

Oral History Interview Transcript

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Interviewer: Aidan Huber

Interviewee: Lorraine Huber

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Aidan: Okay, so I'm going to be interviewing Lorraine Huber, my grandmother, my dad's mother. And I'm not sure if you want to start with saying where you were born and where you live right now.

Lorraine: I was born in Colorado, in 1939. And as a child, maybe two years old, we moved to Utah. Where I lived until my 17th birthday. I went to school, a small Catholic school in Utah. There were like 12 in my class, graduating class. It was like family, you know. It was so small. I was taught by the daughters of Charity. And What else? I went to school. Grade school in a coal mining town where I walked to school about two miles to school. Maybe even longer to school and back every day until I got into high school. And we living in a coal mining town. So, it was we lived in a canyon, so there was a lot of mountains that I was able to play and climb and do a lot of things like that, a lot of different nowadays. We had a lot of freedom growing up.

Aidan: Did many people have bikes? Did people like bike to school or was that not too big?

Lorraine: Oh no. I don't think, we any. I think I got a bike until when I was a little bit older, but we didn't use that to go to school.

Aidan: No.

Lorraine: No, no, but we walked to school. It was quite a ways. It was. I don't know how to explain it. It was very nice compared in these days, you know. Yeah. I had a dog. I called him King, and he went to school with me every day, and he was there when I got off of school to walk me home again.

Aidan: Would he just sit outside and wait for you at school, or did you bring him inside?

Lorraine: No, yeah. I was raised by an aunt, and she said that he knew what time I would be. For lunch, and he'd go down to the school and he'd be there when I got out for lunch. Then when I got off from school, he was there again, waiting for me. He was my little protector, my pal. Yeah, he was just a no breed. Just, I don't even remember where I got him, but I had him from the time I was little. And then from there, I got into high school and we moved to Price, Utah, another small town. And then I went to school. That's when I went to Catholic high school, from the seventh to my senior year. And my dog would go to the bus stop with me. We had the yellow school buses when he spoke.

Aidan: Was it still King or someone else?

Lorraine: No, it was still King. And he'd wait at the bus stop till I got on the bus, and then he'd go home. And my aunt said that he recognized the sound. You know, everybody had a yellow school bus in those days. But she said he knew the sound of my bus, and he'd run to the meet me at the highway was not highway when he heard my bus coming. So, and he'd wake me up for school in the morning. And this is unusual, nobody thinks. But I didn't have an alarm or anything to get up to go to school. But he would wake me up every morning at 6:30, you know, he knew he stayed in my room, and he was, he was just my pal. He took care of me. I'd go babysitting. He'd go with me. We'd race, we'd have a race, and we'd run. Is that interesting for you?

Aidan: Yeah, no. That's so cute. That reminds me of our dogs now. My dad jokes that they're his alarm clock because they'll just lick him in his face or wake him up to feed them in the morning. So, he never has to worry about waking up because they'll wake him up.

Lorraine: He knew I got to be, you know, that old. My aunt said, well, you're old enough to get up by yourself now. And I depended on him to wake me up. Yeah, yeah, he took care of me. So then we'd race, we'd play, we'd dance. You know, he was my pal, you know, and protect him. He was very protective of me. If anybody came near me or act like they were hurting me, he'd growl at him. You know, when walking home from school, that's what he would do. He'd lean against me and walk right next to me, you know. It was, it was just a very unusual dog. Yeah. And I, I had him till I graduated from high school, and we lost him that year. Yeah.

Aidan: Oh, I'm sorry.

Lorraine: Yeah so, I almost my whole life you know. And then when I graduated from high school. Oh, I forgot to tell you about the summers. I spent a lot of summers in Colorado with my grandparents, helping them on their farm.

Aidan: Oh, what kind of farm did they have?

Lorraine: I don't know, they raised alfalfa, they had cattle, they had sheep, they had chickens. They had everything. Pigs. Yeah. And I helped them. And in those days, they didn't have running water. They had a well. So, we used to have to pump water from a well and carry it up to the house.

Aidan: Oh jeez!

Lorraine: And that was you know, they lived way out of town, you know.

Aidan: Yeah.

Lorraine: Yeah. And I, I help them with the farm and I fed their animals that didn't have mothers. You know, I had a lamb that I fed with a Coke bottle with a nipple on it and the calf, I had a bucket with a nipple on it and fed him. They sent him to the auction when I came back home and they sold him and they sent me the money from the cow. Their calf, it was the little calf.

Aidan: Awww.

Lorraine: Yeah. And I used to ride horse, but they had a horse that I used to go out and catch myself and saddle him and ride him. Yeah, then I would bring in the cows at night, you know, for them and I did that every summer till I graduated from high school. And I loved it. I loved being on the farm, you know.

Aidan: Did you ever ride bareback?

Lorraine: I did, because I'd bring it up to something that I could stand on so I could get on top of it. I think. What was? I can't even remember what her name is now. I think her name was beauty. She was an older horse. So she was real calm, you know? Yeah, that's about. Farm. I worked on the farm with them. I did everything, you know, build helping with the baling hay.

And it was something I really enjoyed. You know, nobody else did, but I, I did. I really enjoyed it.

Aidan: Did they plant any crops or was it mainly just cattle?

Lorraine: They had alfalfa they planted.

Aidan: Oh, yeah. Alfalfa.

Lorraine: And my grandfather had his big garden, you know. He worked every day on his little garden. Yeah, yeah, it was, it was totally different than what life is nowadays, you know.

Aidan: How's your little garden doing?

Lorraine: Oh, my little garden is gone. I didn't plant it this year.

Aidan: Okay.

Lorraine: Yeah, it was a little bit too much. So, no garden this year. I got two tomato plants growing out in the patio, but that's it.

Aidan: At least you'll still have some good tomatoes.

Lorraine: Yeah, I kind of miss the garden, but we have problems here with this. Everybody's got a problem with animals. Kind of. So. And I put the fence, so I don't get the deer anymore, which I miss. Everybody's locked out the deers. They don't want the deers around because they devour everything. One time they came down and I swear, there must have been a whole herd of them, because I had nothing left in my garden. And then What? What else? Where did I go from? Utah.

Aidan: When you were on the farm, did you guys have to deal with a lot of random animals coming by, too?

Lorraine: No, I don't think so. I don't remember, just a bobcat maybe, but I don't. But they had a dog that probably scared them all off. You know, his name was Chow, Chow dog. Yeah. And. Yeah. And there's. I think his name was the Chow-chow. Like muchacho for a boy in Spanish.

Aidan: Yeah.

Lorraine: Yeah, I think everybody was afraid of him. Probably the animals too, but I don't remember any wild animals other than deer coming down. Yeah. Not on the farm. It's probably more wild animals than your dad's place than there is here. And we've.

Aidan: Yeah, we've had some wild animals. I remember we had a mountain lion one time. That's probably the craziest thing we've ever had.

Lorraine: Yeah, there was mountain lions in Utah, but I don't think in those days they probably had a lot of hunting. They could hunt themselves. They didn't bother the people, you know. They were... You'd see them way up in the, it was really rocky, like rocky caves and that there, so.

Aidan: Did people hunt a lot when you lived in Utah and Colorado?

Lorraine: Did they what?

Aidan: Did people hunt a lot when you lived in Utah and in Colorado?

Lorraine: Oh, yeah. Deer hunting was, deer hunting. They went for deer a lot, and fish. We did a lot of fishing in Utah.

Aidan: I've always wanted to go fishing there because I've been fishing in Montana, and I've heard a lot of good things about Utah.

Lorraine: I still have my fishing license from when I turned 16. I saved them. Yeah, I still have it.

Aidan: Yeah. I have my boating license for Utah because we've gone there once or twice. Yeah. So that's always fun.

Lorraine: Yeah. So, I never got to Salt Lake in that growing up. I passed through it when I moved out here, but I was just mostly small-town girl, you know?

Aidan: Yeah.

Lorraine: Where everybody knows everybody's name, you hear. Yeah.

Aidan: Yeah, I love that, though. That's one of the things I loved about boarding school at Hotchkiss was my school was like 600 kids and then like, maybe like 200 faculty members, including their families. And it was like everyone knew everybody. And there was a town next to us who was probably smaller than us. And like you knew most of the shop owners. And it was it was so great.

Lorraine: Yeah, well, you know, Utah is a Mormon, was a Mormon. Well, it still is probably a Mormon state. But when I was growing up, it was a real Mormon state. And you couldn't buy alcohol in the stores or, I mean, in place, you had to buy it at a liquor store, and you had to have a license in order to buy from that store. And they controlled the radio station. So, when Elvis Presley came on, forget it, no could listen to Elvis Presley, no rock and roll. Yeah, they owned the radio station. That's okay. I didn't like that kind of music. Anyway. We had no television. We had no telephones. And then when they did get phones it was party line.

Aidan: So, in Utah you guys just had a radio?

Lorraine: Yeah. When I was growing up we had a radio. We listened, I on Sundays listen to The Shadow Knows and The Green Hornet and the those are things you probably don't even know about.

Aidan: The Green Hornet has stuck around a lot since the radio shows. They made a comic book, and there's been TV shows and a movie that's not every been super big, I think, in my day, but it's like stayed around, which is kind of amazing that it used to be a radio show.

Lorraine: Yeah, that's what we did. Well, not we, me, I listened to it, you know, radio. I was a reader. I love to read books. So

Aidan: When you're reading late at night, would you just be reading by candlelight?

Lorraine: I had a flashlight. In my room. Yeah, but I like to. Not like the normal people. I liked all the Westerns like wild Bill Hickok, Daniel Boone, and, you know, the Hardy Brothers. Yeah, Nancy Drew the mysteries. And I'd spend all my time reading, you know? But I enjoyed it, you know, until just a few years ago. Then I kind of had to give it up.

Aidan: Have you tried audiobooks at all, or no?

Lorraine: No, because I, I don't know, it doesn't sound right to me to, not to listen to it. Yeah. I used, reading a book was like watching a movie, you know. I could picture everything in my mind.

Aidan: Exactly. That's my favorite part about books, I guess, with audiobooks is kind of like, it's the same, like fix of the mystery if you get a mystery book, because my dad and I have a few series that we like, and but then it's kind of like, I don't know, my dad and I are both awful readers and I like to listen to it while I do other stuff. Yeah, it's just kind of nice to still, imagine things in my head.

Lorraine: I just a few years ago, because the prints are so small on everything that, you know, I can't read it. Like now I've got my reading glasses on so that I can see the screen, but yeah. What else?

Aidan: What did your aunt do in Colorado and Utah?

Lorraine: Well, my aunt and uncle raised me and my uncle was a coal miner. My aunt, when we moved to Utah, she got a boarding house so that she could raise my sister and I. She raised, there was five girls and my mother passed away at 28 when I was a baby. And my aunt. Took my sister and I. You know, to take care of. So, she got this boarding house where she had miners live there, and she fed them, and she had a couple of women that worked for her. And that way she could

take care of us, you know? So, I grew up with a lot of freedom that you just don't have nowadays. You know, I was outside playing and climbing and doing things, you know.

Aidan: Did she ever have you guys help out around the boarding house with the coal miners?

Lorraine: Nope, I was too young. And yes, I probably would have gotten in their way instead of helping. I was too young, so. But what else? But she had women that helped her, you know, worked, you know, but the stove that she cooked on was probably at least six feet long. And in those days, you didn't have electricity in that on your stove. She had to she used wood and coal on the stove.

Aidan: Was that the same kind of stove that you guys had at home to?

Lorraine: Oh, that was our home.

Aidan: Oh, okay. Okay.

Lorraine: One section of that was our where we lived.

Aidan: Okay.

Lorraine: Yeah, in the same building. It was a big building. Yeah. And she took care of all the coal miners that lived there and fed them.

Aidan: Was there only one coal mine in Price or were there multiple kind of around?

Lorraine: There was multiple coal miners. There was one in the town where I grew up, the canyon where I grew up. Then there was a different areas not that far away, maybe 20 miles or so, 30 miles some of them. But there was quite a few coal mines around. I think most of them are closed up now, but yeah. And then my dad moved to be with us, close to us, him and one of my other sisters that lived with him, and he was a coal miner. They were coal miners from the time they were young boys. You know, in those days you didn't have to be 18 or anything to work.

You were a young coal miner. So, then my dad moved to close to be close to us. So, I was had another sister that grew up close to me. Not with us, but close to us. Yeah, and then they graduated from high school, and they moved to California. And then, when I graduated, I moved out here to be with my sister, you know, that I was raised with. And I had a grandparent, mother, that lived out here and grandfather parents and an older sister that my grandparents raised here in California. That's when I met my grandparents on my mother's side. And then I had to get a job, so I went to work.

Aidan: Did you move straight to the Castro Valley area or where did you first go to in California?

Lorraine: First we moved in. We lived in Oakland.

Aidan: Okay.

Lorraine: Yeah. Oakland.

Aidan: So you've always kind of been up there?

Lorraine: It's all in the same Bay area.

Aidan: Yeah.

Lorraine: And I work for Bank of America, in Oakland. And I lived up the street in an apartment with your grandpa, and then he got drafted into the army, and they sent him. Well, he was in Carmel. Monterey, down that way for a while in basic training. And then from there, they shipped him to Alaska.

Aidan: When did you guys move to Alaska? Because I remember hearing about this and I was like, when was this?

Lorraine: Let's see. We had just been married a year, so that would be '61, probably in 1961.

Aidan: Wow, that's crazy.

Lorraine: And then he went on and then he came back and he got me and I went up. We drove up to Alaska. That was an experience.

Aidan: You guys drove to Alaska ?!

Lorraine: Alkyne. Alkyne, Elkan. I can't say it. Highway. And we stopped in Canada. I remember. And while we were sleeping at a place, a little cabin like it snowed. And you know, your grandpa was not used to snow. So, we had to drive on the highway and some salesman went part of the way, followed us, you know, because it was he was ready. Your grandpa was ready to get the car shipped up and catch the bus. Yeah. And then we went up a lake that took us all day to get around this lake. And I just knew that we were going to end up in that lake. It was scary, you know, icy highway, you know. Yeah. And then we one place was a trucker's cabin. We stayed in one place. It was just it was totally a different way of life that even that I was used to. Yeah. And then I decided to pick up a hitchhiker. He was an Indian, Eskimo Indian.

Aidan: Oh, my gosh.

Lorraine: And he smelled like fish, I remember, and he sat in the front. Our car had a whole front seat, you know, so he set the seat with us because our car was full of stuff. You know.

Lorraine: Your Grandpa...

Aidan: Crazy.

Lorraine: It was, he just saw this man walking down the highway. I think he'd been hunting or something. And I think we drove him as far as Prince George in Canada. You know.

Aidan: Okay.

Lorraine: And then we saw the mounted police there, you know, with their red coats.

Aidan: Yeah, and like the hats.

Lorraine: Yeah, yeah, yeah. That was in Prince George was the Prince George I think. Anyway, it was one city in Canada. Yeah. And that's where we dropped the Eskimo there with his hunting gear. I guess he was selling pellets and stuff there. It's just like a movie, you know? You watch those old movies? Yeah. That's what it was like. Yeah. And then we just kept going on until we got to Fairbanks, Alaska, where we moved to. That's a Fort Wainwright in Alaska. Yeah, that's. That's where we lived. And we lived in We rented a basement apartment. Just one room. I remember just one room in the basement of somebody's house. I think it was \$100 a month. And They had a garage that had a like a house connected to that, and the people moved out of that house. You know, they went probably Army and went home. So, they rented that to us. I worked in the bank in Alaska, First National Bank. And and I remember walking to work and it was so cold, I'd have, you know, in those days, women didn't wear pants, but I had carried my high heels and I had a pair of slacks under my dress, and I had a mitten. I had gloves and then mittens over my gloves and a scarf around my neck, and a scarf around my face and around my head. Just my eyes showed, and I walked to work. I think it was like 75 degrees below zero. So, when it got to be five degrees, it felt kind of warm.

Aidan: That's crazy. I think I looked the exact same when it was -11 here because I'm like, I don't know how to dress in this and I look just like that and, I can't believe that's what you guys thought. It was warm.

Lorraine: I walked in the house and it looked like I was crying because I guess everything frosted on me. But when I got to the warm house, it looked, all the water came down, melted off my face, you know, like I was crying. It was an experience. I tried driving once and I stopped at the stop sign, but the car didn't stop, and I kept going, and that was the end of my driving experience. I figured I didn't drive. If I need to go store somewhere, I'd walk.

Aidan: Yeah, that's, that's crazy. How did you guys keep the house so warm when it was so cold out?

Lorraine: I think they had a furnace. The people had a furnace, you know? Yeah, yeah. And then in the winter, that's how cold it was in the summertime, you had to keep the doors closed because of the mosquitoes. And I remember putting towels on the windows because it never got dark.

Aidan: Oh, my. Yeah, I forgot about that. It's like 23 hours of lightness of light or something.

Lorraine: Yeah. And it was nothing to do there. I think a lot of people drank. I think there was a bowling alley, I think, you know, and the theater, that's about the extent of things to do.

Aidan: Did the base not do more things for I guess like all the soldiers and their families?

Lorraine: If they did I didn't really. I went one. Well, a couple of times I went, I won't tell you the experiences I had, but I didn't like it at all. And I told your grandpa if he stayed in the army, I'd leave him. People were just not nice. They just weren't, you know, helpful or anything. I went to the commissary one time and ended up in an express line, and not one person would tell me I was in the wrong line until I got my groceries on the belt. That goes. And then they don't talk nice to you. They holler at you, lady, don't you know this express line? And that was it. After that I went to Safeway's and bought my food, even if I paid twice as much. So that was my. And then. The doctor. When I went to the doctor, they wanted my duty number, and I had no idea what my new duty number was. I wasn't in the Army. And then they holler at you, you know. And then I went to get a shot. Don't you know your duty number? So that was my experience. So, I would I didn't like it. The people were very nice. I had friends, you know, that lived there. They would go to their house and have dinner and that. And that was nice, you know. And my landlord was very nice, too, except for they had me babysitting for him all the time. Yeah. It was. We went riding out, out of the town one time and we ended up in a snowbank. Another soldier and your grandpa were doing the driving, and I thought we were going to die out there. We were never going to get out of that snowbank.

Aidan: Oh my gosh.

Lorraine: You know, Fairbanks is as far north. I think as you could go in those days, you know. And it's scary. And then you see these big bears in the distance. That's it. It was an experience, you know, I'm not sorry I went. I just wouldn't stay there.

Aidan: Yeah, it certainly sounds like it. I'm not sure if I could live in Alaska for more than. I'm not even sure if I can make it through one winter. That would be very, very rough. And I'm sure it's today. It's much more robust.

Lorraine: It's probably more modernized now, more people there than when I went because we went in the 60s, early 60s, you know, so only the military and the doctor I went to didn't like the military. He didn't like the army and he didn't like Alaska. He was, so I guess he was probably like me. He didn't like Alaska either. It's it wasn't the cold that bothered me. It just I guess I wasn't used to being out where people weren't very nice, you know? The military, but the people that worked there and I worked in the bank and there was a lot of people that, you know, were military that worked there too. Yes.

Aidan: And how long were you guys there, in total?

Lorraine: I can't remember, let's see, almost two years, I think, because your Uncle Joe was born when I got back. And he was born in 62. So, he missed it. We'd been there two years. But the people were nice, you know, that were. And your grandpa worked in the commissary, so he brought home a lot of carrots that he'd cut for the cook, you know, and bring me some food like that home.

Aidan: Yeah.

Lorraine: He liked it. He liked cooking for all these men.

Aidan: When you guys got back, is that when you guys moved to Castro Valley?

Lorraine: No, when I first got back, I still lived in Oakland. I lived with my sister till your grandpa came home and he did get out the army till later. And then we rented a house I think it was still in Oakland, but closer to San Leandro.

Lorraine: Yeah, then from there I went back to work to the bank again that I worked with before. Then my aunt that had raised me, passed away. So, I went back to Utah and stayed Christmas with my uncle. And while I was there, your grandpa and my sister, your grandpa bought a house in San Leandro. And they had us. By the time I got home with Joey. He was. They had moved me all in. So, I went to a new house when I got back, you know.

Aidan: Oh, wow.

Lorraine: And we celebrated Christmas after Christmas when I got back, and then I. I think I stayed home for like eight months, and then I went back to work, and that was in San Leandro, where we lived for 15 years. And that's where your Uncle Joe and your Uncle Bob and Uncle Jeff went to school, you know, in San Leandro. And let's see here. Your Uncle Joe was in high school, your dad was probably first or second grade. And then we moved to Castro Valley, where we lived till, they graduated from school. Anything else that I haven't missed?

Aidan: No no, no. It's great. I'm just kind of going through everything, asking questions.

Lorraine: Yeah, yeah. No, it was a different time. Like my sister said, we lived in a simple time. Simple. Like, even when the airport in Salt Lake was right off the highway. So, when I fly back to see my father, I fly back there and you get off the plane outside. You didn't have those, you know, what do you call them? Whatever you walk through now to get on the plane. Then you walk out there and then you walk out the airport, and then I get on a cab, and then I go to the bus station, get on a bus, and go to the small town that my dad lived in, you know. So, it was a little different, you know? Yeah. I think to me it was more enjoyable. It was easy, you know. Now I panic when I have to travel.

Aidan: Yeah, everything has just gotten so over complicated these days. Yeah. Definitely seems to kind of be harder than it used to be.

Lorraine: Even the computers are more complicated. Doing things like, at my age, you go someplace and everything's on a computer, you know? You need a password, and you know, so I managed to get through it all. I'm one of these when I work on the computer it's like trial and error. I don't give up and say oh I can't, I just mess with it till I can. Yeah, so I'm good at machines, I like machinery. I when I first came to California, I didn't tell you about that. When I first came to California, I had to get a work permit because I was only 17 and my uncle that brought me out to California took me to the. He had to sign for me to get a work permit, and they had revolving doors, which I had never seen a revolving door before. And I got in the same little cubicle, you know, the pie shaped thing, that my uncle was something we could hardly move. That was an experience, you know, he didn't even have elevators in our town. No streetlights. So such a small town. Yeah. But I got struck me as funny. You know, my uncle in the same little pie shaped, you know, because even the slightest I mean, the stores that they have now are much bigger. That one was a small one.

Aidan: Yeah. Even today, if you have two people in them, you kind of have to shuffle and you can, like, barely even move. You're like, falling on top of each other.

Lorraine: That's, so we laughed about a lot. Yeah, yeah. Things were strange for me coming to a city, you know, and from a small town.

Aidan: Yeah.

Lorraine: Then I worked for a company before I went to work for the bank. Like a company that sold products from home. You know, they have salesmen. I don't know if you ever heard of the Fuller Brush. They had so much salesmen that go out and sell, you know, stuff like products and that. And I worked in the billing department with IBM machine. Yeah. So yeah, I know in my time Fuller Brush man, that go door to door, you know. And this and this. This was the first company. And they sold spices and just household items and that, and they'd go to door to door and order them. And then I billing, you know, through the IBM machine, it was a big machine that you run through and it prints the invoices that goes out to the warehouse. They and then at the end of the week, I'd get all the cards. You put a pool of card for all the merchandise that people bought. At the end of the week, I'd run them through another sorting machine and into another machine that would print out what they sold for the week, that, you know, that would take care of their inventory. That was good, I loved machines. Then when I went and worked for the bank, I worked with another machine that was we'd sort all the checks by state and everything, and then you had a balance. At the end of the day, they had different pockets. Then you'd ship it out to another, somebody would come, messenger would come and pick up all that bank work. Yeah. And you should've seen the first adding machine I use was a what is it? I like. It wasn't a ten key that came later, it was that it would stand on a stand and add something on it. You had to work up a keyboard. Oh, here, pointing at you work up the keyboard. You know, it was big thing to work up the keyboard. And if you wanted to subtract something out, said you put something in wrong and you want to subtract it out. You had a nine it out. You think I don't remember how to do that anymore, but that's that's how I learned on an adding machine.

Aidan: It's ingrained into your mind.

Lorraine: It was a big...all the machineries that we used in those days are, were old, different, much different. But they were. I'm glad I got to use them.

Aidan: Did they change the machines on you guys a lot, or did they kind of just leave you with the same ones?

Lorraine: It was the same one till. Well, let's see. I quit working when your dad and your Uncle Jeff were in school and I worked for your grandpa. You know, when they were in school. Then I'd do the work at home, you know, when they were home. But when I came, and then I went back to work for the bank again. The same bank, Bank of America. And they had a little machine that wasn't really a computer, but it was different, you know, but after that, then they graduated to different computers. And then when I left the bank, it was they had checks, orders and big computers like they have nowadays. You know, we had there's a lot different. Yeah. Everything is different now. Let's see. I used to do a lot of the banking like balance the vault and all that with a big ledger. And when the tellers bring the money, I'd write it all in this big ledger. Then I had to run all those figures on it. Ten key adding machine and make balance the vault by hand, you know. Yeah. And then I remember one day the machines all went out so nobody could work. The teller says we can't add our computer don't work. They didn't know how to use an adding machine. Yeah. So, there was two other girls and me that were from old school where we did everything by hand. So, we waited on the customers. Yeah, and did it the old-fashioned way with just paper and pencil. Take their deposit. So. Yeah. That was unusual you know, to find all these kids that didn't know how to use, they couldn't do anything without their one of the little computers or whatever.

Aidan: Exactly. It pays to know the analog way.

Lorraine: See so we learn by hand, you know, the old fashioned way. But somebody give you money, you count it, you make a little ticket for it and put it through with their deposit. Well, these people, kids, were used to, you know, computers doing everything. And then when they went out, there was nothing. They didn't know how to do it. Yeah. And I'm a math person. I love math, so I always learn to remember everything. I multiply in my head and divide and do things so I wouldn't forget, you know? Now I, I forget now, but I enjoyed it, so I, I keep practicing. My sister always says, how can you remember everything? It's just a matter of practicing and doing, not letting things, you know, not forgetting about you don't use it. Yeah.

Aidan: Just practicing and wanting to remember goes a long way.

Lorraine: Yeah, yeah. So it's entertaining I enjoyed it. So same thing. People used to say, oh, how do you remember people's name? You know because I could remember my customer's name. You just have a system of how you do it, you know, to remember like one customer, her name was the same as one of my sisters. So, I knew her by name or just a sound or something. I remember people's names like even now with all my neighbors. They said, how do you remember everybody's name?

Aidan: Yeah.

Lorraine: I word associate, I associate it with something else that makes me remember.

Aidan: Yeah, that always help helps me too.

Lorraine: Yeah, or I write it down for a while until I finally get it remembered, memorized, you know? So, anyway, that's me. That's. Those are things I enjoy doing, you know? That's why it's probably easy for me, you know.

Aidan: I just have one final, final question for you. What were some of the biggest differences after moving from Utah to California, anything: emotionally like how it felt or just how things were different physically?

Lorraine: The weather for one thing, I don't know, just the people were I mean, the younger people were different, you know, than what I was used to, you know? Yeah. So. And the weather was like a damp. I was freezing when I was here, even if it wasn't wintertime, I was cold and I wanted to sleep all the time because I guess the altitude is different, you know, but you eventually your body gets used to it. But the younger generation surprised me a lot because, you know, coming from a small town, they were much different. Not they were they weren't they weren't as tame as I was.

Aidan: Yeah, they were much rowdier bunch.

Lorraine: Yeah, yeah. But other than that, it was a lot nicer then, you know, but a small town was different. It's like your family, you're like one big family, you know. My neighborhood everybody looked out for each other and it's, it was nice. And I lived out of town.

Aidan: Yeah. When you say people looked out for each other, outside of just helping out, what other what other ways do you mean?

Lorraine: Yeah. Like I was sick one time, and my aunt had gone back to Colorado to visit her mother, and I got sick. So my neighbor made me go stay with her, you know, because I was in

high school. And until I got out, you know, while my aunt was gone, you know, she lived across the street, you know. And things like that, you know? And it was like we buy eggs from the neighbor down the street, and we'd get something else, milk from the other, another neighbor. You know, it's just different, you know?

Aidan: Yeah.

Lorraine: Things like that. It's like family, you know?

Aidan: Yeah, like how it should be. Honestly.

Lorraine: Yeah, It was nice. And I used to have a bike. Remember I told you I got a bike when I was younger, and I used to take that bike and put it together myself and take it apart and put it together just to have passed the time. Pass the time away. And like I said, I was a tomboy, so I was, you know. Things like that I enjoy.

Aidan: Yeah.

Lorraine: Taking things apart and put them together. Just like now, if something breaks or something. I work at work fixing it myself and usually, I can do it. If I can't, I walk away and then come back later and try it again. That's what I tell myself. When things bother. I says, just put it down. Walk away, then come back later and usually it works you know.

Aidan: Sometimes you just need to take a little mental break, get some new scenery.

Lorraine: Right. Like I used to tell your Uncle Jeff where there's a will there's a way. And there's no such thing as don't, you can't. If you say you can't, it's because you don't want to. That's the way my aunt taught me. There's a will, there's a way. So that's why I guess I learned how to do a lot of things myself.

Aidan: Yeah

Lorraine: Anyway, that was my life.

Aidan: Thank you so much, grandma. Here, I'm going to stop the recording real quick.