

FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE



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Abstract: **Lupe Rodriguez Cavazos**

Mrs. Lupe Cavazos shares many stories about her large family residing and working in Sugar Land where she was born in 1939. Her parents fled Mexico due to death threats during the time of Pancho Villa and Venustiano Carranza.

Her father worked in the fields for Sugarland Industries until he landed a job with Southern Pacific to prepare and deliver mail at the depot. Her mother was a great cook who introduced Mexican food to many of the locals. Her sisters worked for various doctors in Sugar Land. Lupe talks about attending a segregated school until 4th grade and having to sit at the back of the church at St. Theresa's.

13 Pages

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Interview Summary

People (in order mentioned in interview)

Carlos Slaughter, MD – local physician
 Harold Kuykendall, MD – local physician
 Roland Rodriguez – brother
 Pancho Villa
 Venustiano Carranza
 Celso Rodriguez – brother
 Toni Rodriguez – sister
 Margie – niece
 Juan Mesa – cousin
 Richard Mesa – cousin
 Virginia Rodriguez – sister
 Buddy Wheeler, DDS – local dentist
 Ms Henserton – First grade teacher
 Frankie Parker – third grade teacher
 Jackie James, Susan Wood, John Ellen Wheeler,
 David Armstrong, and Kenneth Albers, Lanie
 Miller – fourth grade classmates
 Virginia Ramirez – niece
 Father Murray – conducted First Communion
 Father Broussard – Priest at St. Theresa

Places / Businesses

Sugar Land, Texas
 Sugar Land Hospital
 Mexico

Saltillo & Monterrey, Mexico
 Silsbee, Texas
 Terry, Texas
 Vidor, Texas
 Southern Pacific Railroad
 Sugarland Industries
 Sugar Land Medical Clinic
 The Dinky Train
 Stafford, Texas
 Marshall Canning, Sugar Land, TX
 St. Theresa Catholic Church, Sugar Land,
 Texas

Events

Mrs. Cavazos was born a “blue baby” in
 Sugar Land, in 1939.
 Her parents fled from Mexico due to
 death threats and raised their growing
 family in Texas.
 Her father worked in the fields until he
 landed a mail job with Southern Pacific
 Railroad. Her mother stayed at home
 and was known as a great cook.
 Lupe shares stories of growing up in a
 segregated community, attending a
 segregated school and church.
 Many of her brothers, sisters, cousins
 and other extended family members
 worked in the Sugar Land area.