

FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE



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Abstract: **Shirley Brodecky Myers**

Born at home in Sugar Land in 1939 into a large Czech-Polish family, Shirley Myers shares stories about growing up in the small company town with lots of friends and a large family during holidays and other celebrations. Her father was superintendent of a canning company and her mother enjoyed cooking and being the nourisher.

Shirley worked many jobs in Sugar Land during high school and college. After college, she became an English teacher, eventually earning a master degree in Education. Her husband Clarence was a photographer and swim instructor. They have been married since 1962 and raised 2 children, both teachers.

14 Pages

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

Interview Summary

People (in alphabetical order)

Leon Anhaiser – friend
 Charles Henry Brodecky – father
 Genevieve Nowak Brodecky – mother
 Allen Dernehl – friend
 Frank Dzierzanowski – teacher
 Kelly – housekeeper
 Dr. Kuykendahl – physician
 Mr. Morton – Palms Theater manager
 Michelle Myers – daughter
 Pam Myers – daughter
 Mr. Nelson – school principal
 Mr. Noey – boss at Nalco
 Mary Lee Brodecky Sebesta – sister
 Dr. Slaughter – physician
 Dr. Wheeler – dentist
 Jonellen Wheeler – classmate

Places / Businesses

Chapel Hill, Texas
 George Junior High School
 Holy Rosary Catholic Church
 Houston, Texas
 Lamar Junior High School
 Marshall Canning Company
 Moravia, Czechoslovakia
 Nalco Chemical Company
 Palms Theater
 Poland
 Rosenberg, Texas
 Rio Hondo, Texas
 St Theresa Catholic Church
 Sam Houston University
 Sears
 Sugar Land, Texas
 Sugar Land High School
 Tavern, Texas
 University of Houston

Events

Born at home in Sugar Land in 1939, Shirley enjoyed a variety of jobs in the company town during high school and college. Shirley provides details of some of those jobs including being paid to count trains that passed a certain crossing in Sugar Land.

Her father was superintendent of Marshall Canning Company until it was purchased by Sara Lee and closed down. Her mother enjoyed cooking and being a stay at home mom. Shirley's parents were first generation Americans from a Czech-Polish background.

Upon graduation from Sam Houston University with a bachelors degree in Education, she accepted a teaching position at Lamar Junior High School where she taught for 35 years. Shirley earned her Masters Degree from the University of Houston after she began teaching.

Clarence, her husband of 54 years was a photographer and swim instructor as well as a school bus driver. They raised two daughters and now enjoy retirement and spending time with grandchildren.