



Berkshire Historical Society at Herman Melville's Arrowhead
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Invisible Community Project
in partnership with
Housatonic Heritage Oral History

Winthrop Evans
Recorded: April 21, 2022
Part 1 - 0:00:00 to 0:30:45
Part 2 - 0:00:00 to 0:21:50

[Begin Part 1]

Elaine Gunn:

Today's date is April 21st, 1998. My name is Elaine Gunn, and I'm at the apartment of Mr. Winthrop Evans of Pittsfield, Massachusetts. Mr. Evans has consented to be an interviewee in our oral history project for The Invisible Community. Thank you, Mr. Evans, for allowing me to come to your home and to interview you. I'd like to begin with the family background, if I could. I'd like to ask you who your parents were, where they were born, and if they weren't born in Massachusetts, when and why they came to Massachusetts, or why they came to Berkshire County in particular. So just talk a little bit about your parents.

Winthrop Evans:

They were born in Massachusetts.

0:01:00

My mother was a Williams [sp] and she was born in Interlaken. My father was Evans, and I'm pretty sure he was born in Lee, somewhere. My mother was a—no, the Rogers [sp]; they were related to the Rogers, [0:01:25] Rogers [0:01:28] Lee, Stockbridge, or somewhere down in there.

Elaine Gunn:

Your grandparents, were they also born—?

Winthrop Evans:

They were also from here.

Elaine Gunn:

Also from here?

Winthrop Evans:

But from Stockbridge and Lee.

Elaine Gunn:

Interesting, interesting. Do you remember their—maternal grandmother [0:01:45]—

Winthrop Evans:

I think they came here as free slaves.

Elaine Gunn:

From where, do you suppose?

- Winthrop Evans:** I couldn't tell you exactly, but I know my sister, my eldest sister, had that looked into, and she said the family was originally from somewhere down in Pennsylvania.
- 0:02:05
- The name—van—Van Husen [sp] or something like that. [0:02:13] or something.
- Elaine Gunn:** Interesting. So when your parents were in Southern Berkshire, now they worked in Southern Berkshire before coming to Pittsfield, do you suppose?
- Winthrop Evans:** Well, they did something. I don't know—my father worked for the Wooliskys [sp], Woolisees [sp] up in Windsor for a while.
- Elaine Gunn:** Was that a family or a factory?
- Winthrop Evans:** No, that was a family, a family that stayed up in there, up in the Washington Mountains somewhere. He also did a lot of work for Western Mass Electric, later on.
- Elaine Gunn:** This was back when you were born or before you were—?
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah, I was—yeah, well, I was born—because he didn't—he was married when the First World War was out, and he didn't get to go to that.
- 0:03:04
- Elaine Gunn:** That time, because he had children, probably or—?
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah, he had children. Probably.
- Elaine Gunn:** Do you know where your parents met?
- Winthrop Evans:** I don't really know. I think they met right in Berkshire Woods there, somewhere. South Berkshire.
- Elaine Gunn:** And your mother's family, do you know—?
- Winthrop Evans:** They were from, like I say, Interlaken, and they were Williamses. And they were from West Stockbridge somewhere. West Stockbridge. They came here—she said her parents were here for something for the family, for the Williams family, because they worked out of a farm then. Her mother.
- Elaine Gunn:** Interesting.
- Winthrop Evans:** Well, let's see—
- Elaine Gunn:** After your parents were married, then so they came—did they marry down there, and then move to Pittsfield, or did they—?

- Winthrop Evans:** I'm not sure exactly where they married, but we always lived right in Massachusetts, right in Berkshire County.
- 0:04:05
- Elaine Gunn:** So you were born, then, in Pittsfield?
- Winthrop Evans:** Mmhmm.
- Elaine Gunn:** And your siblings as well?
- Winthrop Evans:** We all were, yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** How many siblings do you have?
- Winthrop Evans:** Siblings, you mean my brothers and sisters? Well, I have—well, I had a brother, Buddy [sp], and two sisters. Doris [sp] is one—they're still alive.
- Elaine Gunn:** I know Wanda [sp], of course, and I remember hearing about your brother's death some years ago.
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah. '41. He died in '41.
- Elaine Gunn:** I remember hearing about that. But I don't remember your sister, Doris.
- Winthrop Evans:** Doris, yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** Does she live in Pittsfield, still?
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah, she always lived in Pittsfield, born here. She went to school here. Now she lives in Yonkers, New York.
- 0:05:00
- Elaine Gunn:** I know your sister Wanda—
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah, she's still here.
- Elaine Gunn:** Still here in Pittsfield?
- Winthrop Evans:** Mmhmm.
- Elaine Gunn:** So you had one brother and two sisters, and your two sisters are still living. Your brother is deceased.
- Winthrop Evans:** Yep.
- Elaine Gunn:** You said your father worked for a family in Windsor, and then worked for Western Mass Electric.
- Winthrop Evans:** Mmhmm.

- Elaine Gunn:** The Windsor job's probably many years ago when you were—before—
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, yes. I wouldn't even—I [0:05:26].
- Elaine Gunn:** But when you lived in Pittsfield, he was with Western Mass Electric.
- Winthrop Evans:** Yep.
- Elaine Gunn:** Did your mother work outside the home?
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah. Well, she worked for private families.
- Elaine Gunn:** In the Pittsfield area?
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** Where did you live in Pittsfield?
- Winthrop Evans:** Well, let's see. I was born out on Robbins Avenue. That's just a couple streets down. And we lived down on Otis [sp] Street. We lived on Warner [sp] Street.
- 0:06:02 Several different places on Otis [sp] Street. [0:06:09].
- Elaine Gunn:** And where did you go to school?
- Winthrop Evans:** Well, elementary schools here—Bartlett, Tucker. Pittsfield High School. That's where I went, yeah. That's [0:06:23].
- Elaine Gunn:** Your whole family went to—?
- Winthrop Evans:** Those schools, yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** Now, I'm going to back up a bit. Now, when you parents were in Lee, or in that area, they came—the paternal side of your family perhaps came from Pennsylvania. Your said your father's side [sp]?
- Winthrop Evans:** Yes.
- Elaine Gunn:** Now, do you know, were they young? Were they school age when they came? Did they come after that?
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh no, I think they came—those people came here, came through Lee, West Stockbridge, and they were free slaves there.
- 0:07:01 Yeah, my grandparents—or my great grandparents.
- Elaine Gunn:** So then your parents, who were in that area, would they have gone to school in that area in West Stockbridge, Lee?

- Winthrop Evans:** They went to Lee.
- Elaine Gunn:** School in Lee?
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** Both mother and father, you suppose, or—?
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, I know—I'm sure my mother did, went to school in Lee. I'm not sure about where my father did go to school.
- Elaine Gunn:** Interesting. That's most interesting, because I do have some old pictures of Lee schools that show African Americans in classes. Have to look that up. Yes. So you went to school here in Pittsfield. You went to—you mentioned Bartlett and Tucker.
- Winthrop Evans:** Bartlett and Tucker.
- Elaine Gunn:** And I remember the old Tucker School, years ago. And then you went to Pittsfield High.
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah, Pittsfield High.
- Elaine Gunn:** This was all before Taconic.
- Winthrop Evans:** Well, I didn't go to Taconic.
- Elaine Gunn:** No, because that was later.
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** That was later. So you went to Pittsfield.
- Winthrop Evans:** Because after I come out of the service, I was—I worked—when we built Taconic High School. It wasn't there when I was in school.
- 0:08:03
- Elaine Gunn:** No. Now, did you graduate from Pittsfield High School?
- Winthrop Evans:** Yes.
- Elaine Gunn:** What year did you graduate from high school?
- Winthrop Evans:** 1941.
- Elaine Gunn:** 1941. And your siblings as well all went to Pittsfield High?
- Winthrop Evans:** Right, yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** Now, when you graduated—if you graduated in '41, that was just around the time that the country entered the War.

Winthrop Evans: Mmhmm.

Elaine Gunn: So, you—?

Winthrop Evans: I went into the service in '43. [0:08:31]

Elaine Gunn: Mmhmm, mmhmm. So then before you went into the service, you worked here in the area?

Winthrop Evans: Oh, yeah. Yeah.

Elaine Gunn: Where did you work?

Winthrop Evans: Let's see. The first job I had was down at Heaton Hall, Stockbridge. Really that's where I got my social security number.

Elaine Gunn: Okay! Yeah, I remember that. Then were you drafted, or did you enlist?

Winthrop Evans: I was drafted. I tried to enlist, but they—I had such a hard time getting in because I was Black.

0:09:03 [0:09:04] That I passed the test, you know, Air Force cadet. Nothing!

Elaine Gunn: Those times, it was—

Winthrop Evans: Nope, there was no way.

Elaine Gunn: No.

Winthrop Evans: I could have stayed out longer than I did except it was kind of hard to stand around another year, those years, and not being in the service, and nothing being wrong with you [sp].

Elaine Gunn: Exactly.

Winthrop Evans: So I went in when—I went and served with the idea that maybe I got in, you would transfer around a little bit. But that's a no-no.

Elaine Gunn: No, that was a no-no. And that's another whole story [0:09:33].

Winthrop Evans: Oh, I know. [laughs]

Elaine Gunn: Goodness, when you hear about those stories, those horror stories—

Winthrop Evans: Yep.

Elaine Gunn: Yeah. So what branch, then, did you—you were enlisted in—

- Winthrop Evans:** In the Army.
- Elaine Gunn:** I mean, you were drafted into the Army?
- Winthrop Evans:** In the Army, yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** But you preferred to be in the Air Force?
- Winthrop Evans:** Well, I really wanted to be a cadet, you know, and since I could pass it, and did pass it—they just wouldn't take me. The man just said right on out, he said, "We don't have no—we're not able to put a colored person in. To swear you in as a cadet."
- 0:10:01
- Elaine Gunn:** Too bad. See, if you had been in Alabama—
- Winthrop Evans:** I was down in Springfield, [0:10:04]—
- Elaine Gunn:** If you'd been in Alabama, you might have been one of those—part of that group that went—those soldiers, those Air Force men?
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** Remember? From Tuskegee?
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** Tuskegee Airmen?
- Winthrop Evans:** Well, that's why I would have liked to been there. That was the only place you could go to, them days, anyway. Just the 99th Pursuit.
- Elaine Gunn:** Yes, yes.
- Winthrop Evans:** Tuskegee.
- Elaine Gunn:** Yes. They're just now getting the recognition that they have missed all those years.
- Winthrop Evans:** Just barely.
- Elaine Gunn:** Just barely. What a shame, that your career was stifled because of—just this. Always.
- Winthrop Evans:** Well, we knew it.
- Elaine Gunn:** Yes, we all knew it.
- Winthrop Evans:** Although I'll tell you one thing—I really wasn't aware of that, too much of that, until I tried to get in the service. Until that.

Elaine Gunn: Tell me about going to school here in Pittsfield, when you were in elementary school in particular. Any problems [0:10:54]?

Winthrop Evans: No problems. No problems that I couldn't solve.

Elaine Gunn: Did you have white friends and—?

0:11:00

Winthrop Evans: Oh, well, mostly Black. Although during high school, in the sport season, athletics, there wasn't too many colored [sp] [0:11:11].

Elaine Gunn: Wasn't your brother an athlete in—?

Winthrop Evans: Yeah.

Elaine Gunn: Tell me a little about him. Tell me about your brother. He was an athlete.

Winthrop Evans: He got out—Buddy was quite well-known, and he was great in high school. And then in Mass State, Mass College, he was well-known.

Elaine Gunn: That's right, University of Massachusetts was Mass State at that time.

Winthrop Evans: Mass State, yeah.

Elaine Gunn: Yes, at that time. I remember hearing about him years later, and that he was quite an athlete in high school.

Winthrop Evans: He was, yeah, high school and college.

Elaine Gunn: Were you an athlete in high school also?

Winthrop Evans: Oh yes, I was.

Elaine Gunn: What sports did you participate in?

Winthrop Evans: Well, I was in football and track.

0:12:00

Elaine Gunn: And you didn't have any problems on the team with the—

Winthrop Evans: No, no, no. No.

Elaine Gunn: —or in the community, because you were Black?

Winthrop Evans: No. No, no. Nothing. Like I say, until I tried to get in the Army, I—never would really say I would ever run into that kind of stuff.

Elaine Gunn: Sometimes—I know this is happened; I’ve heard about this, and I know it certainly did for me—growing up and going to school, going to a predominantly white high school, the things you usually find, you can have friends during the day, can be involved in sports, but when it came to parties, people sometimes did not invite you to parties and that kind of thing. Did you have any difficulty with—were you invited to parties and dances?

Winthrop Evans: Yeah, sure.

Elaine Gunn: That were just white and—

Winthrop Evans: People’s houses and—oh, and [0:12:51] what they called the Shack [sp] club that was down on 4th street. Mostly Italians there. That was a pretty nice club [0:12:59] fellas [sp].

0:13:02 So we didn’t have no problem, and the little bit of problems you had, in them days, you could just go ahead and take them out—just go down to Sand Bay [sp] and settle them [sp].

Elaine Gunn: What about jobs? Now, there’s certain jobs, depending on the kind of jobs you had, did you have any problems—could you have gone into—well, the factories at the time, because there was GE, could you have gone to GE had you wanted to?

Winthrop Evans: Oh yes. Yeah. I don’t know [0:13:27] school days [0:13:27]—well, let me see, I worked in the plastics—I was one of the—about the third, fourth colored person who worked in plastics. It was really no problem about color, just when you got in here, where they told you to go, and I could go everywhere. I worked in the plastics. Who was there? Kelly Wilson [sp] and Al Persip [sp]. Alfred Persip [sp]. And another fellow, I’m trying to think. McCullen [sp]. [0:14:10]

0:14:09

Elaine Gunn: That name sounds familiar. I have heard that in South County.

Winthrop Evans: Yeah, they lived right down here on Franklin Street.

Elaine Gunn: Were there—heard that people were not hired in stores, on North Street, for instance, as clerks and things like that? Women were not.

Winthrop Evans: I’m trying to think who worked on North Street in them days. [0:14:36] we worked running elevators [0:14:38] there.

Elaine Gunn: Yes, running elevators.

Winthrop Evans: When we were in high school, yeah.

Elaine Gunn: Yeah, running elevators I understand. And of course there were no—were there any educators, any Black educators, in the city of Pittsfield at that time?

Winthrop Evans: I don't think so. Not that I can remember. Mrs. Hart [sp] was one of the first ones that I know, and that was after I came back from the service.

0:15:02

Elaine Gunn: Later.

Winthrop Evans: Yeah.

Elaine Gunn: Later. She had to go out—she had to go out of the area, you know. Margaret. Before—then she came back home, and then was hired, but she went out of the area, south and out in the Midwest, I believe. But that was not just Pittsfield. I believe that was probably a good part of the country.

Winthrop Evans: Yeah. That was—yeah. Oh.

Elaine Gunn: And certainly in North and South County as well. Did you have sometimes—we—I know our families have had either grandparents or other aunts and uncles living in our families when we were growing up. Did anybody ever live in your family other than your immediate family, when you were growing up?

Winthrop Evans: No.

Elaine Gunn: Did your grandparents stay in South Berkshire, or did they die while they were living there? Did they—?

Winthrop Evans: I never did know my grandfather, but I've seen pictures of him.

0:16:02

But they—my grandmother was alive for a short while, when I was growing up.

Elaine Gunn: Do you remember her?

Winthrop Evans: Just barely. Just barely.

Elaine Gunn: You were a toddler or so?

Winthrop Evans: Yeah.

Elaine Gunn: You said she was in Pittsfield at the time?

Winthrop Evans: Yeah, she was in Pittsfield.

Elaine Gunn: So you went into the service, and stayed until the War was over?

- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** Were you married at that time?
- Winthrop Evans:** No. No, I got out of the service in '46.
- Elaine Gunn:** '46. And you came back to Pittsfield?
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, yeah. Pittsfield.
- Elaine Gunn:** Did you have a job waiting for you, or did you have to look for a job?
- Winthrop Evans:** No, I didn't have a job. I had to get a job. But when I went back to try to get into the GE, I said, well, I have these years in the plastic—well, not even years, just some time, one year at most.
- 0:17:02 But they said, well, the plastic is not affiliated with the GE. That's what they told me. So you couldn't get that service. It wasn't enough that they would worry about it. And I didn't care much about the GE to start with, but I did put in—I put in nine years in the GE, regular GE.
- Elaine Gunn:** After you came back from the service?
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** Oh! Well, that seemed to be a place for—like a magnet for many Black men, and women I think, and it was still—
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh yeah. Yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** —going. It was a big [0:17:32].
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah, it was a decent job. It was—you know—you weren't going to get much better, I don't believe.
- Elaine Gunn:** In the whole county. People came up from South County and Connecticut and New York State.
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, yeah. Yeah, a lot of them. But I just didn't like—I didn't like the GE. Didn't like being inside.
- Elaine Gunn:** Mmhmm, mmhmm.
- Winthrop Evans:** Like I said, I stayed there nine years. And then in nine years, I was sitting on the same stool, doing the same work that I did when I started!
- 0:18:02 Not that I didn't get better—I got a little better pay, but it just got [0:18:08]. Didn't like it.
- Elaine Gunn:** You preferred then working outside?

- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** So is that what you did for most of your life? You worked—in construction, or—?
- Winthrop Evans:** Construction, yeah. I worked at some school [sp] camps [sp]. Always outside, yeah, construction, what I really liked.
- Elaine Gunn:** Interesting, interesting. So then when were you married?
- Winthrop Evans:** Let's see. I was married in 1949, December 31st, last day, '49.
- Elaine Gunn:** And your wife's name was—?
- Winthrop Evans:** Esther [sp].
- Elaine Gunn:** Esther—?
- Winthrop Evans:** Esther Jones.
- Elaine Gunn:** Esther Jones. Now, her family was from Pittsfield? A long time, or were they—?
- Winthrop Evans:** A long while.
- Elaine Gunn:** Mhmm, mmhmm. I was trying to think, were they related to some other families in Pittsfield? And I can't think—
- Winthrop Evans:** Davises. Davis?
- 0:19:00 Jo...let me see—[0:19:04]—father was Jones, and the mother was Davis, and they were married—[0:19:12].
- Elaine Gunn:** I can't place them either, but I remember them.
- Winthrop Evans:** Johnson [sp]. They had an Uncle Johnson. Case [sp].
- Elaine Gunn:** And you had how many children?
- Winthrop Evans:** Three.
- Elaine Gunn:** Three children. Now, are they all living here in Pittsfield?
- Winthrop Evans:** Yep, they're all here now.
- Elaine Gunn:** What are their names?
- Winthrop Evans:** Cynthia [sp]. She's the oldest. And then there's Winifred [sp]. And Esther [sp], the youngest.
- Elaine Gunn:** Now, do you have grandchildren?
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, yeah. [laughs]

Elaine Gunn: How many grandchildren do you have?

Winthrop Evans: I have to start counting them. Let's see, Cindy has four.
0:20:00 Winnie has three. And Esther has two living.

Elaine Gunn: Two living, so—

Winthrop Evans: Two living, yeah. She had a son—she had a son in between the girl she has now, and Chris [sp], the oldest boy [sp]. But he died in Poughkeepsie. He was I guess about two years old.

Elaine Gunn: That's sad. So you have nine grandchildren?

Winthrop Evans: That's what I do, I think.

Elaine Gunn: [laughs]

Winthrop Evans: I don't know [0:20:32] count [0:20:33] but—

Elaine Gunn: [laughs]

Winthrop Evans: If that's what it comes out to, all right!

Elaine Gunn: [laughs] Well, because we have nine. [laughs] So, what do the girls—so you have two girls and a boy, and your grand...I'm sorry. So your children—

Winthrop Evans: Are all girls.

Elaine Gunn: —are all girls.

Winthrop Evans: Yes.

Elaine Gunn: Winifred—

Winthrop Evans: Yep.

Elaine Gunn: Cynthia.

Winthrop Evans: Cynthia. Winifred.

Elaine Gunn: And Esther.

Winthrop Evans: And Esther.

Elaine Gunn: Okay. But your grandchildren are mixed boys and girls.

Winthrop Evans: Yes.

Elaine Gunn: Okay, uh-huh.

0:21:00 Now, did they—so your children of course grew up in Pittsfield and went to school in Pittsfield, probably went to either Taconic or Pittsfield?

Winthrop Evans: Yeah, so, well, let me see. Who went to high—

Elaine Gunn: Started at Pittsfield High and then went to Taconic, probably.

Winthrop Evans: Yeah, mmhmm.

Elaine Gunn: How old are they?

Winthrop Evans: Esther is I think about 41. Winnie is about 43. And Cynthia is probably about 44 or 45.

Elaine Gunn: Okay, same ages as our older kids.

Winthrop Evans: Mmhmm.

Elaine Gunn: But now, you're widowed?

Winthrop Evans: Yes.

Elaine Gunn: How long has Esther been deceased?

Winthrop Evans: Now, let me see—four years.

Elaine Gunn: Four years. Time gets away so fast, oh goodness, yes. Did Esther work outside of the home at all?

Winthrop Evans: Oh, yeah, yeah. She worked for the Englands. She worked for the Englands, oh, before I even—not before I knew her, but before—well, before I came out of the service, she was working for Dan and Jean England.

0:22:03 She always worked for them.

Elaine Gunn: So you and Esther knew each other all your lives, practically?

Winthrop Evans: Well, I knew—she was a little girl when I went into the service. She wasn't very, you know [0:22:17] when I went into the service. But when I come out, I got to know her a little better.

Elaine Gunn: You said she worked for the Englands all her life?

Winthrop Evans: Yes.

Elaine Gunn: And that she has been deceased for about—

Winthrop Evans: About four years.

Elaine Gunn: Was she ill very long?

Winthrop Evans: No. One week. Mmhmm. She went in the hospital on a Sunday and she died on a Sunday, that following Sunday.

Elaine Gunn: Oh, dear. That's a frightening thing. Yes. So you met here in Pittsfield, and she went to Pittsfield High?

Winthrop Evans: She just went to a different elementary school, that's all.

0:23:00

Elaine Gunn: Okay, after she lived [0:23:01]?

Winthrop Evans: She always lived in Pittsfield.

Elaine Gunn: She always lived in Pittsfield.

Winthrop Evans: Went to Pittsfield High.

Elaine Gunn: Yeah. And let's see, I'm trying—she probably went to high school about the same time that Barbara Gunn [?] did.

Winthrop Evans: Yeah, her and Barbara were great friends.

Elaine Gunn: I know they were, yeah.

Winthrop Evans: Barbara was her best—you know, her best lady [0:23:19].

Elaine Gunn: Yes, yeah. Yeah. I know they were—they were going to school in Pittsfield. I [0:23:24]. Do you have a church affiliation?

Winthrop Evans: Well, not really, I don't. We used to go to the First Baptist [0:23:38] when the kids were going to church. I still got the thing from Dr. Baker from the First Congregational Church, when I joined the Congregational Church, and that was in 1932.

Elaine Gunn: You were christened, probably, in the Congregational Church?

Winthrop Evans: Hmm?

Elaine Gunn: Were you christened in the Congregational Church?

Winthrop Evans: Yes.

Elaine Gunn: Okay, you still have your christening records.

0:24:00

Winthrop Evans: I have it here.

Elaine Gunn: Hmm?

Winthrop Evans: Yeah, I have it.

- Elaine Gunn:** You have it? Wonderful. Yes. What do you remember? Now, you probably—obviously, our parents took us to church. [laughs]
- Winthrop Evans:** Yep.
- Elaine Gunn:** And it was important to have [0:24:17]—
- Winthrop Evans:** To Sunday school anyway.
- Elaine Gunn:** To Sunday school, and have that religious instruction when we were growing up. Do you remember any fun times at the church, either picnics or gatherings or—?
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, yes. The church picnic was one of the [laughs]—I guess that—I didn't think there was anything more in this world to wait for *but* the church picnic. That was up at Camp Merrill.
- Elaine Gunn:** Oh, sure. Uh-huh.
- Winthrop Evans:** That was what the whole year was about! [laughs]
- Elaine Gunn:** Waiting for that to happen in the summertime? So your whole family would go [0:24:47]?
- Winthrop Evans:** Everybody's family would go.
- Elaine Gunn:** Everybody went to—mmhmm. Did you ever have—were there other things during the winter? I know sometimes they used to have things like little contests and things for children to do, recitations at certain Christmas and Easter and that kind of thing.
- 0:25:07
- Winthrop Evans:** Well, we—there were the programs they had in the school, or in the church. Sometimes you got to be on one of their programs that the Mothers' [sp] Society used to have.
- Elaine Gunn:** Speaking of programs, were you involved in programs in school when you were in elementary school?
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, well, I was one of the three wise men the one time. [laughs] I don't know how wise I was to be that, but—[0:25:34]—
- Elaine Gunn:** [laughs] Wonderful.
- Winthrop Evans:** Yep, it was—Norman Dillard [sp] and Junebug [sp] and myself.
- Elaine Gunn:** Junebug, I don't remember—

- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, Robert Blackwell [sp]. You don't remember Robert Blackwell? Oh, he married—he married, yeah, Margie Persip [sp]. You didn't know her?
- Elaine Gunn:** See, I didn't [sp] know Margie, but I did know [0:25:56].
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah, Junebug. You didn't know Junebug?
- Elaine Gunn:** No, I didn't know him. I remember Norman, they called Doody [sp]? I never really knew him.
- 0:26:03
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah, Doody.
- Elaine Gunn:** But always—Mitchell [sp] used to talk about Doody Dillard [sp] [0:26:08]. [laughs]
- Winthrop Evans:** [0:26:08] He was funny [0:26:12].
- Elaine Gunn:** Is he still living?
- Winthrop Evans:** No, he died, some years ago. Ten years ago.
- Elaine Gunn:** Wow. What about some of your male friends growing up? Are they still around?
- Winthrop Evans:** Only Warren Jacobs [sp] and Goldie [sp] are the only two I know that's left alive.
- Elaine Gunn:** Now, Goldie—
- Winthrop Evans:** That's Romane Goldspar [sp].
- Elaine Gunn:** Oh, sure.
- Winthrop Evans:** Romane [sp] and Jean [sp], yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** Haven't seen him for many years. Now, is he still—is he in the Washington area?
- Winthrop Evans:** No, he's in Hawaii. He's got a home in Hawaii, and also in Alaska. We went in the service the same time.
- Elaine Gunn:** Okay. Because—Barbara's family and the Romane [sp] and Jean [sp] were all sort of related at some—?
- 0:27:06
- Winthrop Evans:** Yes, because Jean's mother—Goldie and Jean's mother had died, and Toots—that's Barbara—
- Elaine Gunn:** Mother.

- Winthrop Evans:** —took care of them. Took care of little Romane and Jean.
- Elaine Gunn:** Yes, yes. That's what I used to hear, that they were sort of almost brother and sister, there, when they were growing up. Yes. But I haven't seen him for many, many years, yes. Did your family have reunions where they would get together and just enjoy being together, especially family who didn't live in the area?
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** Do you have family who doesn't live here, other than your sister?
- Winthrop Evans:** Well, let's see. I used to [0:27:43] Dickie Williams [sp]. Dickie Williams [0:27:48]. Ariel [sp]. Ariel Hall [sp]?
- Elaine Gunn:** Didn't know that she—
- Winthrop Evans:** She's my aunt—she's my cousin—my—or—my aunt was her mother, Angie [sp] and Uncle Harry [sp].
- 0:28:02
- Elaine Gunn:** Okay. Now it's the same Ariel Hall who was the mother of Stokes [sp]?
- Winthrop Evans:** Mmhmm.
- Elaine Gunn:** [0:28:05] Stokes [0:28:07]. Okay. Yes, okay. I didn't realize. I knew she wasn't well at one point, but she—
- Winthrop Evans:** No, I hear she—I haven't seen her, Ariel, in a long, long while. But she—I heard she was sick and not doing too well.
- Elaine Gunn:** Yes.
- Winthrop Evans:** [0:28:25] I don't see her all that often, but when I see her, she lets me know what's happening.
- Elaine Gunn:** What's happening in the family.
- Winthrop Evans:** The family, yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** But you used to get together as a family and have—
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** Reunions [0:28:36]. So then Ariel Hall is your aunt, is that what you're saying?
- Winthrop Evans:** Nope, she's my cousin.

Elaine Gunn: Oh, your cousin, okay.

Winthrop Evans: Yep, Ariel. Her mother, Angie, was—she was a ward, at one time, and she married my Uncle Harry.

0:29:00

Elaine Gunn: Do you belong to any civic group now, or community organization, anything that you do for fun?

Winthrop Evans: Not too much. I've gone to the Veterans of Foreign War [0:29:11].

Elaine Gunn: Are you active?

Winthrop Evans: Oh, yes. Yeah.

Elaine Gunn: I know they still have various activities.

Winthrop Evans: Oh, yeah. Yeah.

Elaine Gunn: Mo [sp] goes just to the dinner once a year. [laughs]

Winthrop Evans: [laughs] Oh, I go more than that. I go to [0:29:26] meetings every once in a while, and—

Elaine Gunn: Good, good.

Winthrop Evans: In fact, that's about the only place I do go these days.

Elaine Gunn: Do you march in the parade?

Winthrop Evans: No, no, no.

Elaine Gunn: They always have the parade in summer.

Winthrop Evans: Although they asked me to—

Elaine Gunn: I'm sure they do.

Winthrop Evans: —a couple years ago.

Elaine Gunn: Yeah.

Winthrop Evans: But at that time I didn't, I don't know what happened.

Elaine Gunn: There aren't many of you left, Winnie!

Winthrop Evans: I know. Scarce.

Elaine Gunn: Getting scarce. And your presence is—you know, it's kind of nice to see you out there, participating, being involved. Okay, anything special about your school experience at all?

0:30:02

Winthrop Evans: No, but like I—if I'm down at the club [sp] you're talking, there's not too many of us, you know, colored people [0:30:09] but I know quite a few of the fellows. In fact, I know them all. But not many of my [0:30:14] I went to school with, most of them. I lost track of them or they died or whatever, or they're somewhere else. No, I had a nice time.

0:30:45 [Part 1 ends]

0:00:00 [Part 2 begins]

Elaine Gunn: Do you remember any games you played as a child?

Winthrop Evans: Oh, we played just about the regular games, kick the can and all that stuff you played in the yard or out in the road, between supper and bedtime. But one that we did you don't see anymore, Johnny Hubbard [sp] and I, we used to wheel [sp] two [sp] hoops or tires. Now that's something, you know, you don't never see people do anymore.

Elaine Gunn: No. I wonder why.

Winthrop Evans: I don't—guess they're kind of hard to come by.

Elaine Gunn: [0:00:37] Yeah, or old bicycle tires.

Winthrop Evans: But they just don't do it.

Elaine Gunn: Old bicycle tires [0:00:43] with a stick [0:00:44].

Winthrop Evans: Sure, with a stick. Sure, we'd get all those old tires, four tires or something you could wheel fairly easily. [0:00:51] them up, [0:00:52] through the pines up there, up around Onota Lake, up all the way around and back down through [0:00:57] lake. Wheel them a long ways.

0:01:00

Elaine Gunn: In the summer, yeah. Oh wow. Isn't that something?

Winthrop Evans: Oh, yeah. Do you remember the Pipers [sp]?

Elaine Gunn: The what?

Winthrop Evans: The Pipers. You might know Cooley [sp].

Elaine Gunn: Oh yes, of course. I remember Cooley Piper [sp]! Yeah.

Winthrop Evans: Yeah, well [0:01:16].

Elaine Gunn: Oh, I didn't know they lived in Pittsfield.

- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** Okay!
- Winthrop Evans:** His whole family. There's Barnard [sp] and Hillard [sp] and Ward [sp] and Jeanette [sp].
- Elaine Gunn:** Yeah. Oh, I didn't know that.
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah, they were [0:01:28]. Good size family, and then they moved to Albany [0:01:31] later on.
- Elaine Gunn:** Some of them did, [0:01:32] and they were related to DuBois [sp].
- Winthrop Evans:** Mmhmm, yep.
- Elaine Gunn:** Mmhmm, yeah, cousins of W.E.B. DuBois [sp], yeah.
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** The father looked exactly like DuBois! Yes! Hide and go seek, I imagine you played that?
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, sure.
- Elaine Gunn:** Always played hide and go seek. But you were quite an athlete anyhow, you say?
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah, went in school and high school.
- 0:02:00
- Elaine Gunn:** Do you remember chores that your mother would ask you to do when you were growing up? What kind of chores did you have?
- Winthrop Evans:** Well, I always thought they were just regular chores. You had to sift [sp] the ashes in the wintertime. Had our turn—Buddy and I had to go our turn at the dishes. Then later on, I mean, I didn't consider it a chore, but we had a little cart, I think Uncle Charlie made it for me, and go around to stores here and pick up kindling wood, boxes, and whatever, on North Street.
- Elaine Gunn:** Those things are sort of lost today. I don't know what happened! [laughs]
- Winthrop Evans:** They went with the horse and wagon, I guess.
- Elaine Gunn:** Yes. [laughs] But all children had to do them.
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah, always.

- Elaine Gunn:** What kinds of lessons, then, do you suppose you learned from your parents? That everybody in the household takes part in keeping the house going?
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah, mmhmm.
- 0:03:01
- Elaine Gunn:** Any other lessons that you think perhaps you learned from your parents?
- Winthrop Evans:** Well, one thing was we learned the value of having caring parents, because they sure did that. My mother always—sometimes we had to scramble a little bit to eat, but we never went hungry. But there never was no time when you weren't hungry in them days, at that age. Always had enough to eat, but two minutes later, you'd be hungry again.
- Elaine Gunn:** Yeah, well that's—growing. [laughs]
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah, that's growing. Mmhmm! But we always had a sit-down and eat—
- Elaine Gunn:** Together.
- Winthrop Evans:** Yep. Sit down and say the blessings.
- Elaine Gunn:** Yeah, yeah, yeah. Did you pass these same messages on to your children?
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh yeah, yeah. Oh, somewhat. I wouldn't say—not quite as strict. I wasn't quite as strict—
- Elaine Gunn:** As strict as your parents were with you?
- 0:04:00
- Winthrop Evans:** No.
- Elaine Gunn:** What happened? I think we all feel that.
- Winthrop Evans:** Well, everything changed.
- Elaine Gunn:** Everything changed. It did. Changed, yeah. Did your parents—oh, go ahead.
- Winthrop Evans:** I do want to say, but my kids were always respectful, nice and all. They got to be nice girls.
- Elaine Gunn:** Yes, yes. And to treat others—how did your parents—that was important, especially for older folks. Did they ever talk about—?

- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** Did your parents discipline you, the children?
- Winthrop Evans:** Sure. With a hit-me stick. [laughs] Bet your boots!
- Elaine Gunn:** [laughs] Those were the days.
- Winthrop Evans:** Yep, I don't know how the girls made it—as far as that strict, but I know I had my share [0:04:50].
- Elaine Gunn:** [laughs] It's a different story now.
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah, most of it, I guess I deserved it. I don't know.
- Elaine Gunn:** Did you ever spank your children? You had all girls, too.
- 0:05:00
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, one time I had to—one time, my youngest daughter didn't show up to school for a few days when she was supposed to be there. So I—got [0:05:12]. Then she told me she would never do it again, and then she didn't.
- Elaine Gunn:** And they all went through school all right?
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, yeah. She had a very nice boss down—she was working in Poughkeepsie, down at IBM, and I went down there for a funeral for one of [0:05:31]. She was telling her boss about me and how I got on her about not going to school those days. They were very, very nice [0:05:38]. They said, “That's such a nice girl. But she told us how you treated her when she missed those days of school.” They also said how much they thought of her, and how good that little chastisement did for her.
- Elaine Gunn:** Yeah. That must have made you feel good.
- Winthrop Evans:** It did. Yeah. But it sure made me feel bad when I did it, though.
- 0:06:01
- Elaine Gunn:** Yeah.
- Winthrop Evans:** I thought I had to do it, you know?
- Elaine Gunn:** You do have to—there are times when you do, things that are important. And they do remember. They do come back and let you know. But of course now it's a very different story. You can be, what, charges and things lodged against you.
- Winthrop Evans:** And then they wonder why the kids aren't [0:06:22].

- Elaine Gunn:** [laughs] Exactly, they wonder why—what—the laws will have to change.
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** Did you contribute to the family finances outside the home, working outside the home? Some children in our age group [0:06:37]?
- Winthrop Evans:** Yes, well, after I come out of the service, I paid rent to my mother and my—[0:06:44]. Never went down to [0:06:46] I'd always give whatever I was given to my mother. Oh, yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** I think all of us did. That was one more thing that we just did. It's expected of you, and you did it.
- Winthrop Evans:** It was expected.
- 0:07:00
- Elaine Gunn:** When did your parents die?
- Winthrop Evans:** My mother died first. She died—Esther, so that means she died—she died in about '50. Because Esther wasn't alive when [0:07:29].
- Elaine Gunn:** So she must have been [0:07:35] pretty young, [0:07:40].
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, yeah. She was in her sixties.
- Elaine Gunn:** That's considered pretty young today, yes. Do you have any favorite recipes that you remember that your—who did the cooking in your home, your mother or your father?
- Winthrop Evans:** Well, my mother did, at home, yes. She did most of the cooking.
- Elaine Gunn:** What did you like to eat that your mother cooked?
- Winthrop Evans:** Everything. [laughs]
- 0:08:03
- Elaine Gunn:** [laughs] That's what I usually hear.
- Winthrop Evans:** Didn't have much choice, anyways! [laughs] No, didn't have much choice.
- Elaine Gunn:** Those days, you ate what was put before you. [laughs]
- Winthrop Evans:** And when you said the blessings, you just take it sincerely.

- Elaine Gunn:** Exactly. [laughs]
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah, but she used to make very good beans, baked beans. She was good at that. Then we had—some days, we had a lot of stew, lamb stew. You don't see that much no more.
- Elaine Gunn:** No, no.
- Winthrop Evans:** Strawberry shortcake.
- Elaine Gunn:** Mmm, yes!
- Winthrop Evans:** Go out and pick the strawberries, too.
- Elaine Gunn:** [0:08:39] Did your mother talk about recipes or meals that she cooked, at all, or did she just—?
- Winthrop Evans:** Well, like that she cooked for us?
- Elaine Gunn:** Mmhmm.
- Winthrop Evans:** I don't know. Not too much to me about it, but I know that—my sisters, they were good cooks and all that.
- 0:09:07
- Elaine Gunn:** And your mother cooked outside the home, or did she cook for the families that she worked for?
- Winthrop Evans:** I guess once in a while, she may have cooked, but it wasn't one of her main jobs. She did the ironing and house cleaning and whatever. And she did work in the GE during the War.
- Elaine Gunn:** Oh, she did, during the War?
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah, she did end up working at General Electric.
- Elaine Gunn:** Many women, many Black women went to the defense plants during the War years.
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah.
- Elaine Gunn:** Do you have any hobbies?
- Winthrop Evans:** Me, hobbies? Well, I used to like to fish. I still would like to fish, if there was any fish around to catch, really. Fishing's not like it used to be.
- Elaine Gunn:** No, I guess it isn't. You hear some not very good things about the various waters.
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah, the waters.

Elaine Gunn: Yes.

Winthrop Evans: I used to be able to catch a nice fish right out this river down here, the Housatonic River.

0:10:02 Not only you caught fish out of it, but we used to swim in it, and didn't think nothing about it.

Elaine Gunn: Are they cleaning it up at all now? Are they—?

Winthrop Evans: I don't think. They say they are, but they did so much damage for so long, I think it's going to take a long—even if they clean that river up, it's going to take that river a long time to clean itself up.

Elaine Gunn: Another generation [0:10:25]. Too bad, too bad. Can you think of anything that your mother or grandmother did as a hobby that's no longer done?

Winthrop Evans: It's kind of hard for me to—

Elaine Gunn: —think back. [laughs]

Winthrop Evans: Yeah, her hobbies, because to me, whatever she did seemed like it was—she was always doing something. Yep. She wasn't working. She was taking [0:10:58] clothes we'd wear, and—

0:11:00

Elaine Gunn: Things that mothers did in those days.

Winthrop Evans: Yep. She was always busy.

Elaine Gunn: Do you have any special memories of just living in Berkshire County? Anything that comes to mind about being here?

Winthrop Evans: Being here? Well, what really comes to mind is it was a very nice place to live. I tell a lot of fellas [0:11:22], it's really not like it used to be. I don't know what I would say. It's not as nice. It's not as good as it used to be. Not as nice as it used to be. But to me, it was always a nice place to live, a nice place.

Elaine Gunn: The problems were different than they are. Can you describe some of the problems then, as compared to problems today? We know what the problems are today. We read about them every day. Were there any—what didn't you hear about growing up, when you think about the problems that are around today? What kinds of problems were there? Because there obviously were some, not necessarily racial but some problems.

0:12:02

- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah. No, they weren't—no. Well, I guess you'd always find some racial problems if you wanted to look. [0:12:08] nothing like that. Problems? I don't know. It don't seem to me that I had too many really terrible problems anyways, as long as I could get up and go to work. And I didn't have too much problems finding a job, and there was work around to get if you wanted to work. Whereas when you think about these days around now, [0:12:35] I don't think there's any work for them.
- Elaine Gunn:** What are they doing?
- Winthrop Evans:** [0:12:41]
- Elaine Gunn:** What about some of the things, the dances, the parties?
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, those were nice. You don't see no more of them, either. Well, you know, I don't know. I don't—
- Elaine Gunn:** What organizations used to sponsor them?
- Winthrop Evans:** Oh, yeah. Well, you know, one thing—well, I was one of the original Lucky Sevens, you know.
- 0:13:04 We gave a lot of good dances and a lot of good things, at least I thought we did. I'm sure we did.
- Elaine Gunn:** Now, the Lucky Sevens was a group of—
- Winthrop Evans:** Pittsfield—
- Elaine Gunn:** Pittsfield men?
- Winthrop Evans:** Men, yeah. That was, let me see—didn't Mo [sp] [0:13:23]?
- Elaine Gunn:** Mo didn't.
- Winthrop Evans:** Mo didn't?
- Elaine Gunn:** No.
- Winthrop Evans:** Julisha [sp], I know [0:13:27] did play basketball with us, when we had a basketball team.
- Elaine Gunn:** Yeah, well, Mo played basketball too.
- Winthrop Evans:** Yeah, I know. He played with us.
- Elaine Gunn:** Yes, okay.
- Winthrop Evans:** [0:13:36]
- Elaine Gunn:** So the Lucky Sevens was not just a group of men involved in sports but other—

Winthrop Evans: Oh, yes. You know what? We got that going when Reverend Nevers came. We were having a—

Elaine Gunn: Was he a pastor of the Second Congregational Church?

Winthrop Evans: Yes. Oh, yeah, he was a pastor, after Dr. Baker.

0:14:00

And he decided that—we were giving dances and stuff like that, in the name of Second Congregational Church, [0:14:09] young people's society. But he decided that that wasn't good for the church, because—I guess he might have been right or wrong. What he did do was to ask us to turn the bank book over to him. We had I guess \$600 or something in the bank. So it was Goldie [sp], Warren Jacobs [sp], Doody Dillard [sp], Joe Reed [sp], myself, Charlie Williamson [sp], and there was one more. Oh, the fellow here—[0:14:49] quite a while [0:14:52]. And he was in there. And we just—what we did do is took the money out of the bank, and we formed the Lucky Seven.

0:15:05

Elaine Gunn: And the Lucky Seven, then, they began to do what?

Winthrop Evans: We gave dances and parties, and we got flowers for the church every Sunday. If somebody was sick, we sent them flowers. I don't know, we did what we thought was good. And we also did those other things to raise a little bit of money. But Reverend Nevers decided that wasn't the way to raise money for the church, so he put an end to that.

Elaine Gunn: Oh, what a shame. So then the Lucky Seven disbanded?

Winthrop Evans: No, no, that's when we formed the Lucky Seven.

Elaine Gunn: Oh, that's when you formed the Lucky Seven, okay.

Winthrop Evans: Yeah, that's when we formed it. We were the Young People's Society, then.

Elaine Gunn: Okay. And how long did this group last?

Winthrop Evans: Long while. Quite a while.

0:16:00

Elaine Gunn: Were members of that group involved also in the bands? Weren't there a couple of bands in Pittsfield, when you—?

Winthrop Evans: Oh, there were good—yeah, there were nice ones, but no, we did not do [0:16:10] bands. Well, some of them—who was in a band there? I know the band was a little younger. Was that Greg Powell [sp]? Greg [sp] and Powell [sp] or—? Some of the

younger—they were a little younger than we were, that used to be in the bands.

Elaine Gunn: Well, you mean like Johnny Hubbard [sp]?

Winthrop Evans: No.

Elaine Gunn: Chet Williams [sp], he was older.

Winthrop Evans: No, he was younger.

Elaine Gunn: Chet Williams was—

Winthrop Evans: Oh, oh, they were—oh that's the Dixie Serenaders.

Elaine Gunn: Okay, so none of those guys were in your—

Winthrop Evans: Oh, no, they were men [sp]. They were older [sp].

Elaine Gunn: Yeah, yeah.

Winthrop Evans: Johnny Hubbard [sp], he was—Johnny was [sp] my uncle.

Elaine Gunn: Johnny Hubbard was your uncle?

Winthrop Evans: Yeah.

0:17:00

Elaine Gunn: Okay! I didn't know that. And Chet Williams—the first band I had ever danced to was Berkshire [0:17:07]. [laughs]

Winthrop Evans: [laughs] Dixie Serenaders.

Elaine Gunn: The Dixie Serenaders, yeah. Regular dances. Did you go to those dances?

Winthrop Evans: Oh, yes.

Elaine Gunn: [laughs] Yeah, lots of fun. Parties and dances. What other kinds of fun things? I know you said the Lucky Seven. You had baseball games. Did you bring people from other teams, other areas?

Winthrop Evans: Oh, yes.

Elaine Gunn: And where did you play?

Winthrop Evans: Well, usually we played wherever—well, we used to go to different places *to* play. But that wasn't so much baseball. It was basketball. Joe and I went out and went to all the stores on North Street and found a sponsor, [0:17:58] and equipment for basketball.

0:18:01 We had a very nice basketball team.

Elaine Gunn: Yeah, I think Mo played on that, too.

Winthrop Evans: Yes. And we had very good, nice outfits, too, all brand-new.

Elaine Gunn: So you created recreational opportunities for the community.

Winthrop Evans: Yeah, then. Yep.

Elaine Gunn: Then. This was after World War II.

Winthrop Evans: It was right after. No, let me see, I don't think it was after—
hmm. Before.

Elaine Gunn: Before World War II.

Winthrop Evans: Yeah, just out of high school. It was in between the few years
that—

Elaine Gunn: Before the War started.

Winthrop Evans: Yeah, before the War started.

Elaine Gunn: Interesting. And the community then was able—had something
to look forward, the Black community, certainly?

Winthrop Evans: Oh, yeah.

Elaine Gunn: At this time, the Black community was probably, well, they
lived among whites and the white community, but they still had
their own activities that they participated in and were involved
in, more so than just being involved with the white dances or
teas or things?

0:19:10

Winthrop Evans: Yeah, we had a lot of our own different things that we went to,
that were given by us and mostly for us.

Elaine Gunn: Is there anything else that you can think of that would be
interesting to include?

Winthrop Evans: I think no—

Elaine Gunn: You've had an interesting life.

Winthrop Evans: I guess you live all those years and then you try to think back
and say, "Well, what did I do? The years are gone, the time is
gone. What happened?"

Elaine Gunn: "What happened to the years?"

Winthrop Evans: Yeah.

Elaine Gunn: But you're still here. You seem to be in very good health.

Winthrop Evans: Oh yeah, I am in good health.

Elaine Gunn: Very important.

Winthrop Evans: Yep.

Elaine Gunn: And your children live in the area?

Winthrop Evans: Yep.

Elaine Gunn: So that you have your children and your grandchildren in the area.

Winthrop Evans: Yep. And great grandchildren.

Elaine Gunn: And great-grandchildren. Oh dear, great grandchildren, wow!

0:20:03

Winthrop Evans: [0:20:04]

Elaine Gunn: [laughs]

Winthrop Evans: Oh, yeah.

Elaine Gunn: Yeah, it does happen.

Winthrop Evans: My grandchildren are in their twenties now. Some of them might be in their thirties. They're all mostly in their thirties.

Elaine Gunn: We have one who's 22. And you haven't thought of remarrying?

Winthrop Evans: Oh, no. That's—[laughs]

Elaine Gunn: [laughs]

Winthrop Evans: No [0:20:28].

Elaine Gunn: Well, this has been very nice, and I want to thank you very much for this interview. This will also be part of our oral history—

Winthrop Evans: Mmhmm!

Elaine Gunn: —that will go into the archive.

Winthrop Evans: Yeah, I'm going to be famous.

Elaine Gunn: Yeah, well you—

Winthrop Evans: [0:20:46]

Elaine Gunn: Your grandchildren and great grandchildren perhaps, can come and look at the information about grandpa.

Winthrop Evans: Mhmm. Oh yeah!

Elaine Gunn: [laughs] Okay! Thank you very much!

[End of Recording]