

MAINE SOUND AND STORY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE FIRST COAST

AN INTERVIEW WITH ALICE SPENCER FOR THE FIRST COAST DEER ISLE &
STONINGTON COLLECTION

INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY GALEN KOCH

STONINGTON, APRIL 10, 2018

TRANSCRIPT BY ELLE GILCHRIST

Interviewee Name: Alice Spencer

Project/Collection Title: The First Coast

Interviewer(s) Name(s) and Affiliation: Galen Koch – the First Coast

Interview Location: Stonington, ME

Date of Interview: 04/10/2018

Interview Description: This interview is a collection of stories of the memories of Alice Spencer's time in Deer Isle and Isle au Haut. Her husband, Richard, and daughter also join the conversation at times sharing memories or perspectives on the fishing industry and increase in the cost of living by the water. The Spencers shares stories of her family growing up, grandpa (Richard) taking grandkids out lobstering, painting on rocks, living coastally, fishing and differences between young and older generations of fisherman, women packing in the factories paid by how fast opposed to their husbands who were paid by the hour, adventures sliding down hills in the snow, an odd car crash or two, and fun times making ice cream and playing music on Sundays in the winter. Alice Spencer shares that she has Mi'kmaq ancestry and that Richard is related to the Princess of Wales, Diana Spencer. This interview is full of stories and laughter of raising a family on the coast of Maine. Spencer even shares a story of sighting a UFO.

Key Words: Family, Coastal living, Mi'kmaq, lobstering, women in the industry and home, car crashes

Citation:

Spencer, Alice, The First Coast 2019 Oral History Interview, April, 10, 2018, by Galen Koch, 33 pages, Maine Sound and Story. Online: Insert URL (Last Accessed: Insert Date). [Transcriber can leave this blank if unsure]

Transcribed By: Elle Gilchrist

Start of: 041018_Alice_Spencer_DIS_AUDIO

[72:31]

[GK]: Galen Koch

[AS]: Alice Spencer

[RS]: Richard Spencer (Husband)

[FS]: Faye Spencer (Daughter)

[00:00:00.0]

[AS]: Spencer (audio interruption- thudding) was a fisherman (GK: so) that must be my daughter.

[GK]: Oh she's coming over?

[AS]: She might be coming over later. Yup. So that was quite an experience that we had, but we got there safe and all right and coming back home too. Kids too. We could have all be right upside down. Who's knows, accident or whatever but the Lord was still for us that's for sure.

[GK]: You told me a lot about living on Isle au Haut. (AS: oh my garry yes). Where did you go after you were on Isle au Haut?

[AS]: Back up to Stonington again. Yes. We went back up there. We went down there one summer when Richard was seining. (GK: yup) He was in Head harbor where was to get the fish twine. He's stopped twine now. They take the net and they put it over on one tree and across the cove to another one and then when they lift it up the fish go in, they clip it down and in the morning they put a big big pocket, they call it. It's a big mesh and when they open them up and the tides are going they go right into it and clip it down. They got them, then they call a boat. A sardine boat will come pick them up. That's when I told you about the vacuum cleaner-looking thing that came up with the scales on it. I remember I told you a lot about the table that I drew the picture of the deer on. (GK: yea you told me) okay.

[0:01:47.9]

[GK]: You told me a lot about Isle au Haut.

[AS]: Isle au Haut. Right.

[GK]: But I haven't heard much about what life was like after that, in Stonington. Where did you live?

[AS]: Oh we lived up on Greenhead. They called the Greenhead area. (RS: Oh yea, we lived there. Yup.) We always were and that's where we got married. It was Eddie Burgess house and we bought it. He was in the service. He came home and bought it. What for, 2,000, Richard?

[RS]: What?

[AS]: The house on the hill. How much was that?

[RS]: Oh boy. (AS: 2,000 wasn't it?) A lot of money back then.

[AS]: Was it 2,000?

[RS]: 24 hundred dollars. (laugh)

[GK]: Oh my god!

[AS]: Oh, is that how much?

[RS]: You could look. That's 19- (AS: '44) '56 I think I bought it.

[AS]: '56 or '57.

[RS]: No, it was before then. (AS: Yes, '56). '56 I bought it.

[AS]: '56 because I graduated in '57 and got married in '57 and Liza and Leslie lived there a year before we got into it. We used to go fix it up and everything else.

[GK]: Wow (laugh) which house was it on Greenhead?

[AS]: It's the one that edge- (RS: Farrell street) Farrell street at that time.

[GK]: Oh yea.

[0:03:00.8]

AS: I mean its about (RS: Elvin Jones lives right up the road.) where Guy Barber had the little house. (GK: Yea. I know where that is.) By the cross roads, way over. That big house that's right there. That used to be ours. (GK: wow) It had the porch on it. Elvin Jones down below. That's right.

[GK]: Why did you move from that house?

[AS]: Oh man. Let's see I am trying to think. You are jumping me too quick.

[GK]: Oh sorry! I was just curious!

[AS]: That's okay. Where did we go from there?

[RS:] Went down to move to your mother's place.

[AS]: We took Mumma's place because she wanted that place and we vice versa-ed it. We bought that place for- How much was it that Elvin [Edwin?] got it for?

[RS]: inaudible - 'good man'

[AS]: She's dead now. Gone now. 1,500?

[RS]: What?

0:04:02.6

[AS]: That house? (RS: No no, she paid more than that. I can't remember.) I can't remember either.

[RS]: You are going back too many years.

[AS]: I know she is going way way back. (GK: laugh) The kids all grew up there. (tapping sound). I don't know.

[RS]: The place right down on the shore there? The house and the wharf. Two three buildings there, there was.

[AS]: That's my mother's place.

[RS]: It was your mother and fathers' place. We went down, took it over, and then I broke my leg. (AS: yup.) We couldn't afford to keep it no longer. (AS: yup.) So I told her

mother, "I think we better sell the house." Because she was living alone at the time and she said, "Okay, I'll go get my money I don't care."

[AS]: She needed help there so we went to help.

[RS]: Sold and paid everything off.

[AS]: Yup. That's what happened. He got it all in one nut shell.

[RS]: Couldn't afford to live down there now anyways.

[AS]: I know! (GK: I know.)

0:05:01.3

[RS]: The taxes. I think the taxes went right up.

[AS]: We went underneath. The next day they put that ordinance up that was so much money on taxes. Remember the taxes that went up? We moved just at the right time. If we waited we would have had no place to go. We wouldn't have been able to do anything. Here we had three kids at that time.

[GK]: Yea, it seems like a lot of people were forced out of that.

[RS]: Well ...

[AS]: It was too much for us to pay.

[RS:] It got to the point where the taxes got so high. You don't see so many fisherman down on the shore front anymore. They always lived down there. (AS: Oh yea when they couldn't afford it dear) Taxes, then people got more and they just forced them out because they couldn't afford it. I think the taxes on that house down there where I used to live are about 56 hundred, 6,000 dollars a year now.

[AS]: That was too much. We couldn't do that.

0:06:03.3

[RS]: People are so scared they can't live on that. (GK: I know)

[AS]: I said, 'We have got to sell it somehow' and we put ads in the paper and

everything. Remember Richard? (RS: Yes, dear I remember). Someone wanted to buy it across the street. I can't remember the names now.

[RS:] I wouldn't tell you about that.

[AS]: We didn't sell it to them because they didn't have the money or something.

[RS:] They had the money I just wouldn't sell it to them.

[AS]: Well, whatever (laugh) it was. (laughter) (RS: I wouldn't say why). We don't have to do that. That's fine.

[GK]: You had a lot of memories on Greenhead?

[AS]: Oh my golly. (laugh) How many.

[RS]: [I did on stand there/I did want to stay there]

[AS]: Excuse me. (GK: Yup.) Talk to him.

[RS]: No! I don't want to talk too much. (laugh) I don't say too much about what happened to me over the years. (GK: Yea). I really don't. Who else could you talk to? Did you talk to Robert Williams down in [Bert] cove?

0:07:02.7

[GK]: No? Oh! Bob Williams (RS: Yea) I have before and I haven't on this go around but I think I will hopefully in the next couple days.

[RS]: He's about the oldest one out of [Bert/Burnt] cove? I grew up with him.

[GK]: You did?

[AS]: Well Debbie-

[RS]: He's just a little older. Not much, I think Bob's- (AS: Debbie and Tim Hutchinson)- 81 and 82 Bob is.

[AS]: Debbie and Timmy Eaton's house is where you used to (RS: I grew up on a farm) live down in Burnt Cove. (GK: Oh wow) In Carmel. He came from Carmel at nine years old.

[GK]: Then you lived on Church street, didn't you?

[RS]: We lived at Burnt cove first. Moved here from Carmel 1941. My father worked in the shipyard when they were building government boats over there. (audio sounds) In 1947, I think we moved down to Stonington on Island Avenue (AS: Yup). You had a garage there. (inaudible) He stayed there until, I think it was 1953, he moved to Connecticut.

[AS]: Yes he knows (inaudible mumble)

0:08:14.8

[RS]: That's when I stayed here with friends to finish high school. I was a Junior in high school. I finished high school here. I wouldn't go with him.

[AS]: (inaudible question/mumble)

[GK]: You had the fishing bug by there didn't you?

[RS]: Well, I don't know about that because I was on the baseball team and the basketball team (GK: you just wanted to finish high school). I just wanted to finish high school here because that's where all the people I know are. (GK: Yea).

[AS]: Mother and father had to move though. They needed a place to live.

[RS]: My father moved. But Alice, that's beyond the point. I stayed here. I got drafted in the service in 1953.

[GK]: For the Korean War was that?

0:08:56.4

[RS]: Yes. (GK: Ok) I had to get a deferment to finish high school. I got drafted, I can remember just when it was, September or something of '52 and I had to get two letters that said I was a good student before I could finish school. Back in those days. (AS: that turns (mumble)) I finished high school and after I got out of high school I got in the service. That was during the Korean war.

[GK]: How many years were you in the service?

[RS]: Just two years. That's all the draft is. Two years. (GK: Oh) When it come the end of the two years, I was ready to come home. I had the chance to stay to go to the

officer's candidate school, but I wouldn't do it.

[GK]: I know I saw that.

[RS]: Yep a long time ago.

[GK]: Yup

[RS]: I didn't have to go overseas. I was glad about that.

[AS]: Thank God. Excuse me.

[RS]: The day that we were packed and ready to go to Korea when they signed the truce. So we didn't have to go. That didn't hurt my feelings.

0:10:05.8

[RS]: (laugh) I would have gone. There's no doubt about that. When I got out I came home and met this thing. I knew her before I went.

[AS]: That's right. I used him to send him packages with cookies. (laugh) Cookies cakes and fudge and dried fish.

[RS]: You sent me dried fish! When I was in the service! You sure know how they smell. Always put them in a plastic bag and send them to me. I'd open it up in the barracks and everybody, "Oh what's that smell around here!" (laughter). They'd all disappear. There was one guy I didn't really know him, but he came from Beal's island and he'd say, "I smell dried fish! Who's got it?!" (laughter). I got to be good friends with them [Sydney Merchant?] He's gone now. That was a long time ago.

[GK]: Oh my gosh.

0:10:57.2

[AS]: He used to send me home letters and everything. I would save them and wrap them all up with a bow. (Gk: Aw (laugh)). That was our sweetest times, five years before we had- you know we have known each other for a long time. (GK: Yea) I told you he was living over at Archie's (RS: Yea) and he had a place.

[RS]: Now, did you ask me about fishing?

[GK]: I asked you something about fishing?

[RS]: You did.

[AS]: We are going from one thing to another and back and forth.

[RS]: My brother said something about fishing. (GK: Mhm)

[AS]: [mumble- She doesn't want to hear about fishing]

[GK]: He was telling stories about almost catching the fish and then them getting away.

[RS]: Well up in [Greenland] a big tide comes out of there. I had my three brothers with me I owned the boat. Shirley B then. We went up there. First year I owned it, we went to the [west] we probably 5 6 thousand bushels of herring. We'd put them in a pocket and [right in the end] of the pocket. The tide changed and everything went (slap sound) like that! Just collapsed.

0:12:04.9

[GK]: It sounds like it was pretty unpredictable.

[RS]: Yea

[AS]: Oh yes they [made colds/coats/coves] and they had to go over and sew.

[RS]: That was the first year. We went up and I had my three brothers went with me. Everett went with me. Gordon went with me and Leslie. It was all Spencer crew really. We did take fish out that spring up there after that we straightened around and I got a piece of solid chain going around the pocket so we could hold the fish. We did take out quite a few fish up there this year. Then the boys, my dad come (cough) down to see us. He says, "I got a chance for you boys going to the electrical union (AS: I remember that) he asked all my brothers and they said they would go and they all went back to the electrical union. He asked me what I am going to do. He says, "What you are going to do Richard?" I said, "Stay right here with my boat and go fishing" He said this to me. I know I shouldn't say this but he said, "alright if you want to stay here and be an ignorant fisherman go ahead."

0:13:14.7

(laughter)

[GK]: No way! Wow.

[RS]: Well that was a long time ago. They were making good money, back then what was good money, in the electrical union. Then they were doing a lot of work around everywhere. I was kind of glad the boys went because you can never depend on sardine fishing. My dad, a year he would do really good and then two or three years do nothing. They had the chance they went.

[GK]: Did you have to do other work? (RS: Me?) Yea, in between sardine fishing you did other fisheries too?

[RS]: Lobstering. (GK: Yup) I'd come home. I'd go lobstering, go scalloping, go shrimping. I did everything there was. Back in those days, just went wherever the money was to keep going. That's the way it was. It's not like the lobster fisherman today. These fellows are all- I don't know. It just all boomed up probably in 1992. They started picking up the lobsters. It's been quite a while. They really boomed up in the last five to six years.

0:14:25.3

[AS]: Big trucks and cars and everything come out (laugh).

[RS]: I think this is the first year they have dropped off for quite a while. Lobsters have dropped off 20, 25 percent. Decline. So, I hope it doesn't drop off anymore. If it does there will be some hurting boys. That's all I can say.

[AS]: When I went down to factory and I told her you used to go down there and bail up the bait (RS: Oh yea) to put on our runners to put on a conveyor so we could pack our cans. I remember that. You remember doing that don't you?

[RS]: Yea

0:15:00.9

[AS]: Yea.

[RS]: I did that one year before I was in the service, Alice. (AS: yea) While I was waiting to go. 65 cents an hour I got working there.

[GK]: Where at the factory?

[RS]: Yup. (GK: Wow). That was the minimum wage back then.

[GK]: My goodness.

[AS]: I worked on all the ships too and we did what we could with what we had. When that old boat showed up we all ran to the window. "That must be my husband" I said, "He's got this for us so we can pack some more fish and get some more money" (laugh) A whole bunch of us would leave our table and go look (laugh).

[GK]: Did you make money by the hour or by how much you packed?

[RS]: What they packed. The girls.

[AS]: Packed. Everything was in that way.

[GK]: Wow.

[AS]: Yea that's what it was.

[RS]: They'd go fast and if they made good money they did and if they didn't, they didn't.

[AS]: That's right.

[GK]: That's hard.

0:16:00.3

[AS]: Yep. (RS: Yep). Certainly was. I'll never forget little [Eva] losing her little thumb. (GK: Uh, I can't believe that story) Looking for her thumb piece. She cut her thumb, honey, right down to here. It was bleeding and here we were looking for it with all that fish and guts and blood and all that stuff and scooped it down before the baiters other there. By goners.

[RS]: [If you get the idea you need money] around you'd climb in. You'd do anything to survive. That's the way it was back then. (AS: We had to do what we had to do.) Especially, in the late '50s and early '60s. It was some hard times.

[AS]: Remember the time when you used to go out dragging and you would drag different stuff up for us. If it was scallops, I'd fix them up. If it was fish I would splay the fish and get them going. Crabs, fix them all up. Remember those little containers and I would go house to house to house, pestering them (laugh) trying to get them.

[GK]: Wow. Do you think people ate more seafood then?

0:16:58.7

[AS]: Oh I imagine because there wasn't much money involved that's for sure. (laughter)

[RS]: Those scallops a dollar and a half a quart.

[AS]: We used to go clamming too. Remember?

[RS]: Yes. Those scallops were a dollar and a half a quart.

[GK]: Oh my god. (laugh)

[AS]: I used to pick out crabs when my kids was little and I would have Tammy in the high chair and Larry would be over here and Faye would be over here. They would grab while I was trying to do the thing. I'd give them a little piece and they would want more. Here I was trying to fill a jar that big, one of them old pickle jars, half full about that much. They had to have the claws, you know the little tiny flat pieces, couldn't break them, put them all the way around and then put the other meat that you have picked over inside do another row. That was the time and I never did it again. I never did it again, my poor kids. I wanted them to have some too but I had to keep an eye of them doing cracking and everything.

0:18:01.2

[GK]: Oh my gosh I love crab. That's my favorite.

[AS]: Oh yea I do too. He brings crabs in when he goes out and we like them too. Kind of share with what we have. We always do. My my. The different things.

[GK]: Richard, how do you feel about the lobster industry now?

(laughter)

[GK]: Can he say?

[AS]: I don't know it (laugh). It's up to him!

[RS]: The boys have had it pretty easy I think. The last five years. (AS: with extra people too). The younger people don't seem to respect the older fellows so much as they used to. Back years ago, when I was growing up as a kid the older people always respected the young people. They always made sure of what you done. I used to row from here to [] island hauling lobster traps in a rowboat. If the wind breached up, there would always be a fisherman to give me a tow in at night, make sure I got home. But today, I don't know. It's different. Everything is so modernized. They just go and come

and that's it.

0:19:25.7

[AS]: They got one person who's steering the boat. They have two people working under him.

[RS]: Yea. You got two or three people on the boats now. You'd be lucky if you had one years ago.

[AS]: I used to be his mate! (RS: Yep). (laugh) I used to go out and bait pockets and stuff and fix up lobsters. Right Richard? (RS:Yep). Remember the time I took some beautiful pictures and I put the camera right up there that little thing that you had, that little shelf thing, and it fell in my bucket of guck and blood and all the heads and the tails of the fish. I went in and got it and wiped it off and went over to Walmart and asked them if they could fix my camera still. He said, "I smell fish" I said, "You do really?" and he said, "Yea I do." I said, " Well I dropped it in the bait bucket- is it going to be alright to get pictures out of it?" He went like that. Snapped it open and and "Yup, it will". He was going to throw that case away and I said, "Oh please don't throw that case away, please don't." - "Why what's wrong?"- "I can paint it" (laughter) and so he let me have it and I painted it and put it out in the shop and somebody bought it. (laughter).

0:20:41.0

[RS]: I don't say too much about fishing anymore. I've had my years. Let the young people have it.

[GK]: Yea, do you worry?

[RS]: I kind of worry about the right whale business and all that. Fishermen are going to be hurting. They are going to have beepers that bring their traps up. That stuff is runs in-

[GK]: What!

[RS]: I don't know what they will do when it comes to that.

[AS]: I didn't know that dear.

[GK]: Yea.

[RS]: Yea, I keep watching it. Alright, I got to go somewhere. (GK: Ok, Bye Richard) You

too.

[AS]: He knows a lot about that stuff. Really more than I do. (GK: yea) but I did go out with him. Then my kids did too. Faye and Tammy have both been out lobstering with him. Even my grandchildren when they come (GK: wow). We'd get them a pair of boots and they would get all ready. I remember little Ellie, that's Faye's littlest one. She had three girls and this was her little one. She had her clothes on and sometimes she'd put them backwards too (laugh) or she'd put them on backwards or something. She used to go and she'd have her little baby boots we bought her and she'd have her dinner bucket. "Poppa I'm ready! I'm ready! I'm ready!" (laughter) Richard would get ready and go and I would take pictures and it was so cute and her and him going out there with Poppa out to work. (laughter)

0:22:05.9

[AS]: It was all so sweet. I took all my kids out there on the boat with Richard. Once they go out on the boat they sleep on that little shelf where that engine part is and they'd have a little nap. Keep an eye on them all the time of course all the time they are there. All of them had good times with Poppa. They have all been out lobstering and some of the kids would come in and say, "Poppa, that one's got bigger things down below then this one" "That's a male. That's a female." Whoever gets the most, give them a nickel or a penny or a dime until they could get some. He used to save up their money, enough so that they could get some clothes to buy for school. When they went back to Pennsylvania, that's where they used to live, out in [Macknaker].

0:23:01.4

[GK]: Who lived there?

[AS]: Faye. (GK: Oh) My daughter. That had the three kids. She's divorced and all that but that's another- but anyway. They used to come down here and we were Nana and Poppa and we would take them everywhere and do everything with them. We had so much fun with them. Really had good times. I let them get a meal for us or something you know. Make their little pancakes and show them how to do that and serve it on the table. It was so funny. I remember one time we had crabs. They loved crabs and Ellie, the littlest one, she was picking out the crab claw and when she did she found this little purple pearl in a crab. It wasn't a clam or anything, an oyster, it was wedged in the arm of the crab goes. In there it wedged in and Faye has got it today. It was really special that she would find something like that.

0:24:11.8

[AS]: Oh my. Just so many stories. So many things, I don't know where to begin on a lot of them.

[GK]: What did you like to do for fun when you were living on the island? When you came back from Isle au Haut, were their dances or music or anything?

[AS]: I told you that, right?

[GK]: You told me about the dance on Isle au Haut.

[AS]: We would go down and do those square dances or whatever they were. (GK: Oh Was that-)We did that. They would have the dances and stuff. I didn't go to them all the time. Most of my time was at the little house that we state down there, trying to fix it up. Oh I'd go down Boom beach and I would pick up these rocks, round rocks. I loved them. They shined and everything. I think it hurt me more than it helped me, but I used to get them up and put them around, I made a little garden, and I would put them around the garden, around the gate that I had. That little house down there and watch the waves. They would come up and smash like that. I said, I have got to get that picture somehow. I took my paints down one day and I saw that happen and my brush-it scared me - dropped down and I said, "Oh that's what I am looking for right there" I found out how to do the sprays and stuff when they hit the rocks. That was funny. That was when I told you about the big eye on the rock and it scared somebody coming down one night. I did that. Painted that for him.

0:25:44.9

[GK]:Wait, I don't think you told me that. Did you tell me that story?

[AS]: I had my paints that day and I saw that big rock and it reminded of a big whale or something. I made a big eye. I think it was that big and I made it white and I had black in it like it would be an eye. Then down below I made these sharp teeth, white sharp teeth all the way down and somebody came out in the middle of the night. I was somewhere and I overheard it and they said they went down, they said, "You know I saw something down there. It was really frightening when I went down but I looked at it and it was only a rock." It scared him. I said, "oh really" and then I said of course told him, "I done that to him". (GK: Oh my gosh). I didn't mean to.

0:26:31.3

[GK]: Where's Boom beach?

[AS]: Right alongside Headharbor (GK: Ohh). Not far from where our little shack was. I could walk from my place up there. It wasn't far from here. Probably to the store right there. It wasn't far and I used to lug them home, the big rocks. That's probably my problem with this. I told you about the little girl that I made. It was a rock that I found like this and that. I painted a picture of a lady and she had a beautiful dress on and it swung out around like that. It was about as tall as this. I got it all painted up and fixed up and

put it out by the rock. I forgot it and went back the next day and it was gone. (laugh)
Somebody liked it. Somebody got it somewhere along the way.

0:27:32.5

[AS]: Oh yes, I used to go clamming. I told you that I used to go clamming to help an elderly lady and man and they took me home after I'd give them the clams. They loved clams. I went clamming several times down there to get the clams and make clam chowder down there. Kids would go swimming and stuff in a big pond. It was a sandy place and in the front they could go swimming there and everything. They were old enough to do all that stuff. That was fun too. I used to go too. [Tim McCarson], oh yes, [Tim McCarson] had a big house on the rocks which is still there. Of course, he's not or his kids are not there. Doris is the only one who is left anyway. The wife. Richard and Larry and different ones that came used to help him build that place up there.

0:28:34.5

[AS]: Well, Larry and my daughter Faye got into an accident with Milton Small, a little ways from Milton Small's house, going down on that hill and before you got to the golf course where Lisa and Leslie used to live. A little bit down over the hill. Somehow or another they lost control or something and went right straight through and smashed into a rock and it was on Larry's side and he got glass in his eye. He come home one night and I said, "Larry what's wrong with your eye its all red" and he said, "Oh it's alright Mama." I said, "What's happened?" Later on, Faye told us they were in an accident. Faye was alright and Milton was alright, but Larry was right on that side where the rock was. He said, "Oh mama it will be alright" I said, "No, we are going to the doctor's to find out what's going on, it's awful awful red." Sure enough. He was down there down at Isle au Haut too with that and his father said, "We got to get him to the doctors and find out what is going on." So then Aunt Myrna had the car then at the time. Mama didn't have one at the time. Aunt Myrna took us up to, and my mother was with me and Larry, I don't know if one of the kids was with us too. I can't remember his name now but he's not here with us.

0:30:10.2

[AS]: He was a surgeon. He was a special doctor on eyes and he looked at Larry and he said, "You are one lucky guy" He said, "If the glass went in this way to the pupil you would have been blind." But it scared it and swung in a concurve way like that. He said, "You want to see you son's eye" I said, "I sure would" and I saw his eye that big and I could see that scar and how it went in that direction. He had to bandage it up for quite a while. I went down south.

0:31:00.1

Now how did I get on that story? I went down to Florida with my mother. Her and I, we had a mother and daughter trip. We went to some kind of a special church meeting in a home. It was a man there and he had a gift of discernment or a gift or a prophecy or some kind of gift from the Bible. He said, "You have got somebody in your family that has trouble with their eyes?" I said, "Yes, how did you know?" He said, "When he takes those bandages off, he is going to have 20/20 vision." I says, "Thank you Lord." We stayed there probably three months because then she came - that was too much I didn't get to the story. I am going to far in my head.

[GK]: That's okay I am following so then did he take the bandage off?

0:31:46.1

[AS]: When we went back home and it was time up for him to go see his doctor. He took the bandages off and he could read the bottom. 20/20 vision., which he's got now. (GK:wow) All those years, I thanked the Lord. That was a miracle. That's when they got in that, but see, down to Isle au Haut. That's what he was doing and we found out about it. I brought my accordion down, but I also brought my guitar and I was learning. Trying to get the guitar together. I went to pick it up and that little house that I told you about my fingers got so sore and I threw that thing down. I said, "I can't do this" then something said, "You can if you try." So I picked it up again and I said, "Well I can get one chord and then go for the other and this is how you do it." All of a sudden, I saw this bright light by the window and I put that down. I looked out the window and all over the pond was this big bright light that came from the sky. Okay? It came from the sky, landed on the pond and I look, and I thought it was a UFO and I looked out the window and I saw it and it went zoom like that right up in the air. I never saw it again. It was the strangest thing. I told Richard, "Oh you're seeing things." I said, "No, it was true. I saw what I saw." I knew what I saw.

0:33:23.9

[GK]: Do you think it really was a UFO?

[AS]:What?

[GK]: Do you think it was a UFO?

[AS]: I really do. I really do. Down to Isle au Haut getting water. Must've had to get water or something because it was right on the pond (GK:wow). It was dark that is why I saw the light. It was bright light and then when I went to the window to look and I see it out there. It went shooting right up in the air. I couldn't see it went so fast. Right out of sight. Gone.

[GK]: Wow

[AS]: That was close.

[GK]: Alice, do you know where your family comes from? Are they English?

[AS]: Richard's is English. He came from England. Remember Diana, that was a queen-princess? (GK: Mhm) He's related to them and the Spencers. (GK: wow) because she was a Spencer. That's where originally they came from. Mine came from Indian, Mi'kmaq, up North, up in Canada. That's what we were. I also had Penobscot or something. My daddy was Indian way back too. Oh yes, [Haddy McGallis] was my grandmother. She's dead and gone now. She married Indian too. [AyAi] was his name. He was over in the prison camps in Germany I guess it was. Either or, he escaped or came home I don't know which, but Grammy looked and she said, "I saw his picture on the wall and I knew he was going to come from the service from that concentration camp." Sure enough he did come home. He was from the concentration camp. He came home and he was alive.

0:35:30.0

[GK]: Was he in the service or did he get sent?

[AS]: Yep and he got into the concentration camp. That was a long time ago. He was Indian too, Mi'kmaq. My mother, Aunt Mim, Aunt Myrna. My mother and then there was [Sullis]. That's when we got down with the [Sullis] too. Aunt Millie and Aunt Effie, and all the other- Aunt Blanch, they were all in that Sullis area. (GK: Mhm). We were Mi'kmaqs and came from [AyAi]. They came from Canada down here to Deer Isle. Oceanville. Had a home there in Oceanville.

[GK]: Are there stories in your family that still have some of Mi'kmaq traditions or Penobscot traditions passed down? Stories about that at all?

0:36:31.0

[AS]: Dad would never talk too much. (GK: yea). He never talked much at all about his background and stuff. He didn't speak too much.

[GK]: They call that tight lipped. (laugh)

[AS]: I guess so. That's what it was. (laugh)

[GK]: You meet some people like that sometimes.

0:36:51.9

[AS]: Yup, he didn't want to say much. But do you know my grandfather had, Harry we called him, Grandpa Harry Hutchinson, lived across from where we lived down on the island? Down on that wharf down there in Greenhead. That big long wharf. He had a little camp over on the side and it had a place for a bedroom and it had a place for a kitchen. My grandfather Harry, when he was younger, he took care of his three sons. The fourth one had to go to Aunt May because his wife Alice died. He used to take care of the three boys. My father didn't go to school much. He much more liked to have things neat and do the dishes, get the meals together for the boys. Grandpa would go out and spear flounders in a little boat to get food for them. The boys would get together and get down, you know where the fisherman's pier is down Stonington? There was a building there that had coals in it. They'd go out and get those coals, dig them up, fix them up in boxes and take to the house and get fire to keep them warm. It was very hard for them. He grew up very- kind of poor-like. But, they made out very well. Uncle Fred was the only one who went to school more than the others. Uncle [Teek] he liked to do his little tippies. My daddy used to really work hard to get what he needed to get done. That's why he worked so hard to get what he wanted, he said, "I ain't going to be that poor again." (GK: Well Hi!)

[FS]: Hi! How are you?

[GK]: Good, how are you?

[FS]: Good.

0:39:00.8

[AS]: So this is what they did. They grew up and they all of course got married. Uncle Billy, then was the down [] going down to Clyde's there's a building down there, you turn and go down to where Clyde [] is. My Aunt May, that was my daddy's cousin, would take care of little Billy because when Alice went, that was my grandmother, someone had to take care of the baby. So she adopted it and that's why William Hutchinson Pearson came about. That's how that came about. They of course went to different areas as the kids grew up and used to sliding.

0:40:03.1

[AS]: I remember one time when I was a teenager and we got a bunch of fellows together, siblings and close friends. We would go down by Clydes, by Aunt May Pearson's, and someone had an old cover of a fender. A big cover of a car. It was upside down, we'd all jump into in and go down the hill because it was snowing and everything. One night we did that. It was snowing alright. We all get in and I was in front of course. "You get in Alice first, will you try it?" "Alright, I'll go" I am game. I went in with all the other ones and they kept jumping off and I kept sliding. I went right down into a rock and (slap sound) I went upside down. Almost into the- I could have drowned

probably. It was hightide. They were trying to pull me up. One ran down to my Mother's and said, "Alice is down the [drain] and she is going to drown. Come down quick." Mama came down flying, not in any ship or anything. (laughing) I meant, she came running. (GK: laughing) She came down and helped pull me up and I thought she was going to give me a licking or a spanking or something. She came over and she put her arms around me and says, "You know you can't do things like this dear and don't you ever-" She was really comforting to me. I thought she was going to give me a licking. Lucky to alive (laugh) but that was down there. Oh my lamb.

0:41:23.9

[GK]: She was just worried about you.

[AS]: Yes, she was. When we were kids we used to make homemade ice cream in the winter. The whole gang was down and we had music. I didn't go to church then. I didn't know anything about going to church or anything at that time. We'd all get together and go down to Clyde's and on them rocks, there was water that would come down there and would freeze. I had a little red wagon and we would go down and fill that red wagon up. We'd bang it off the rocks like that and put it in the red wagon and draw back up over the hill to where we lived. Then we would put our mittens on and bang it and bang it and try to get enough broken down. We had an old ice cream churner and we would fill that all in with a little salt. Mumma made the ice cream and poured it in the thing. Got it fixed up. We always had a little pokey hole. It would be my father and my Uncle Herman and Uncle Archie, Ramond, Archie Jr. Junior Oliver, Norman, Robins. He was a little guy. One had a violin, a mandolin, a guitar, accordion, and a jukebox. All of that when I was little and a teenager. We used to dance while we would put our hands in there. We would dance around singing the songs. They got into our heart and our mind (laugh) and it would get harder and we would keep churning it. When they got tired of doing it the next kid would go over and they would churn and dance around. We had so much fun.

0:43:14.2

[AS]: Now, Mumma said, "Now you guys go away, go away, go upstairs" and we went upstairs and we would listen down to the register. We had registers then to listen to the music. We would make believe that we were down there and we were dancing. Mumma says, "You guys upstairs, you quiet down, before I come down" on us or something like that. So we had to be quiet we come down and the ice cream was ready for us. We had apple pie, course Aunt Annie loved to make apple pie. Lolly would come down and she would have cookies or something. We would have ice cream and sweets with the music. Oh my golly, what fun we had. We'd do that every Sunday. [] That's what we did. We didn't know anything about the Lord or going to church or anything.

0:44:03.7

[GK]: That's almost like another kind of church.

[AS]: I guess.

[GK]: You gathered together.

[FS]: (in the background) Uhuh! Yea.

[AS]: Yes, we all shared together and each made something. It was fun. It was a good time. It's a good time going to church now too. I got my husband going too. Thank you Lord.

[FS]: My grandpa used to always have music and we would make homemade ice cream in the winter and he would play music. We always had so much fun.

[AS]: That's what I just told you.

[FS]: We did a lot of stuff.

[AS]: When my kids got bigger, like she said, when they were bigger. They'd go out and get ice too and used to make it down there then. (FS: inaudible) That's when I would play my accordion because I was bigger. I was grown up with my kids down there and everything. So used to join in and-

[FS]: We would go to the golf course and do all that.

[GK]: Ohh.

[AS]: We went down and did that.

[FS]: That hill?

0:45:00.7

[GK]: Yea

[FS]: Straight down. We used to take pieces of carpet.

[AS]: Carpet. I don't know which kid it was but, (FS: We had a toboggan and it held seven people and we'd all get in) oh my lamb! Had a piece of carpet. I don't know if it was you, Faye or Larry. (FS: It was Larry and I). They got in front of me. I held on to

them. I was holding on to them and the carpet. We went down over that hill. It was so slippery. I hit a tree and up went my baby. He wasn't a baby. It must've been Larry. Seems to he was probably six years or seven years (FS: He was something like that). Something like that. I saw stars. I said, "Oh where is my Larry? Where is he? Where is he?" There he was in the snow bank. Dusted him all off and gave him a great big hug and said, "Are you doing alright, dear?" he said, "Yes Mumma, I'm alright." Oh my garry.

0:46:00.7

And another thing, I didn't know for sure but this is God does things doesn't it. Eddie Burgess had that house that we had on the hill that we were talking about earlier. She was living there and she let us slide down over that little rise there. (FS: She had a store.) I had a pair of skis. I wanted a pair for christmas. My dad and mom got me a pair. A little small ones and I went up there and I was going to go down that. I was going to be a great skier. Oh ho ho! (laugh) I went down over the bump and upside down and landed in the rock pile down below by (laugh) [Allen's, Peony Allen's] Someone came down to get my and brushed the stuff off of my face. It was bleeding. Momma come up (laugh). Poor Momma. She come up and took me back home and put ice packs on me to cool me down and wipe my face. Oh my, the things I used to get into. Honestly.

0:47:01.1

[FS]: We all did.

[AS]: Oh my kids. Harry and Shirley drew would come down from Guilford, Maine. Friends of ours. Oh my land. She would bring her son and her daughter and another son at the time, right? (FS: Right. Before Lorry.) Before Lorry. They would come down and get into more mischief (FS: Oh we had so much fun). They would get in the chair and get in make-believe they were going places and everything. I had a big barn out there beside where the house was and the kids had to climb up. (FS: That's where Ingrid's place is) (GK: Oh yea) Yep. The barn was there. The old barn. By the way, that's where the toilet was too on the other side (laugh). That's where I had a garden out there, grew so well. (laugh). But anyways!

[FS]: We used to go up there and play all the time.

0:47:48.0

[AS]: Play camp. The big window was wide open and the whole gang, the whole shabang that used to chim around with, would jump from that window onto the shed with a big opening about that much. Jump. I mean. Somebody came in and said, "Do you know where your kids are?" I said, "Yea, they are outside playing." "Um you want to come out and see?" So I went out to see. I said, "what are you kids doing up here?" "Oh, it's fun! We are jumping from one place to the other." I said, "Do you know how

dangerous this would be if you fall down and hurt yourself?" "Oh we aren't scared, we'll do fine." I said, "You guys get yourselves down, now!" and so I got them all out from where they was because they showed me how they got up there and everything. I didn't want that to happen again because it was so so dangerous.

[FS]: We took a board.

[GK]: A board?

[AS]: No, there was no board.

[FS]: We took a board to get up the stairs because the stairs weren't there anymore so we took a board and we climbed up on the board and held onto the. That's how we got up - as we went up.

[GK]: (laugh)

[AS]: Well that's what it was. I couldn't get it. It was hard for me to get it.

0:49:01.5

[FS]: You couldn't get it, but we could.

[AS]: Yep, I see what they were doing.

[FS]: Then we brought the board up so she wouldn't know we were up there.

[AS]: (laugh) My kids my kids. My kids my kids.

[GK]: Oh

[FS]: We got caught smoking. Oh my god. Got in big trouble for that. (laugh)

[GK]: Just downtown?

[FS]: Little kid. That was in Greenhead. We got caught smoking in that barn by my dad and me, us all smoking a cigar. That big and that long (AS:oh yes) (GK: (gasp)) and we puked our brains out.

[AS]:That's right I remember that too. (laugh)

[FS]: I never smoked.

[GK]: Oh my gosh (laughter) Oh my gosh.

[FS]: I saw Allen. That's his picture right there. (AS: oh yes right here) A few days ago, this is the family. This is the picture Allen and I. Here he is. (GK: Oh my) Him and I got in so much trouble. (laugh)

[GK]: Allen. Who was that? What's his last name?

[AS]: Drew

[FS]: Allen Drew

[AS]: Yep

[GK]: Allen Drew

0:50:00.7

[AS]: Guilford, Maine

[FS]: They were from Guilford, Maine. They would always come down for the summer.

[AS]: See Richard went into the service as Harry did and these two met and we became friends. He married her and brought her down to the house.

[FS]: That's Aunt Sally and that's Uncle Harry.

[AS]: Not Sally, Shirley. (FS: Shirley). They used to come down to the house a lot. This is Kevin. This is Allen. (FS: We used to have so much fun that's why we got caught smoking) Beth is the one who's not there dear. She was taking the picture.

[GK]: Another one of his kids?

[AS]: Yea

[FS]: Yea

[AS]: He had four. She had three and we had three and the other ones came later. Beth, no not Beth, Lorry. Lorry came. That's Lorry now. (GK:mm) We went up there for their

anniversary (AD: Yea, that was the anniversary picture). The 50th anniversary.

0:51:01.6

[FS]: We had so much fun. Allen and I were talking about all the stuff we used to do.

[AS]: Oh it was fun.

[FS]: Oh my god so much fun.

[AS]: The things they did. He was a medic and he was in the infantry.

[GK]: There were lots of kids still down in Greenhead area when you were young too? There were. Yea.

[AS]: Oh yes.

[FS]: Mhm. Lot of kids

[GK]: When I was little there weren't. There were some but not so many. There was only like seven of us.

[FS]: Where did you live?

[GK]: I lived at the top of the hill in the big, top of Russ's Hill, in the big white house. That's the house I grew up in.

[AS]: Remember the three story ones?

[FS]: Oh yea.

[GK]: It had all the apartments in it.

[FS]: Who used to live in it?

[AS]: Pearl. One of the ladies.

[FS]: When I was growing up? Gray, wasn't it? Mr. Gray

[AS]: Yes, Mr. Gray lived up in one of the 'rents. Yup.

[FS]: All his kids. (AS: Yup) Mr. Gray.

[GK]: And then there was some (AS: elderly lady) christian, religious cult that had it.
(AS: A cult?) I don't know if it was really a cult but some sort of really orthodox christian group. They didn't talk to anybody.

0:52:02.7

[FS]: Huh.

[AS]: A cult?

[GK]: They had it for like a year. Yea.

[AS]: I didn't know that. I didn't know that.

[FS]: Did you show her a picture of dad's house that he grew up in? One of them?

[GK]: No.

[FS]: Momma, you didn't show her that?

[AS]: I don't know dear. I am going so fast.

[FS]: I know you are. I'm sure.

[GK]: We have been (AS: Chit-chatting back and forth) chit chatting

[FS]: [Greenlaws?]

[GK]: Oh wow!

[FS]: That's where my dad grew up.

[GK]: Near the old church? Right?

[FS]: There and then he grew up in Oceanville.

[GK]: This is on church street isn't it?

[AS]: Yes it is.

[GK]: Ok and then the church is right here? The old one?

[FS]: Yup

[AS]: I'll show you another picture.

[FS]: That house was my dad's when he grew up.

[AS]: In back of that picture is (AD: This one?) Yup, it's rolled up, be careful. That picture right there was given to me.

0:53:02.9

[GK]: That is lovely.

[AS]: That's a story and a half. Oh no, that's not it. Isn't there another one there somewhere? I thought there was one. Oh don't worry about it honey. It was the original place. No no that's not it. I drew a picture of somebody there no no that's not it. I don't know where it is now dear, but anyway, I tried to sketch it out. (FS: Yea, my grandpa had a garage.) Moe Spencer's garage.

[GK]: Wow

[AS]: It is the funniest thing Faye, do you know, Richard was living there at that time too. I used to walk by there as a teenager and I saw the sparks going down and this man with these black glasses on. He was fixing something and that was Richard's father, Moe Spencer, (GK: Wow) and she says, "Oh dear, don't get looking at those" he said, "that will hurt your eyes" Little did I realize it was going to be my father-in-law. (laugh)

0:54:08.3

[FS]: Then he was your father!

[AS]: Yup.

[FS]: Grandma married him.

[AS]: Then he was my father. That was another story.

[GK]: Wait

[FS]: My mother's mother and my father's father (AS: oh my garry we could..) How old was he mom? His seventies or eighties when he married grandma?

[AS]: That's another story

[GK]: Your mother - wait a minute

(laughter)

[FS]: Yea its complicated.

[GK]: Tell me again.

[AS]: We are going too fast.

[FS]: My mother's mother and my father's father both lost their spouses so they got together.

[AS]: In a roundabout way, a lot of experiences (laugh).

[GK]: Then that makes it. Yea. Complicated.

(laughter)

[AS]: I am my own grandma. (laugh)

[GK]: Oh wells there's that.

0:54:55.8

[AS]: There was up in Carmel, a friend, and she died. She used to live with Richard's father. Moe. We went up one day. We always went up on Thanksgiving or some kind of holiday when we could get together. Well my mother wanted to go up and we wanted momma to go with us when we went up with my husband. My mother, she had her aunt there at the time. We were going up there to have her birthday party with Gramp. We called him Gramp Spencer. On the way coming home, they got kind of together talking and everything. That is how they kind of met. We were coming home and there was a crossroad that goes to Bangor and one goes up there this way and one goes down Frankfort and the other one goes up to Carmel.

0:55:58.5

Well we were talking about one thing or another and then all of a sudden there was no car coming. We didn't see a car coming. She started in to go across the road and this big old truck came out from nowhere. I don't know where it came from. It came and hit Momma right side too. Right here and she was driving and I was in the back. No. Yes, I was right in the back right beside her. Aunt Eva was over here on this side, the right hand side. The car went going like this and then like this and almost hit the telephone pole like that. I was praying in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth. Protect us all. Momma had her hand on the key and pulled it and we were that far from a very bad accident. Two people before that, two cars before that got in accidents and died. They didn't make it but we were saved and I thanked God. Well, here it was. It was a scary thing was right.

0:57:07.4

Momma had glass on her head, right beside her here. It hit me right here on my hip and kind of made me kind of funny feeling. My Aunt went like that, I thought she was dead. (GK: Uh) I felt her and said, no she's alive. A man and a woman came over and said we have got a nurse that is coming right out from where the hospital is in Bangor. They came down with ice and everything. They put ice on the back of her neck like that and started to come to. My mother, and of course the cops were there and the ambulance was there. They said, "Can you get out?" and I said, "Oh yea sure I can get out" but I kind of was woozy-oozy, but my mother couldn't get out because the door was jammed in. Released her and here she had glass over her head and all over.

0:58:04.0

We had to go in the ambulance. I told the ambulance lady, I said, "We better stop the car. I see glass in my mother's eye." I sat like this and the sun was hitting her eye and the sun was hitting right here. I could see the glass. They started to take it out and the bumps was going like this and I think there was snow. I can't remember if there was snow on the ground but anyway. I said, "You are going to have to stop the car, dear" So they stopped the car and tried to get the glass out of her eye. It was a jab of glass that was in her eye that they released at that time. We went to the hospital. I called up Gramp, Moe Spencer. I said, "We have been in an accident. Don't get upset. We are alive. We are alright but we are in the doctor's office right now." Aunt Eva had a family up there in Bangor and she was released and she was checked. She went to them and he was getting his clothes on and said, "Stay right there, I will be right down there." We got checked and we were alright too. They got all the glass away from her and everything. She was fine. We were fine. Gramp and Mom got together. That's how they got together. It was a miracle.

0:59:31.6

[FS]: I was in North Carolina at that time.

[AS]: Yup. They were. The kids.

[FS]: We came home when they had the marriage.

[AS]: Married and stuff.

[GK]: So then your father-in-law became your father?

[AS]: Yep

[FS]: Yep

[AS]: Oh yes and then they got together and we used to go visit them on the weekends and stuff like that.

[GK]: That makes it a lot easier. (laugh)

[AS]: Remember the story you read about the bound-up dog?

[GK]: Yep

0:59:55.7

[AS]: Okay, that's when we used to go up there then. I was going to say something else. I thought it was quite important, but anyways. I had a friend that used to come over to Gramp's a lot. (His) momma got sick one day and she had ulcers or something removed out of her stomach. Something little, it wasn't that much. They got it out and it was all right. She came back home and she stayed there and they were together all the time but never got married. Richard went up one day with me, well he was with me anyway, he said, "When are you God-sinners going to get married?" or something like that (laughter). They were thinking about it or such but Gramp knew something wasn't just right with him, I guess. Sometimes he would say things that would kind of upset Momma a little bit. She was going to another house there or something. What happened it all kind of got together. He went down and said, "I am so sorry if I pushed you away." Gramp said. "I am so sorry" Well, so then they got kind of together with lady that came. I can't remember her name now. She was there and she new grandpa and everything. They -slow down, slow down.

1:01:26.4

[GK]: Take it slow. You've got time.

[AS]: Alright. Yes. I know but you've got places to go too. I was just thinking.

[GK]: So he-

[AS]: So I got him -Oh I am sorry.

[GK]: So he and your mother split up?

[AS]: For awhile because he wasn't up to par. He thought something was wrong with him or something, his heart or something. So he was pushing her out a little bit. Then he went down and said he was sorry. Momma was going to drown herself. My mother. Oh yea. It was big river that was coming by the place where she was staying with this fellow. It went around and she was going to jump into the river and get rid of herself because nobody wanted her. This man came out and grabbed her and took her in, but then Gramp got to wanting to get her back so he went down and said he was sorry and came back up to the house again. That's when they decided to get married. They went and got married. He was 84 years old. 85 years old (FS: Yea he was) and Momma was younger, probably 4 or 5 years younger. But it doesn't matter anyway.

1:02:37.8

[AS]: So, I knew this lady because she was a friend of Gramps and they had the VFW hall, the service hall, the company VFW hall. We set it all up. People down from Stonington, people he knew. There must have been 100 and some odd people there. I had never seen so many people. They had tables all set up. We had flowers on them and everything. We had a woman that sang and played on the piano. She was about 90. Then they had the wedding outdoors from that building. [Pinky Willet] a friend of ours was there that got them married. I was a bride's maid. My kids were all there just like a big wedding would be. She had a beautiful blue gown. Oh it was beautiful and everything just the way she wanted it. Faye I think helped that one if I remember right. They come in and showed the gardner and all that stuff that they did. That's when they really got together. They lived together for three years and one day Gramp to the hospital. Yes, he went to Church too, they had a church there that he went to Church he said, "What is this about God? I want to know Jesus in my heart. What is this anyway?"

1:04:15.3

[AS]: I said, "Gramp, it says so in Romans 10, 9:10 and 13, it tells you all about it. If we confess we our mouth the lord Jesus believe in our heart that God has raised him from the dead. Thou shalt be saved. But with our heart () with the mouth confession is made unto salvation who shall ever call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." "Then I can be saved?" I said "Yes you can" (GK: laugh) Because he was wanting to know

more about so I started explaining it to him just say, I am sorry God forgive me. Just love and speak. Believing that he will forgive you and thank him for it. He said, "That's all?" I said, "Yes, you except Jesus in your heart and say you are sorry and love the lord and obey him" He found Christ in his life as Momma did too.

1:05:03.1

[AS]: Anyway. Then he got sick a little while after that and he had heart problems. He had to be rushed to the hospital and he went down there and had to have these (sound).

[GK]: Oh the defibrillator?

[AS]: Yes, something on there. While he was out, he had actually went because when he came too, he said, "Why did they bring me back? I was riding all around this beautiful place it was so beautiful and I looked and I don't know what was hauling us" He was an electrician. I mean he knows engines and stuff. He was wondering what's making this thing go. So he was actually in Heaven I guess at that time. (GK: Wow). Of course he came back and got things squared away and taken care of. Then when he went. He went to the hospital again and after he got everything taken care of. He had another one of those spells. He had peanut butter and had a milkshake. Just the stuff he always wanted and they said, "You shouldn't do it" but he did it anyway and I guess that's when he went.

1:06:11.3

[FS]: He's says, "I'm going"

[AS]: After that we found out he was gone, we went up and there was a place up there a church that made a big spaghetti meal. It was about as tall as that. We were all going down to Liza's after the funeral would be down in Stonington, that's where it was going to be. It was all spaghetti. People gave us cookies and cakes and all that stuff. They were so nice to us. It was a snowy day. It was snow on the ground. Richard had to drive his father's car, not convertible but anyway I can't remember the name (FS: LTD). It was a big long car and he had to get the dog in the back because we were going to take care of the dog. All of a sudden, we were coming home and Richard was listening to the ball game. They were losing or whatever and somehow or another he hit a patch of ice and that thing went up like that and went into a big embankment over in a ditch. I guess there was a big rock in front of us that hit us and we flipped upside down right like that. Before that happened, I said, "Lord in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, protect us!" and he did because when we went us like that he was having spaghetti over his ear. Momma was (GK: Oh my god) changed from one side to the other. The dog had got out of the back where there was a big long iron crowbar in there that broke the window evidently when it came up around. He got out somehow. They were

ambulances. They were fire engines. There were cops up there. Our doors were shut. Momma said, "I got to get out of here. I got to get out of here" She wasn't driving. Richard was. It was the funniest thing I ever heard of. I said, "Momma calm down, calm down. It's going to be alright." There was a branch that was there holding her. I couldn't get her and on my side it was all jammed in. They had to get the life jaws, whatever you call them to open up the door so we could be released. Richard was taking spaghetti out of his pockets like this, it was hanging. I laughed. I couldn't help from laughing. He looked so funny. It was on his hair, hanging down (laughter). It was so funny.

1:09:00.9

GK: Oh my god.

[AS]: They came down. They came down, the cops came down, and they said, "You guys can go to the place." They had a cops place down there in Ellsworth anyway. We'll notify home that you have been in an accident and that the car is totaled". Richard said, "I am going to walk up and down to the garage and wait for Chuck to come." Because they found out, we called them and said don't worry I said, "We are alright. We are going to go down to the garage. Richard's down there already. We are here with the cops". When Chuck came up, that was his brother, Chuck, came up, we got into his car from the police station and went over to where the garage people were. That's where Richard was waiting. Well, Chuck was already to get out of the dooryard and the car stopped right in the middle of the road. Chuck said, "I don't know what's wrong with this car but we can't move it." A bunch of men came to push that car out of the highway and where the garage would be and try to get it fixed. They had to do a lot of stuff for it. Momma said, "Blackie's got to go to the bathroom." she said, "Oh, I am not going out, will you take him out?" I said, "Yes Momma I will". I took him out back and he did his thing and went back. We got in the car ready, getting all packed up, ready to come back home. It started snowing and the dog was in the backseat. Richard was over here and I was over here holding the dog. The dog was going like (panting sounds) that. Poor stuff dripping off his tongue onto Leslie's ear and he says, "Get that dog out of here and the drips are coming out of his mouth!"

1:11:05.3

[AS]: Momma was over here alongside, Uncle Charlie we finally get home.

[GK]: Oh my gosh!

[AS]: These are all true stories, believe me! We've been in some humdingers, I tell you.

[GK]: Oh my gosh! Well, Alice I think we have to stop again today.

(laugh)

[AS]: We will have to make another trip.

[GK]: Yes, we have to make another one. I have to go.

[AS]: When I am right in the middle of something and then I am going to finish and then something else comes. Then it's just so much. I have to slow down and I can't. I can't slow down (laugh).

[FS]: (talking in the background) She wants to. I don't know if she will or not.

[AS]: What?

[FS]: My daughter, Victoria.

[AS]: Yea. She wants to draw a picture.

[FS]: She wants to make a book because she says, "Nana you have so many stories!"

[AS]: Airplanes! I could tell you about airplanes with the little jiggers. Momma thought I was drunk. Oh my god. This was another story for another time because it's very long!

[GK]: Ok! We have to have-

[0:72:31]

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INTERVIEW----- Reviewed by ____ on ____