

FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE



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Abstract: **Katherine (Trinka) Helmcamp Miller**

Trinka Miller was born in 1935 in Laura Eldridge Memorial Hospital in Sugar Land. Shortly thereafter, her family moved to Houston where her father was manager of the Sartartia Plantation Dairy. It was not until 1949 that she returned to her roots in Sugar Land to attend high school. Football was the big sport that everyone supported. Trinka even played in the band one year. After one year at Baylor University, she married her high school sweetheart, Ron Miller, who joined the U. S. Air Force as an officer. They traveled to a variety of duty stations for the next 22 years. Upon retirement, they moved to Austin where they have lived for over 30 years.

6 Pages

⇓ *Scroll down for Key Words from the Interview.* ⇓

Interview Summary

People (in order mentioned in interview)

Kenneth Jones – Uncle

John Jones – Uncle

Allan Landin – husband’s college friend

B. I. Webb – husband’s college friend

Kenneth Hall – Sugar Land HS football star

J. B. Kachinsky – Sugar Land HS football player

Juan de los Santos – Sugar Land HS football player

Tommy Tallas – Sugar Land HS football player

Tommy Fatheree – Sugar Land HS football player

Places / Businesses

Sugar Land, Texas

Laura Eldridge Memorial Hospital

Fort Bend County

Houston, Texas

Sartartia Plantation Dairy, Richmond Avenue, Houston

Sartartia Plantation

Sugar Land High School

Old Mexican Cemetery

Sugar Creek Subdivision, Sugar Land

Kempner Stadium, Sugar Land

First Presbyterian Church

U. S. Air Force

Austin, Texas

Baylor University

Vietnam War

Dulles High School

Breckenridge, Colorado

Events

Trinka Helmcamp was born in Sugar Land in 1935 and moved to Houston in 1936 where her father worked for Sartartia Plantation Dairy bottling and ice cream operations as the office manager. The family returned to Sugar Land in September 1949 where her father worked in a different part of the Sartartia Plantation Dairy.

Trinka remembers being a very spoiled, only child. Her mother drove her to and from school including taking her home for lunch.

Her fondest memories are attending high school football games since she was 9 years old even if the team was not very good. She played in the band for one year.

She married her high school sweetheart, Ron Miller, and together they spent 22 years traveling to various duty stations during his career as a U. S. Air Force officer. He retired as a Lt. Colonel and they moved to Austin where they reside today. The only time she returned to live in Sugar Land was to reside with her parents and her two children during the year her husband spent in Vietnam.