

CWM Audio 70-5

Interview with Laura Herriott Ortiz and Donna Ward

July 20th, 2017.

Part 2

Interview conducted by LaVahn Hoh

Laura Herriott: Everything didn't get the best of me. Well I'm not done yet, it might still get the best of me yet, but.

Donna Ward: No.

Laura Herriott: And my father was a drinker. We drink when we're happy, we drink when we're sad. We drink when it's dinner time, we drink when it's ... I mean my father was like funny because ... The greatest history in the world right here. We lived here seven years, our little house was right here, outside the back gate of the Circus World Museum, the little ... Mr. Deppe redid this little house. Mr. Deppe was a slum lord in there, he owned everything, you know who Mr. Deppe was?
[00:00:30]

LaVahn Hoh: I never met him, but I know who he is.

Laura Herriott: You know who he was. And he, he would drive down with his car with his big cigar, and he had this little house, and he ... We lived there. I think my parents ... I don't know if my parents were rent free or what, I don't know. Little small house, but we had a home, and a beautiful backyard. We had world class barbecues out of that backyard. But my father would go up the street to Dabrowski's, right here. It's right on the corner of Lynn street.
[00:01:00]

LaVahn Hoh: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Laura Herriott: And, they became like friends of the family. My father would go in morning to have his coffee and his donut. He has one cup of coffee a day, and then he'd come and go to work, or he'd drive me to school, or he'd whatever. But first thing in the morning, he would go and have his coffee. And then he'd probably go up there and have a beer and a hotdog for lunch. My dad loved a hotdog or a chilidog better than anything in the world. And then after work, he'd go up to Dabrowski's and have his few beers. And I'd call there as a little girl, and I'd say "Mr. Dabrowski, can you tell my daddy to come home for dinner?" And he'd say "John it's time for dinner" and my dad would go, come home for dinner.
[00:01:30]

LaVahn Hoh: Yeah.

Laura Herriott: And it was never like a, drunken thing, or a my mother didn't have to go up there and "Let's go" you know it wasn't ... It was just his ... He'd sit up there in the morning and read his paper. My father was a very historical fanatic, and ... Did you ever meet my

[00:02:00] father?

LaVahn Hoh: I did.

Laura You did?

Herriott:

LaVahn Hoh: I did, but I'm sure he couldn't pick me out of a load, or a crowd of one, but-

Laura Did he ... He was a, had, a historical fanatic, and he was like very political. I would die to

Herriott: know what he thought of all this.