

Maxine Jensen

**Interviewed 9/8/2007
By: Jean Seagers
Midway Village Museum**

Maxine Jensen

Jean Seagers: What is your name?

Maxine Jensen: My name is Maxine Ginazi Jensen.

JS: And are you married?

MJ: I am widowed, have been for 24 years.

JS: What was your husband's name?

MJ: My husband's name was Edward Carl Jensen.

JS: How many children do have?

MJ: We have four children, four girls, Anita, Linda, Kay, and Diana.

JS: Are they living here?

MJ: Yes the three are living near me; one is living in South Carolina.

JS: Growing up where did you grow up first of all?

MJ: I was born in Beloit, Wisconsin and moved to Roscoe Township when I was six months old and we lived down Dearborn in South Beloit.

JS: Where did you go to school?

MJ: I went to school at Wheeler School for my first eight years then to South Beloit High School for four years.

JS: And where did you work?

MJ: I've worked so many places.

JS: What was your first job?

MJ: My first job was at Kreske's Five and Dime Store then I worked at JC Penny's in Beloit then I worked at Fairbanks during the war. I worked at Litman's refrigeration during the war.

JS: What was your last job?

MJ: My last job was working with my husband. We had a machine shop I worked there for 10, 11 years in South Beloit in Roscoe Township and we had a grocery store in 46 to 57 just a neighborhood grocery, Jensen's grocery. We were there 12 years.

JS: And you've been here in this area all your life?

MJ: I lived in this area all my life.

JS: Where did your parents come from?

MJ: My parents came from Arezzo, Italy and that is in the central part in the Tuscany area.

JS: Did they meet here?

MJ: No they were childhood sweethearts I think from the time they were about 15. They're from the same town in Italy.

JS: What did they do before they came?

MJ: My mother was domestic work that's what they did in those days. She lost her mother when she was 12 and when she was 14 she'd go out to work and my dad was just a laborer and he started working when he was 10 and he worked in a blacksmith shop to begin with, lost some of his hearing and then went to Germany and worked labor and then he went into service in Italy went to the war in Tripoli in Africa and then came home and then he heard they were going to call up his regiment or whatever so he went to France and from France he came to America. He had brothers here, two brothers and he and his sister came and came to Beloit.

JS: Where did they enter the United States?

MJ: At Ellis Island, he's got their names are on the roster at Ellis Island both of them.

JS: Was his bride-to-be your mother somewhat younger than he was?

MJ: No just a year. She was a year younger and he left her over there and he and his sister came, well he came in 1914 and stayed with his sister until 1919, and then he called her or wrote to her and said to come and marry him or he was going to find another wife so she came.

JS: Did he help her with the cost of coming?

MJ: I would imagine. I don't know that I know he met her in Rockford when she came in Rockford.

JS: Why do you think they wanted to come here?

MJ: Oh of course to get jobs and work. At that time in 14 America was known as really booming as far as industrial and so that's why they came and my mother just wanted to be a wife.

JS: Why do you think they came to this area?

MJ: Because his brothers were here.

JS: Had he ever been here before?

MJ: No neither one of them had ever been outside of other than my dad going to war had been outside of Italy.

JS: He came with his sister?

MJ: Yes he came with a younger sister.

JS: How about her did she come alone?

MJ: She came with somebody from the same area that had family here and I'm not sure what his name was.

JS: So they didn't go anywhere else first?

MJ: No they came here

JS: And was anybody here to help them when they got here?

MJ: Oh yes they had to in those days. You couldn't come unless somebody signed for you that they would take care of you if you needed care and so he had these two brothers. They were Sam Ginazi and Vittorio Ginazi. They lived in Beloit.

JS: Were there other friends or was it just ...

MJ: Well there were friends I'm sure from the area.

JS: Did they all settle in the same area?

MJ: Yes, yes a lot of them yes but there were a lot in Rockford; Rockford and Beloit were kind of a commute place where that's where they went because they stayed in their own group you know they couldn't speak so they stayed within themselves.

JS: So they lived in the Beloit area and the Rockford area?

MJ: In the Rockford area my dad drove a taxi between Beloit and Rockford.

JS: How did they find a place to live then?

MJ: They just bought nine times out of 10 they just bought a place.

JS: And they wanted to be by other Italians?

MJ: Yes.

JS: Did they have jobs when they got here?

MJ: No they had to look for jobs and my dad started with Fairbanks Morse and Company at that time and he worked there 33 years.

JS: What type of work?

MJ: Just labor foundry work that's what they got just like the Mexican people now they get all those hard labor jobs.

JS: You mentioned he drove a cab.

MJ: He drove a cab I don't know how long and I think it was his own private car. I don't think it was a company.

JS: Did they both work outside the home?

MJ: My mother worked a little while. There was an overall factory in Beloit, Rosenblatt. It was called Rosenblatt and she worked there but she got pregnant right away so then she didn't she only worked a short time.

JS: How many children did she have?

MJ: She had four two boys and two girls.

JS: Did they speak any English your parents?

MJ: No, no no, no not at all.

JS: Did anyone in the family?

MJ: Not in their family but they always had somebody in the town in their group that could, either a child from an immigrant that would help them with whatever and some of them charged a fee and some of them didn't.

JS: So they eventually learned to speak?

MJ: Yes kind of they never spoke well in fact I didn't speak English when I went to school until I went to school.

JS: Everyone in your family just spoke Italian?

JS: We spoke Italian. We had moved from Beloit to South Beloit and out in the country and we had no neighbors so all we had were our parents.

JS: They didn't want you to speak English necessarily?

MJ: Oh no, no that's not true. No my dad was for education. He insisted that we go to school although he taught us how to read and write Italian also.

JS: Do you speak it now?

MJ: Oh sure I'm out of practice because I haven't spoken to anyone for so many years until I go to Italy and speak or they call me or something. My sister and I kind of jaw back and forth about it but we don't carry on a conversation.

JS: How about your children do they speak?

MJ: They understand everything but they are ashamed to try and speak because they don't pronounce the words well and they shouldn't. Now Linda my daughter, Linda she can speak if she wants to in a pinch because she took some courses in school in the University of Wisconsin.

JS: Now you mentioned you were out in the country but did you associate with mainly Italian people?

MJ: Yes for awhile until and we had some neighbors who were maybe a block or so away and my mother would talk with them and of course people would come and you would learn and they had a little house that they rented out and there would be in later years it was rented out and there would always be English-speaking people there.

JS: Where did you go to church?

MJ: We were not churchgoers. My dad was not. He was an agnostic. He believed in a higher power but he did not believe in organized religion but he was very honest.

JS: How about other organizations?

MJ: Mostly Italian [Alegamuta] Club and the Humanity Club. There was a prejudice in the Italian people too the southern versus the northern and they kind of grew and had their own little clubs and stuff.

JS: So they kind of separated themselves?

MJ: They separated themselves not just like United States was you dealt with them but you didn't associate with them.

JS: That was pretty common?

MJ: Pretty common I think at least I know it was in South Beloit.

JS: You say they didn't get along. Did they argue; did they ignore each other?

MJ: I don't want to tell you because I think a little prejudice goes in there.

JS: Were your parents active in politics or community actions?

MJ: No they had their ideas what they believed in and what they wanted but they didn't actually get into the activities any the political.

JS: Do you think that they were avoiding doing that or just weren't interested?

MJ: Oh no they were interested. They read the papers and the radio when the radio when we got a radio both of them were very, very - in fact I think my mother was more than my dad but he had definite ideas.

JS: Did they vote?

MJ: Every time, as soon as they became citizens. My dad went in the service in the United States. In those days you made your first papers and then if you went in the Army for service you automatically got your second papers so he went in service and got his second citizenship papers.

JS: How long was he in?

MJ: We're not real sure but about a year.

JS: Where was he stationed?

MJ: In I think Atlanta, Georgia I've heard him.

JS: Do you remember him being gone?

MJ: No, t is was before my mother and he married.

JS: Okay when he was in this country by himself?

MJ: Yes he was in 1917 or 18.

JS: Did he talk much about that was in the service?

MJ: Yes but not very much. He talked about it and being down there being hot and eating watermelon.

JS: So he was in the Italian Army in the United States Army is that correct?

MJ: No he was in the United States Army.

JS: I thought back in the other country?

MJ: In the other country he was in the Italian Army.

JS: Did they ever get back to Italy?

MJ: Yes of course they had to go through the war without knowing what was happening to family and stuff but they went back after 43 years. They went back for six months.

JS: All of you?

MJ: No just my mother and dad. In 1946 we bought a grocery store well we had never had any money but my uncle helped and we bought this grocery store. We did really, really well and in 1946 I'm not sure of the date anyway after awhile we sent them to Italy. They stayed for six months.

JS: Where did they stay?

MJ: With family, my mother's sister mostly but my dad had relatives too so he stayed with them too.

JS: Tell me about their reaction to going back home.

MJ: They had a good time mostly with family the changes of course in those 43 years were had a lot of changes. The people lived better after the war of course Americans helped rebuild and so they saw that.

JS: Were there quite a few of their family living there?

MJ: At that time there were except of course the parents were gone but sisters and brothers cousins were all.

JS: Do you think they were glad to get back?

MJ: Oh yes they went back to visit but they had no intention of staying.

JS: Did any family follow them back here?

MJ: No, no I can't think of anybody.

JS: So that was the one and only time though that they went back to Italy?

MJ: That was the only time.

JS: Did they encourage their children to help other family members economically that came to this country?

MJ: No we never, they helped but it was like \$10 at a time in an envelope to send just like at Christmas time it was nothing financially. I think my dad did he was more to give to his family but after the war actually I don't know what happened before after the war they did pretty well by themselves.

JS: With the grocery store?

MJ: No we did well because after the children got older and helped but my dad did pretty good he did pretty good anyway even though with the kind of job that he built a house in 1925, started to build and then of course the depression came, the crash came in 29 and it was rough hard times couldn't find a job. I remember he'd get up at four o'clock in the morning and walk way up to

Fairbanks to be told that there was nothing so he'd walk all the way back in the winter. I remember so cold and four children to support. He did everything to; he'd go out and work for farmers. I remember one time he worked for these two brother farmers and they paid him with corncobs for heat but they burned so fast they give good heat, hot heat but they burned so fast.

JS: So they didn't last long?

MJ: No and we had some rough times.

JS: How old were you then?

MJ: Well in 29 I was eight, seven, eight.

JS: So you remember those times?

MJ: I remember them very well, very well. We always had plenty to eat because my dad had a big, big garden all the time and my mother canned everything and they raised chickens and they raised rabbits and we always had seemed like we always had plenty to eat .We never had any clothes it was made but my dad always had a nice outfit in case of a funeral so he could go. My mother never had much in those days you know the man was the breadwinner and he got the privileges and being Italian that's a little bit...

JS: What kind of food did you have it your house in an Italian home?

MJ: Soup mostly, lots of different kinds of soup. My mother made her own noodles and on Sunday we had spaghetti or noodles, some kind of noodles and vegetables and lots of lots of vegetables I remember.

JS: Did they bring a lot of their Italian cuisine too?

MJ: Oh yes my mother that's all my mother knew. I remember her trying to bake and she was not very good. In her domestic work. When she was in Italy she was the main first course cook because she worked for countesses and very, very wealthy people consulate to Norway; she worked for them and so she could really cook and made wonderful, wonderful noodles and ravioli and all of those...

JS: Desserts?

MJ: No desserts. She was not a desert cook. She could make vanilla pudding and that kind of stuff but no cakes. She wasn't very good at it.

JS: Do you think when they came here your parents that they planned to stay here for the rest of their life or was it just I'm going to do this for a while?

MJ: I don't ever remember them talking about ever going back to live. I never remember that.

JS: Do you feel that they missed their home country?

MJ: Oh they missed it, oh yes, oh yes. They missed their family. I don't know that they ever missed the country because I remember my dad not ever saying it was wonderful because they remembered when they were there until they went back to see their progress it wasn't good memories you know things were rough. I don't think my dad was as poor as my mother being that she lost her mother so young.

JS: What you think was the most disappointing part of moving here for your mother and your dad?

MJ: Not being able to find a good paying job that they had to do all the hard labor job. My dad was a very smart person. I think he could've learned to do most anything.

JS: Did he take any classes?

MJ: No there were no opportunities to take classes like there is now. I remember him being so happy when they built a vocational school in Beloit but he was at that time he never thought of going back for himself.

JS: What do you think they thought about American culture?

MJ: We were always, America was always more liberal than my folks ever saw when they were in Italy. They disapproved of the drinking. We had neighbors who over drank and I remember them talking that they never approved of people abusing whatever it was, alcohol or anything. My dad made wine every year and gave it away mostly because neither of them drank much. They drank with their meals but they never drank in between. Maybe if they had a party they would have it some but we had a lot of people come into our home. They were always welcome. My mother was always a lot of fun and they played cards and my dad had at one time had built a bocce ball alley in the backyard .We had people coming from all over the place.

JS: Do you think they were open to new ways when they got here?

MJ: Oh yes my mom was very progressive, very.

JS: Did they make some of their own traditions? Did they bring over their own traditions from Italy?

MJ: In the beginning they brought their own you know whatever traditions they had but as we got older and we formed our own like we never had a birthday party when we were kids but when our children were born and we were married and had children then we would have birthday parties. My mother and dad thought that was great.

JS: Why do you think they never had them for your children?

MJ: We didn't have money. We didn't have any money to do anything. I know my mom would make ragdolls out of socks and things for us but we had I remember only having one doll when I was a kid.

JS: So what happened on your birthday?

MJ: They were just remembered it was just teasing you and give you a spanking for your birthday 6, 7 spans whatever it was and that's about it.

JS: But in Italy they did celebrate birthdays?

MJ: I don't know that they did. I don't know about that.

JS: Were there other customs or traditions that they brought over?

MJ: Music although my folks, my mother was a great opera buff. She loved to listen to opera. We listened to it every Saturday morning. It would be on the radio and she'd think she could sing every song.

JS: She had a nice voice?

MJ: Nothing spectacular. My dad had a better singing voice and they sang their traditional songs, story songs.

JS: They taught them to you?

MJ: Only through osmosis. They never sat down. My dad taught us to read and write Italian and my dad was a reader. He had read all the Divine Comedy and all those good literature.

JS: How about superstitions?

MJ: No my dad did not believe in anything superstitious.

JS: Or your mother?

MJ: No.

JS: How about celebrations, Italian celebrations are there special days?

MJ: The only day I remember is May 1 that was Labor Day.

JS: Labor Day?

MJ: Yes, in Italy.

JS: And what did they do?

MJ: Just got together with the other families and not really anything much that I can remember I don't know.

JS: Do you observe that day in your family?

MJ: No, no.

JS: Did your parents think it was important that you remember your roots?

MJ: Oh absolutely, absolutely. My mother especially, she always spoke of family and having to go back to visit I know she always said someday you should go back to visit. My dad was more detached.

JS: Did they leave a lot of family?

MJ: Yes my dad had nine brothers and sisters and my mother had three sisters; there were four girls.

JS: Some came here and some did not?

MJ: My dad's family, my mother's family never came.

JS: When you were young did you have were you interested in finding out about all these relatives?

MJ: Yes we had always had heard about them and knew everything from over there. In fact when we went back to visit they were amazed that we knew so much about their history.

JS: So it was the histories too that you learned about then, the customs?

MJ: The history mostly. The customs, we never only whatever my mother and dad had on their own and I can't remember anything definite but...

JS: Say, when you were a teenager were you more interested in what was going on in America than you were or what was going on in Italy?

MJ: Yes because we were taking history and stuff in school and you get interested in that but my dad would tell us about Italy and of course he was against Mussolini and talked against them and the fascists because they were so brutal in those days. I know my mother telling about her father being beat up because he wouldn't go along with them and my dad I don't think his dad took part in anything too much and they were older. I think my dad's dad was older and he died in 33 I think. We never knew too much about him.

JS: I didn't ask you this before but what did his father do?

MJ: His father was I guess you would call him a peddler. He would peddle, he would have a mule and a cart and he would go and peddle merchandise in the area. In fact my cousin is still doing that but now he has a truck, more stuff.

JS: What kind of merchandise?

MJ: Oh it could be pots and pans and vegetables and whatever. People made sort of a living.

JS: Now what about your mother's?

MJ: My mother's dad bought and sold cattle but I don't know too much about what he did.

JS: Did you find that the older you got the more interest you had?

MJ: Yes much more. It was just with my mother we would talk a lot and she always insisted that we should go and visit so after my daughter Linda grew up and Linda went back she was the first one my daughter Linda and she went back and spent time with the families and then a few years later 11 of us went and spent three weeks.

JS: When you were growing up were you proud that your parents were from Italy?

MJ: You didn't dare in those days that I can remember when we were younger you didn't know the difference but when you got to be the war then you didn't dare say that you were Italian. We also weren't very proud because there was a lot of prejudice in those days. You didn't dare. I was kind of a rebel and I didn't care. I'd speak Italian if I felt like it or if I met some of the old-timers like downtown or something I spoke to them in Italian but a lot of the Italian children didn't because of the prejudice.

JS: How were they treated?

MJ: They weren't, they weren't treated too good. We had an element that were always outside the law would be at that time we called them bootleggers. They would make liquors and sell them and it was prohibition at that time and they would sell that and it would be against the law of course the Mafia was in...

JS: Even around here?

M: Oh yes South Beloit was quite notorious for Mafia doings.

JS: Were there a lot of your Italian not your family but Italian people that you knew that were involved?

MJ: Oh yes. We didn't know families we knew who they were because there was where that prejudice that was separated from...

JS: How about when you were in school though like grade school did they did people?

MJ: I don't think, there were some but I felt I remember as kind of an outcast because there were only three families that came from the area that my folks came from. The rest all came from the southern area so I always felt kind of outside because of the prejudice even in my parents we weren't more or less allowed to associate not because they said you can't it was just kind of a built-in thing that you didn't want to be with them although my girlfriend was of a different from southern Italy

JS: Now what about your four daughters are they interested in their culture?

MJ: Oh yes, oh yes and they've all gone back. We have all gone back to visit.

JS: Do you, did your parents and you keep in touch with people in Italy?

MJ: Oh yes we still do. Oh yes of course you have to realize that during that war period there was no communication or even up until the war even a little while before the war you didn't communicate.

JS: Did you have family that was affected by, were there any people killed in your family?

MJ: Well my one cousin, the son to one of my dad's brothers that was here he was born here and then when they talked of the first world war then my uncle thought he would never be able to get back to Italy so he went and took his family back to Italy so then the World War II they were talking about it and so my aunt sent this boy back he was 12 at the time to get a better life in America and so she had a sister here and she sent this boy back here to get an education and the aunt died during that time before the boy was grown up in the uncle kind of raised him and he went in service and he went to Japan in that conflict was killed there.

JS: Was your family in Italy your Italian relatives how were they affected by the war?

MJ: Oh it was right in the middle of the war lot of bombings and my grandfather a bomb hit his house and he was elderly and so lost his mind over it and that's another big story if you want to hear it. Okay he lost his mind and my aunt took care of him she was not married and she strapped him to her wrist for two months to drag him back and forth as a front would come through then she'd have to run for the hills and hide and she had to drag him along and it got so bad that they had to put him in a rest home run by the Church in a little town that was way up in the hills and she couldn't get to him. They got him there but she couldn't visit. Well he died while the war was on. They couldn't have a funeral because of the war so they buried him in the crypt of a church in that little town where they stored all their stuff down in their mattresses and stuff they would hide. They had hidden stuff and so they put him down on a mattress down in his crypt and then cemented over the floor and it's right in the middle of the Church and so then years later when my younger cousin was 14 they were playing around and they heard about this in the church and so they dug it up they took the mortar out and there was my grandfather perfect condition and they brought him up and they had a funeral then and this was probably 20 years later.

JS: So when you were growing up we'll go back to that for a little bit here you said the fact that they were Italian it didn't embarrass you did it the fact that they spoke a different language didn't embarrass you?

MJ: You mean English and Italian, no.

JS: Did they give you a hard time about things that you wanted to do that were maybe more American than their traditions?

MJ: Oh sure well like I said I was kind of a rebel. I did what I wanted to do.

JS: Were you the oldest?

MJ: I was the oldest and I always had my own mind about what I wanted to do.

JS: What didn't they like that you would?

MJ: Well going away from home to play outside your neighborhood, outside your home and I would forget to come home and be playing across the tracks with the kids over there and I don't ever remember having any prejudice in my mind as far as who I played with I played with other Italian children. I played with black children; it didn't make any difference as long as we were playing. I loved to play baseball and so we would always have a baseball game.

JS: How about your parents did they not like it that you played with a certain?

MJ: No, no my folks were not other than this prejudice this because of the different cultures in their own Italian no they never cared about that.

JS: How about when you got in high school did they have trouble kind of letting you go if you were the oldest?

MJ: Oh yes we were not able to date or anything like that everything you did you had to sneak because your parents although my mom was probably quite progressive. She wasn't because I met my husband when I was 17 and they took him right in and they were very, very good to him.

JS: Did you do school activities like going to ball games?

MJ: Some, I met him at a football game but no we couldn't because we lived out in the country and I tried and tried to be in plays but I could never quite finish because I had no way of getting back and forth . We lived on the other highway and we had to come over here to South Beloit High School and we just had no ways of getting there and it was dark in those days you didn't go out after dark.

JS: Would they have approved though would it have been all right for you to be in plays?

MJ: I think so I don't think they understood all of it, why we should have to do that because I don't think they had anything like that in Italy.

JS: Do you try to tell your children a lot about the culture that you grew up with?

MJ: They kind of know because my mother helped me raise them because we had a grocery store at the time and I had these four little girls and they spent a lot of time with her so they know the culture.

JS: Your parents were naturalized citizens?

MJ: Yes

JS: What was that like when they became citizens?

MJ: Well I don't remember my dad becoming one and I'm not real sure about my mother whether she became a citizen because she married a citizen or if she it seems to me she had to take some kind of a test but I don't remember that.

JS: So they didn't make a big deal?

MJ: No they were just, they were talking about you know this was after the depression and Roosevelt got in and they were talking about Social Security and that's when they really got interested because being that they didn't ever make any money and weren't able to save then they felt that Social Security would help when they retired and it proved to be so. They had a wonderful life after my dad retired and the few years that they lived my mother lived until she was 72 but in those 6,7 years from the time they were retired 10 years maybe they had a wonderful life.

JS: Did she pass away before your father?

MJ: Oh yes, yes she had a stroke, severe stroke.

JS: How old was your father then?

MJ: My father was 85. My husband and I after she passed away and our girls were already grown and gone we moved in to take care of him and he lived 12 years.

JS: Do you think that they had any regrets about coming to the United States?

MJ: Other than leaving family I don't think they had any regrets as far as the country. I can't ever remember them ever saying that they regretted it. My mother was pretty family oriented, our own family and wherever her children were that's where she wanted to be. She missed her sisters and that.

JS: So you don't think they ever regretted coming here?

MJ: Probably during the Depression they probably might've had some regrets but they never spoke of it that I can remember.

JS: How do you feel about the current debate in this country about immigrants legal or illegal?

MJ: I don't know I have mixed emotions. I wish they could do it easier. I think we need immigrants but they should make it easier for them to be able to come without having to be illegal. I don't have any anti-immigrant feelings. I really am for them but I wish they could do it legally rather than illegal.

JS: You mentioned earlier that you had a brother that was in the war?

MS: Yes he was my oldest brother and his name was Bruno Nicholas Ganassi and he went into the service when he was 17. My dad and mother had to sign for him and he went into the Navy and took his training in Chicago and then the war broke out and he could speak and read and write Italian so they got them into the Secret Service and he was an OSS. Office of Strategic Services and they sent him to Italy and he was a radio man and he jumped behind enemy lines and went through the war and he was at Anzio and went through the war and while he was there he was behind the lines so he went over to see the relatives at that time.

JS: Was this at the time that Italy was liberated?

MJ: Yes well it was liberated soon after in 47 and I think he went over there in the latter part of 45

JS: Had he met these relatives before?

MJ: No, no he went, it's very emotional because my brother is gone and all. He went back to the little town where they came from which is called Porta Chino, little bridge and my grandfather had died two weeks before he got there.

JS: So he connected with his relatives?

MJ: Yes he went to this house and my aunt came to the door and he said I am Bruno. I am Teresa's son and she passed out. But they had a good reunion and had a lot of laughs and of course he told her about over here and how my mother how tough it was and he met a lot of the relatives of his. His grandfather had just died but they couldn't get up there to where he was buried that was another big story that little town where he was buried in front was right there and somebody the partisans my brother worked with the partisans which were against Mussolini. Somehow a couple of the German soldiers got killed and the Germans came in and took it out on the whole town. They killed 129 men and boys and they were in church that Sunday morning and they came in and killed them all in this church and there is a big you can see the wall is all where the shots where the bullets hit and there's quite a story in that little town.

JS: And this is where your grandfather was buried?

MJ: Buried yes he didn't come from that town but that was where the church had the rest home.

JS: You have a lot of happy memories and a lot of sad memories?

MJ: A lot of sad when I think of my brother.

JS: Did he live to be quite old?

MJ: Well I don't remember exactly how old he was the date kind of leaves you know but he had cancer of the lung. He smoked, cancer of the lung but he was quite a person he was he had definite ideas and he was very, very strict.

JS: Did he live in the area also?

MJ: He lived in California. He had eight children, beautiful children so nice they're such nice, nice children. He would be so proud of them.