And uh, afterwards of course the white people baptized, then when they were baptized they got an English name.

Q: I see. So what was your given name?

A: My, my uh, my Indian name?

Q: Mmh mmh.

A: Huh. [speaking Sioux] second child you see. The second child [speaking Sioux]...and uh, I forget the third one.

Q: Well that's fine anyway. So then your parent's names were they, they would be in uh, what, what was your language, Sioux?

A: Sioux.

Q: Yes. So your parent's names would be in Sioux also?

A: Oh yes.

Q: Yes. What were their names?

A: [Sioux name] was my mother's name. And uh, my father's name, I was only three years old when he died, but I know [Sioux name], Blackpipe.

Q: Blackpipe? And what would your mother's name mean?

A: The stone, Rolling Stone.

Q: Oh isn't that interesting. And uh, what are some of your earliest recollections? What are some of the earliest things that you can remember?

A: Oh that I can remember...I can remember my grandmother she was a, she was a little woman, a French girl my grandfather married. They were working close uh...one was working for Pratt's Landing at Portage, and the other was working, can't think of the minister's name now.

Q: Well never mind.

A: And the minister used to preach in, in Portage too. He preached there and he preached sometimes out at, at the village.

Q: Yes. And this, the village would be on the reservation?

A: Yes. It was just along the river bank. Just uh, not many of them there ya know...in those days.

Q: What was the name of the uh reservation? Or did it just have a number?

A: No. No it was just, no nothing.

Q: Just called the village?

A: Village.

Q: Pretty interesting. Where did your parents come from?

A: From uh, South Dakota.

Q: And what uhm, what led to their uh immigration to Canada?

A: Well that was the time that there was a rebel...or uh fighting there. And they, and they uh they left Canada.

Q: They left North Dakota to come to Canada?

A: Yes.

Q: As the Queen's Subjects?

A: Well there wasn't anything left back then when they were, when they left, because they didn't know whether they wanted to come and cross into Canada.

Q: Uh uh.

A: They knew there was a line there.

Q: Yes.

A: They had to cross over it.

Q: Were they being chased out?

A: Yes by the military, American soldiers.

Q: Yes.

A: Were killing them right and left.

Q: Oh dear. So once over the line then they were safe?

A: Yes.

Q: Did many come at that time?

A: Oh yes there were quite a few came at that time. A lot of them weren't native there. You see there's, there's little villages here and there of different names of the Indians where they camped. And some of them didn't join in this fighting because there was trouble over some Indian that had uh, upped, didn't know that this hen had chickens, or was uh, laying on her eggs. And uh, I think he took the, the hen, he stole it, or he did something to it anyway that they, they who owns those... they chased him and of course that riled him.

Q: Mmh mmh, and that started the trouble.

A: That started the trouble, they said.

Q: Such a small thing.

A: Of course as soon as they saw an Indian it didn't matter, that Indian over there didn't know anything about what was going on. And this other village they were shooting them right and left you see, and see that was why a lot of them...

Q: Just left.

A: Just left.

Q: No wonder, such treatment [clearing throat]. So, uh when you parents uh, came to Canada then did they come in the same group?

A: My mother uh, my mother was uh, my mother was only...she wasn't born.

Q: Oh. That was, so about what time did this immigration start I wonder?

A: Oh I forget, I've got a book someplace over...

Q: '52 or somewhere in there?

A: 16 something.

Q: Oh. Long time ago anyway.

A: Yes, it's a long time ago.

Q: So that was even before your mother's birth?

A: Yes! Mother was born in Canada.

Q: Oh I see.

A: Yes this is where I told you that he was married to this girl.

Q: Mmh mmh.

A: That's in Portage.

Q: That's right, that's right you did say that. Mmh mmh. So your, your grandmother on...

A: She was a French girl.

Q: A French girl.

A: Yes.

Q: Isn't that interesting. So how long did you live at Portage before you came up here?

A: Well that was uh, a few months short of 20 when I came up.

Q: So did you get uh schooling down around Portage did you, did you?

A: Well that's, see we were uh, when my father died I was only three years old, my mother was sick at the time. And uh, her sister was, her youngest sister was in the boarding school. See they had the boarding school going then.

Q: Boarding school even then eh?

A: Ya, and uh, so they took me...my aunt was in there, my mother's youngest sister, so they took me in school for her to look after me.

Q: Oh I see.

A: Because mother was sick and she couldn't handle the, my younger sister...there's a sister between us.

Q: So, so you spent your...a few years at the school then?

A: Oh yes! 'Till I was uh, 15.

Q: I see.

A: And then I left there at the school and uh, Ms uh, Mrs. Brown, she, he was a Mayor of Portage. Mrs...but or she was a school teacher at the boarding school where uh, an Indian school. She was a teacher in there. So when she got married I went to live with them.

Q: I see.

A: So I was there five years.

Q: So did, did you uh, take uh music lessons while you were at Portage?

A: Ya in the school. Ya, see my aunt, my aunt taught me.

Q: I see.

A: She put, she got uh...she took music lessons. And then, and then after she taught me some. But after I went to Brown's, Mr. Brown paid for my lessons.

Q: Oh!

A: Mrs. Retan[?], she was...what was his name... he lived in uh, he lived at the, the lumber, he was a lumberman.

Q: Oh yes. In Portage.

A: No here...in Kenton.

Q: Oh pardon me.

A: His wife, she came from Portage.

Q: Oh I see. I don't know him.

A: She was a (unclear).

Q: Oh.

A: Mrs. Retan[?] was her name. After I was at Brown's I took music lessons from her.

Q: Ya.

A: But I didn't, I didn't uh go very far.

Q: You went far enough to give a lot of people a lot, a lot of enjoyment!

A: Yes, I did. [laughing]

Q: How many years did you play at the church over here at the uh...

A: 70 years, 71 I guess. 71 years.

Q: Uh uh. Oh my imagine that. Uhm, when did you first come to live right here on, in Sioux Valley?

A: In 1900 and uh, four.

Q: Yes. Can you tell me something of uh way of life at that time?

A: Oh uh, it was very lonesome. My mother...like the Indians when the girls are ready, old enough to get married, they give them away to some young man. Well that's what they did with me. And I cried and cried 2 whole nights.

Q: Ya...so you're uh, and uh your husband's name?

A: Matthew Pratt.

Q: Pratt. Well I supposed you'd, you'd have to get used to, to anywhere...

A: Oh oh yes. She said, she said uh well there was a young man used to come...well this...I never thought anything of it, I didn't think he was coming to see me. But he used to come around when uh, when they were playing hockey games and that below the school there.

Q: Yes.

A: And he...he was getting kind of uh, liking me you know? But uh, there was nothing. I didn't, I didn't understand what was going on. So that was why they wanted me to get a man.

Q: I see.

A: This was my parent's doing that I got married. I was...

Q: It was just uh, a custom, to your people.

A: Yes it's a custom, yes.

Q: It would be a shock too, wouldn't it?

A: Oh, a shock? (laughing)

Q: So how far from home did you go to live then, away from home?

A: Well I've been here ever since.

Q: I know, but how far away from your mother were you?

A: Well it was over 100 miles, down to Portage.

Q: So she was still down there?

A: Oh she came up here and stayed, they lived up here for awhile.

Q: Oh.

A: And then uh, and I said, she said "I can't uh, leave, I'm not going to leave you alone," she said. "I'm staying over here to..." So they, they lived up there on the side of the hill over there.

Q: Mmh mmh. Well...

A: For awhile, about 3 years. And then, stepfather, he wanted to go back. He said it wasn't good hunting ground, land here, but 'cause he used to hunt across the river, and he'd bring home deer and mink, moose and uh, not very many deer. He brought home big things, great big horns on the...

00:15:04

Q: Moose have big horns. Elk have big horns.

A: Ya, ya. And he was, and he was very good at tracking. And he sold all kinds of hides you know, that some of those markings and things are not alive now around there.

Q: Ya, they're extinct aren't they?

A: Ya. Well that's what he used to trap a lot of those mink and those things and all kinds of things.

Q: I wonder if he'd get a decent price for them?

A: Well Mr. Newman, the storekeeper used to send them to Winnipeg, the hides, and he'd get, he'd get uh quite a bit of money. So he banked it for him, he banked his money for him and, and he took out just as much as he had to have and...

Q: As he needed it as he went on...

A: Yes. Ya.

Q: Uh could you tell me something about how your mother used to cook the moose meat and things like that?

A: Well I don't know I was...I don't think there was any different to what uh...cooked it over the fire, she'd slice it thin you know.

Q: Mmh mmh

A: And she'd have a stick kinda leaning like that, over, over the fire. And then she'd have a, some wires or , or, or sticks fixed so that uh she could cook, spread the meat out on them.

Q: Yes. Something like a barbeque.

A: Yes, that's the way... we used, we used to love it, love it like that.

Q: Mmh, I'm sure it'd be good.

A: Oh yes, well she fried it too.

Q: In the summer you'd cook outdoors?

A: Oh yes mmh mmh...

Q: In winter you'd cook indoors?

A: Yes, and um, grandfather built a log cabin...oh it was a nice big log cabin. And uh, the, the, in the corner there was a fireplace. And this was built up from the floor like this.

Q: Mmh mmh, stones? Built up with stones?

A: Stones yes. And uh that he did the whole place! And I remember we had no light, mother had no lights at night, so when she was sewing she had to uh, sit near the fireplace. And we kept the fire going. Uh...(unclear) we liked to do that, went home for Christmas holidays.

Q: Throw a log on and then the would sparks fly?

A: Yes. (laughs)

Q: That wouldn't be very good light for sewing by would it?

A: And uh...stepfather used to...well he bought twice, he bought blankets for us. Mc...uh...Hudson Bay blanket? With the strip around it? Did you ever see one?

Q: Yes I've seen them.

A: Oh, well they had some for little kids.

Q: Oh?

A: Ya just our size you know, and she had this around her and mother made ragdolls. And she had it on her back. And the doll, and whatever she did she let it slip and the doll fell in and, and part of it was burning.

Q: Oh.

A: And she screamed and Al[?] went and grabbed it. And uh, her blanket was of course ruined.

Q: Oh. She would feel badly about that wouldn't she?

A: Ya, well grandpa went the next day and got her another one ([laughs]. Grandpa spoiled us [laughs]. Everywhere he went, he went for wood, we went along with him. And then when it go too far away, it was too cold for us to...we'd play around the sleigh and that and...used to run around behind...just to be with him! And he'd take his gun and he, if he saw, you know there was birds, woodchucks and that to eat.

Q: Mmh mmh.

A: He'd shoot them.

Q: What does a woodchuck taste like?

A: Just like prairie chicken.

Q: Is it?

A: Ya.

Q: Oh, nice and tender.

A: Oh my ya.

Q: And, and how would your mother cook a prairie chicken? Say outside, if she was going to cook outside?

A: Boil it.

Q: Oh she did?

A: Yes well sometimes. If she had a, a big uh, duck, she'd fry it.

Q: Oh yes. She didn't cook them on a stick over the fire?

A: No, no she boiled it.

Q: Mmh mmh, well that would taste good too.

A: Ah yes, it was all boiled.

Q: Now you uh, you had a, a quite a large family yourself, did you not?

A: Yes. I had at the time of the flu I lost 3 of them.

Q: Oh...

A: Well not right at the time of the flu, just gradually lost them with, what they called at the time, uh TB.

Q: Oh yes. So...

A: A lot of them went. And I just was thinking when I see the young girls now they'd be quite, you know, big women now.

Q: Yes.

A: Elderly women.

Q: Yes they would, wouldn't they.

A: Oh there was so many of them died.

Q: Ya, whole families!

A: Whole yes...(unclear)

Q: Even in the white communities also.

A: Oh yes. There was 2, 2 families in Griswold died...but out here there was a whole family...when the father saw all his little ones going in one place, he shot himself. The last one that died he was sitting up there when they made the coffin for the youngest boy. He was looking down at his little brother being

put in the coffin, and then he went and laid down. When they came in from finishing burying him, here the poor boy was dead!

Q: He couldn't stand it. Tragic.

A: Mmh. Oh things like that happened and uh, it was a terrible time.

Q: Who was your doctor in those days? Was there one at Griswold then?

A: No this was in Portage.

Q: Oh pardon me that's Portage.

A: Ya.

Q: Uhm, who was the doctor as Griswold when you came here?

A: When I came here, Dr. Hicks.

Q: Oh yes.

A: And there was one man here before that but I just can't...the other day I was just trying to think of that man's name.

Q: Mmh, so Dr. Hicks would be your doctor? He'd come here to...

A: Yes, yes. And then after that quite a few years of course, Dr. Purdie came.

Q: Yes. Well he was here a long time.

A: Oh yes, he was here long time.

Q: Mmh mmh.

A: At the time of the flu he was here.

Q: He was here at the time of the flu. Yes.

A: Yes.

Q: I remember reading about him being here then.

A: Mmh mmh.

Q: Now uhm...when your children were young where did they go to school?

A: They went to Elkhorn. We had to send them.

Q: To that Residential school?

A: Residential School, ya. Well they went here to the day school. Well this, this is about the same time I guess...they went, there was a day school here. That uh, that uh, church.

Q: Oh yes.

A: Wishing house[?]

Q: When your children were young.

A: Yes.

Q: Oh yes.

A: They went there for awhile but, they gradually were put into Elkhorn.

Q: Did you have choice whether they would go there or not?

A: Oh I...

Q: Or were you just told?

A: We were asked if they...well if they graduated you had to go. They just taught them up to uh, grade 3.

Q: Oh I see. (background: drinking, cough) Was the mission um...

A: She was a school teacher there.

Q: The mission lady?

A: Ya.

Q: What would her name be?

A: Uh...

Q: Names, I shouldn't ask should I [laugh]?

A: Well Ms. Wilkins was the uh, helper, she had a helper there...

Q: Oh you mean (unclear) Stapleton?

A: Stapleton, ya.

Q: And uh, before her who was there before Ms. Stapleton?

A: Oh there was a Mr. uh...can't think of it. Now that girl came out of England, and she was here last summer to see me.

Q: Oh, Jones. Jones?

A: Jones...

Q: Her name is Jones now isn't it?

A: Yes, that's where...

Q: Was her father.

A: Her father is dead now.

Q: But he was the minister...

A: Yes.

Q: Before Ms. Stapleton.

A: Ya. Before Ms. Stapleton. Mr. Magraw[?] was there too, before Ms. Stapleton.

Q: Don't know him.

A: You didn't...he was uh, Odawa Indian.

Q: Oh.

A: From the other side uh...South East of Winnipeg.

Q: Oh.

A: Odawa, little village of uh, none of them there now, they're all scattered I think.

Q: Oh, oh.

A: And his name was Magraw[?]...John Magraw[?].

Q: He'd be able to carry the services in your own language.

A: No.

Q: Oh he didn't?

A: He didn't know our language.

Q: Oh.

A: But he learned it pretty quick, when he was here. He had his own language. Whatever that language was, I never heard him speak it. He married an English...uh an English woman in the States before he came. He left the family there because she had, she had, she was a widow. And she had a grown family, like the boy was 16, one was nine and two girls. So that was when they, when the mission house was built, then he brought them up.

Q: I see, so that's quite a few years ago now.

A: Oh yes.

Q: Mmh mmh.

A: The mission house isn't there now, had to be torn down...

Q: Is it not? I hadn't noticed! You mean that big two storey place?

A: Yes!

Q: Oh really! When was that torn down?

A: Last year.

Q: Oh.

A: No, the year before. Because the boys oh...they were wrecking it.

Q: Were wrecking it... [unclear]

A: Because there was no one living in it.

Q: Building go to pieces when some people get in them, don't they?

A: Yes. Well you see that big, big agency house, it's gone. Just because boys were fooling around in there with matches and burnt it down.

Q: Shame. Oh. Can you remember your first car?

A: It was a ford.

Q: [laugh] So was ours. [laughs] Never mind they [unclear].

A: The boys, the boys were going to teach me to ride, drive it so I could uh...I used to go around you know walk, working and painting and papering here and all the farms around here up to, up to uh, Virden. [laugh]

Q: Well, so they thought if they taught you to drive it then you could take yourself? [laugh]

A: Yes, yes I could take myself. So one day they told me, they were showing me, Archie sat beside me and he was...so [laugh] anyway we started out right ac, right down here across the field, and I was goin'... [laugh].

Q: You weren't quite used to it yet. [laugh]

A: Oh dear.

Q: You didn't run over anybody.

A: No, but I came, I turned around and came back and I nearly, [laugh] I nearly knocked the, the gate down. [laugh]Bumped... [unclear]

Q: Oh, could a been worse.

A: [laugh] Oh they...they couldn't stop laughing. I said, "I'm a nervous wreck I'll never be able to work tomorrow."

Q: [laugh] So how did you go after that? They still had to take you?

A: [laugh] I had to drive myself. [laugh]

Q: With the horses.

A: Ya, ya there's, there's always...there exactly like the one I used to drive.

Q: Oh this one here?

A: Ya. Well he's just a picture of a that brown...horse.

Q: Ya...you felt safer with the horse than you did the car?

A: Oh yes. [laugh]

Q: Can you think of any other funny things that happened with the cars?

A: [laugh] I don't know...the only time I ever was in a car you know, trying to drive, I wouldn't touch it again. [laughs] They had lots of fun with it.

Q: Well they're a wonderful invention if they're used properly.

A: [laugh] Course.

Q: [unclear]. And uh, uh what do you think has been the, the, the thing that has made life easier for people through the years? Wha...as inventions came along, what do you think has done the most for us?

A: Inventions?

Q: Yes.

A: Well I don't think everything, uh is used like. [background: yes.] And you can't, you can't say a certain thing is any better than the other like.

Q: What about electricity?

A: Yes well...electricity yes. That, that uh, would depend, depend on everything for...

Q: Don't we though?

A: Yes. Electricity.

Q: Uh, I was wondering, when I asked that question I was wondering if you might say electricity maybe, has changed our lifestyle almost more than anything else.

A: Mmh mmh, it took me a long time to think about it.

Q: But now you're thinking about it...

A: Yes.

Q: Is there anything else that has helped us more in our homes, do you think?

A: Hardly, no I don't think so.

Q: Don't think so.

A: Well we used to get along without it at one time.

Q: Oh yes, sure we did.

00:30:12

End of clip [1 of 2]

00:31:11

Q: Could you like, would you like to tell us an interesting story about uh, about your family or friends? Start with uh...

A: Well, what has been a lot of interesting, for, for the last 2 years Stacy being such a good hockey player and uh, Wendy she's in the college, and then Kingston now, she was in Ottawa at the Indian Affairs office, worked there. And, and uh, well she was learning.

Q: Mmh mmh.

A: And then she's in uh, Kingston Un, University now. She and her husband and, uh they're uh, studying, the both of them, for lawyers.

Q: Mmh mmh, and what about uh, Stacy now, he your grandson or great-grandson?

A: He's uh, Donald's grandson.

Q: Oh, so he's your great-grandson?

A: Yes he's my great-grandson.

Q: And I wonder if he...

A: Brian is...

Q: Oh Brian is the father?

A: No, Brian is his uh, cousin.

Q: Oh, oh yes.

A: His mother's, his mother's uh, his, his mother was Brian's sister.

Q: Oh I see.

A: Stacy, yes.

Q: Mmh, so you have great hopes for Stacy?

A: Oh yes, we have great hopes for him and he's real good at it.

Q: Splendid looking young man anyway.

A: Yes.

Q: And uh uh, I wondered if you could tell, tell us a few things about your son Donald, from the time he was a boy.

A: Well he was always a boy that tried to study, no matter what he took up. He always was good at it. And they had him in Elkhorn, when he was in Elkhorn School, they had him reading the uh, service in the morning before school, the prayers, and the bible reading and that they always had him do that. Gradually he got on to studying by himself in the, in the evenings.

Q: Mmh mmh

A: And the evening prayers he'd take over. He was just a young boy then. But uh, (background clears throat) when his father was sick he had to come home.

Q: Yes.

A: He left school...

Q: Somebody had to look after the farm?

A: Yes.

Q: Yes. Did uh, was he uh, at the Elkhorn School the same time Ahab Spence[?] was?

A: Yes.

Q: I went to school with Ahab[?].

A: You did?

Q: Mmh mmh, for Grade 10, 11.

A: Oh ya.

Q: He was a nice boy.

A: Ya he, (unclear) Ahab Spenc[?].

Q: Now then uhm, when did Donald uh, get his uhm, how did he get his uh, degree for the Ministry?

A: He studied by writing.

Q: Correspondence.

A: Correspondence, yes.

Q: He, he never attended University.

A: No he didn't attended University but he had school (unclear) from the uh, Ministers

Q: Oh yes.

A: In Brandon.

Q: Mmh mmh.

A: They helped him along but he was very, he was very quick to learn.

Q: So he was doing that the same time he was farming?

A: Yes.

Q: Busy. It'd keep him busy, wouldn't it?

A: Ya.

Q: Mmh mmh. So how many years has Donald been the Minister here in Sioux Valley?

A: Ever since he was ordained, I forget what year that was.

Q: A number of years now.

A: Yes.

Q: Wonderful. You must be very very proud of him.

A: Yes it was uh, when he was uh, 4 years old this flu came along and he was, he had double pneumonia. And I had Dr. Purdie out to see him. He, Dr. Purdie was busy everyday out here. He'd come and see him, on his way he'd come in again, and he'd give him up every time. He had double pneumonia, and I just, I just worked on him...would you believe it I never slept for 3 whole nights.

Q: I can believe it.

A: Three whole nights when the doctor said he couldn't do anymore for him. Oh I said, "What am I going to do?" I just worked on him, I put uh, pads on his feet, I rubbed him with uh, crinfrid[?] on (unclear) on something...

Q: Crinfrid[?] oil?

A: Whatever it was, wasn't crinfrid oil at the time, was something else. Anyway uh, rubbed his feet and wrapped them up with uh, damp towel.

Q: Warmed.

A: Warmed, then I warmed hot, hot water bottle. We had a, a big jar, and we filled it with hot water and kept that...

Q: Against him. Keep the life within him eh?

A: Oh yes, and then I kept washing his face and washing his hands, and (background: poor little boy)uh, put the hot uh, put the hot pad...when we were through with his feet we'd take it off and put it on his chest, and, I never thought when the doctor said that...

Q: Well if you'd given up, it would a been all day with him.

A: They couldn't, we couldn't, he could, he wouldn't take anything. His breathing was so heavy, well he was really almost gone! And then, one night about eleven 'oclock there were quite a few people came there because they knew, the doctors gave him so many days, and if, if he has, if he's going to live he'll, this is his last night. So he said he sat at the phone to see if we, if we needed him you know?

Q: Dr. Purdie.

A: Ya. He didn't leave the house and he sat there uh, waiting. (takes breath) And we, I just kept working at him all the time. And uh, I noticed the change in him. He opened his eyes, and he says, "Mom, I want a drink." (takes breath) Oh!

Q: Miracle?

A: It was a miracle. And he's been my special son since...yes.

Q: You love them all but...

A: Yes.

Q: Certain things happen...

A: Yes. I had to, you know, look after him and see he didn't get his feet wet and that, in the spring. If he got, he got uh, fell and got water in his rubber boots the, and uh, run around and played in like that, and his feet were just near frozen when he came in.

Q: That's how it started.

A: That's how it started.

Q: Doing too much. Kids don't stop when they're having a good time, do they?

A: No [laughs].

Q: How old is Donald?

A: He's 60...Dorothy's 61 or 62. He's two years older than Dorothy, he's 64 or 65 now.

Q: Just a little bit younger than me.

A: Mmh.

Q: Oh that's wonderful. We miss Tim in the choir, he sang in, with the community choir...

A: Yes.

Q: For a long time. Guess it got too much.

A: Well it was just that, that uh, his voice you know, his che...with his chest like that, his voice was changing. And he, when he got a cold he couldn't.

Q: Couldn't sing.

A: So he thought he might as well just not go at all.

Q: Oh we certainly missed him anyway. Well, I wonder if you think we'd bothered you enough?

A: I think so. [laugh]

Q: You're getting tired aren't you? [background laugh] I'd like to thank you very very much for being so patient...

A: You're welcome. You're welcome.

Q: And helping us. So, would you permit me to take your picture?

A: Yes!

Q: Oh thank you. I have my camera here.

A: Well...

Q: And uh, I hope you'll be feeling more, little better in a day or two, after the flu.

A: Ya.

Q: And thank you ever so much.

A: You're welcome.

00:40:30

End of clip (2 of 2)

End of Interview