

FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE



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Abstract: **Kenneth Hall**

Mr. Hall and his family came to Sugar Land in 1936 when his dad was able to find work at Imperial Sugar Company. They lived in a small, 600 sq. ft. house on Brooks Street with 2 other families. His dad worked for Imperial Sugar for 36 years, retiring as superintendent of the Labor Department.

Kenneth and his friends had a good, simple life in Sugar Land. He enjoyed playing the trumpet in the school band and played football, basketball and ran track. As a star football player, he and his team won 3 regional titles in grades 10-12. In track, the team won State championships in 10 & 11 grade. Ken was recognized as the best high school football player in the nation. A subdivision and a football stadium in Sugar Land were named after him.

He is in the Texas Football & Sports Hall of Fame and the National Hall of Fame.

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Interview Summary

People (in order mentioned in interview)

Gloria Ross – wife

Chuck Hall – son

Michael Hall – son

Carlos Tarver – school friend

Places / Businesses

Huntsville, Texas

Imperial Sugar Company

Madisonville, Texas

North Zulch, Texas

Events

Kenneth had an idyllic life in Sugar Land which was a mystical place to him to live and grow up.

His dad went to work for Imperial Sugar Company at 11 cents an hour and worked 10 hour days. Later he also was elected Constable and also served as a deputy Sheriff.

Kenneth and his friends found lots to do to entertain themselves including playing games, fishing, and craw fish hunting. He learned to ride stick horses, ride a bike, and to swim.

Football and track made him a star. He and his football team won 3 regional titles but the school was too small to go to State. However, the track team won State twice in his 10 & 11 grade.

In 1954, there were 24 in his high school graduating class. He married a Sugar Land graduate, class of '52. They have 2 sons & 5 grandchildren with a great grandchild on the way at the time of this interview. They reside in California, while Kenneth and his wife now live in Fredericksburg, Texas.

A subdivision and a football stadium in Sugar Land named after Kenneth. As well as being named to the Texas Football & Sports Hall of Fame and the National Hall of Fame, he was also named "The best high school football player in the nation."

He is very proud to be an American who grew up in the small town of Sugar Land.