

# FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

## *ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE*



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### Abstract: **BJ & Jon Pitts**

BJ and Jon talk about growing up in Sugar Land, attending football games, visiting with friends and attending the same school. It was a family atmosphere where everyone knew and looked out for each other.

BJ's dad worked for Imperial Sugar and Jon's dad worked for the prison system where he and his family lived. BJ and Jon were married in Germany when he was in the military. Jon retired from the prison system. Today they enjoy retirement and visiting family.

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## Interview Summary

### People (in alphabetical order)

Georgia Binford – BJ’s sister

Joyce Binford – BJ’s sister

Byron & Carolyn Boyce – classmates

Joe Cardenas – classmate

John Duran – classmate

Melba Kelton – classmate

Mr. & Mrs. Prickle – family friend

Wilma Rudolph – Olympic track star

### Places / Businesses

Chickasaw Indian Nation, Oklahoma

Fort Bend County, Texas

Frankston, Texas

Germany

Grimes County, Texas

Houston, Texas

Imperial Sugar

Nacogdoches, Texas

Navasota, Texas

Oklahoma

Palestine, Texas

Sugar Land, Texas

Tyler, Texas

Vietnam

### Events

BJ was born in Navasota, Texas and moved to Sugar Land when her dad went to work for Imperial Sugar Company in 1951.

Jon was born in Houston and moved to Sugar Land in 3rd grade when his dad went to work for the prison system. He and his family lived in Central One Prison Unit housing from 1956 until Jon joined the military.

Jon worked for the prison system in Sugar Land from 1974-79 when he transferred to another unit in Texas. He eventually retired from the prison system.

BJ and Jon talk about growing up in the quaint company town of Sugar Land. Being involved in school activities, sports and enjoying school where teachers, parents and administrators all knew each other.

Jon called growing up in Sugar Land “the greatest experience that a person could have in school.” BJ states “it takes a village to raise a child. Well, Sugar Land was our village and they raised all of us.”

They are now retired in a small community near Nacogdoches, Texas and enjoy visiting family in Texas and Oklahoma.