

**Kennesaw State University  
Department of History and Philosophy  
Summer Hill Oral History Project**

**Interview with:** Elder Marvin Jones  
**Interviewed by:** Chris Weaks  
**Location:** The Jones' Residence  
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**Transcribed by:** Diana Godwin; January 2005

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(Tape 1, Side A.)

C.W: Can you state your name for me?

M.J: Marvin O. Jones.

C.W: Marvin O. Jones.

M.J: Better known as M.O.

C.W: Okay (laughing), where were you born Marvin, do you mind if I can you Marvin?

M.J: That's alright.

C.W: Okay.

M.J: In (unintelligible), Georgia, but I grew up here in Cartersville.

C.W: Okay.

M.J: (unintelligible) is just a few miles up the road in the country.

C.W: And what year were you born?

M.J: January 30, 1927.

C.W: 1927, okay, did you have any siblings when you were growing up?

M.J: (unintelligible).

C.W: Any brothers or sisters?

M.J: I have a brother and two sisters.

C.W: A brother and two sisters, and anyone else in your household besides your brother and sisters?

M.J: Well for a while there we were just family, but later on my cousin came and lived with us, my mother and I with the family.

C.W: Your cousin did?

M.J: Some of the cousins, uh huh.

C.W: Okay, a couple of them more than one?

M.J: Well one in particular her name was Cynthia.

C.W: Cynthia.

M.J: Uh huh, Cynthia Smith.

C.W: And how was she?

M.J: Well she was just a girl, a schoolgirl at that time.

C.W: Really?

M.J: Yes, uh huh.

C.W: And what did your family do for a living?

M.J: My mother worked as a domestic...

C.W: Worked in the household?

M.J: ...in peoples' homes like that, and sometimes she had worked in the laundry (unintelligible), and different types of jobs.

C.W: Okay, she worked around...

M.J: In the community, and she did domestic work to whatever job was available.

C.W: Okay, how about your father?

M.J: Well my father worked there from my knowing there, he worked down at Thompson Weyman Mill, old mill there, and of course my mother and my father, I was raised up in a single parent home, but my daddy supported me.

C.W: Okay, so your parents were divorced?

M.J: No they weren't married.

C.W: They were never married.

M.J: Never married no.

C.W: Okay and your dad worked in the mill, and your dad worked in the domestic.

M.J: Domestic, uh huh.

C.W: Okay, now when you lived in Summerville where did you live?

M.J: Summer Hill?

C.W: Summer Hill, I'm sorry, where did you live when you lived in Summer Hill?

M.J: When I went to school in Summer Hill?

C.W: Yes sir.

M.J: I started...I was living on Railroad Street, that's down next to the railroad tracks...

C.W: Okay.

M.J: ...and lived in that area.

C.W: Okay, and can you describe the house that you lived in, what it looked like and...

M.J: Well the first house that we lived in was three rooms a rental house, and of course we had to, sort of try to sleep all through there, but I was the baby so I slept wherever they put me and mostly with mama.

C.W: Really?

M.J: Uh huh.

C.W: Did yall have, now did your siblings did they, did yall share rooms, did your brother and sisters sometimes?

M.J: We shore did, sometimes me and my brother slept together there, which it was sort of crowded, but we had to combined those things.

C.W: So when the baby came then that was...

M.J: I was the baby...(laughing)

C.W: You were the baby.

M.J: I was the baby.

C.W: What was it like outside, did you have a fenced in yard or...

M.J: No fenced in yard, we were living in a rental house there, and we had pathways, but we didn't have anything that convenient, it wasn't like that. We all lived in a neighborhood, it was about four houses there I think when we first moved in that area, and later on a couple more was added on to, to make out the street.

C.W: Okay, so you only had four houses for a while?

M.J: About four houses for a while in that neighborhood if I remember correctly and later on some more built, because I helped a man build some of them that was there after I grew up, as I was growing up.

C.W: Wow, did you have any pets or anything, any dogs or cats or...?

M.J: Well we had some cats, they are precious little pets, didn't hardly have a dog, because we didn't have no room for a dog.

C.W: Right.

M.J: But the cats there we had, it because a very much a part of us.

C.W: Yeah, now did you get along, since you only had four neighbors, did yall get along pretty well?

M.J: Oh we got along right fine around there, they all made me mind. I belonged to the neighborhood and if Marvin acted up or didn't act right, and some of the neighbors told my mother, I had to pay the price.

C.W: Through your mother?

M.J: To them too.

C.W: So they could discipline you?

M.J: They could discipline me.

C.W: Really.

M.J: Yes and because mama couldn't raise me by herself, being a single mother and with children there she had to trust, and when she was going to work, and the neighbors I lived next door, which one was a Reverend and Miss Davis there, I was their child and if I acted ugly they could put some don't do it on my behind.

C.W: (laughing) So she could spank you?

M.J: Or get a switch and whip me and didn't nobody call defax then.

C.W: That was just how it was.

M.J: But I always knew they loved me.

C.W: Right, right, they were family.

M.J: Uh huh.

C.W: What was your role in the household, as far as doing chores or jobs?

M.J: Well, I had to help take care of things. I had to make sure that we were warm so I had to go up the track and pick up coal that had fallen off along side of the track and so many times the engineer would be very nice. When they would be wetting the coals off up on the train they'd let some of the water sort of knock some of the coal off where the people that didn't have anything could (unintelligible) what was there.

C.W: Really?

M.J: Yes, uh huh.

C.W: That was how you heated...

M.J: We stayed warm there, and I (unintelligible) and kept the fire going and maybe sometime we might get some wood or something like that, but my main job was when I got big enough there to go pick up some coal.

C.W: Now did you have a wood burning...

M.J: No it was a fire place.

C.W: Just a fire place.

M.J: A fire place that's one of those things where you cook on one end and freeze on the other.

C.W: (laughing).

M.J: (laughing) And everybody would have to try to get around that one fire place.

C.W: Huddle up to stay warm.

M.J: To stay warm uh huh.

C.W: Wow, now when you ate dinner did the whole family get together, did everyone eat together?

M.J: No, you had to get your food and eat because we didn't have enough room to have a dining room.

C.W: Okay.

M.J: Now sometimes you have to sit at the table (unintelligible) there, you got your plate where you could...

C.W: Where you could sit down.

M.J: Uh huh.

C.W: Now were Sunday dinners any different than anything else, did you have like a special time?

M.J: Well sometimes we had something special, but the Lord blessed us to have I said a right nice dinner, and the people my mother worked for was very loving and caring about mama Ethy, and they'd played a beautiful parole toward my mother and her four children.

C.W: The people, the neighborhood?

M.J: The neighborhood too, but the particular the white people that she worked for.

C.W: Oh okay.

M.J: And those in the community was very sweet too, so many of them.

C.W: They were nice to her?

M.J: Oh sure, sure, uh huh.

C.W: Now what types of food did yall eat when you were, what would be a typical meal?

M.J: Well one of the things that we had was some fat back and biscuits...

C.W: Fat back...

M.J: ...and some syrup and whatever was available, (unintelligible).

C.W: Right.

M.J: Uh huh, and but the thing about it we sat down and thanked the Lord for what we had, and it looked like we made it because me and my sister are still here.

C.W: Right, right, did a lot of the food come from the local community?

M.J: Well, anybody come by selling things, and then when what little money we make we could go to the store and make things stretch it and then so many times the people that would come by selling vegetables and things like that, and they were very nice.

C.W: Wow.

M.J: And like I said one thing that I'm really thankful for in this community that if they came by selling something, and my mother didn't have no money most of them wouldn't leave her empty.

C.W: Wow, wow, not what holidays did you celebrate, did you do Christmas, have any kind of Easter...?

M.J: Oh Christmas and Easter, uh huh.

C.W: Did you have, was that a time, did yall have a Christmas tree?

M.J: Oh yeah, I saw to that.

C.W: You did.

M.J: We'd go get the (unintelligible) axe there, I'd go get my little axe or (unintelligible) saw what we had, and some nice big old pine Christmas trees wasn't growing, pine trees wasn't growing too far from us and around about

Christmas time we'd go get us a Christmas tree. It wasn't cedar, but it was a Christmas tree.

C.W: It was a Christmas tree, and did yall decorate it with anything?

M.J: Sure did, uh huh.

C.W: Nice, nice that's great, now as far as a job that you worked for, what was the first job that you remember that you had, I know you were telling me when you were helping out with the family?

M.J: Well the first job I had, I did some digging in ladies flowers yards, making about maybe ten cent a hour, little money.

C.W: Wow.

M.J: But every little bit counted and when I would make my little money that I got whether it was fifty cents or whatever it was I would bring it back home to my mother because I figured she knew more what to do with it than I did, because I would have wasted around there maybe buying candy and junk and since she was struggling, I did my end deal to put my little money that I had so it wouldn't make it hard on her.

C.W: Right, right, now would they pay you right then?

M.J: Oh when I got through they was very nice, what little work I done, the little digging like that they give it to me, and my mother didn't demand that I give, but I knew she needed, she knew more about what to do with it than I did.

C.W: Right, right.

M.J: And so she would put to more use where we all in the family could have a share together.

C.W: Wow, that's neat, and how old were you, do you remember?

M.J: I guess about six or seven, when I got big enough to dig and scratch around, because I couldn't get no job around there, but those little jobs like that I would do.

C.W: Wow, and this was where, where was your first job?

M.J: We were living on Railroad Street at that time.

C.W: Railroad Street.

M.J: Uh huh.

C.W: Wow, and where did, now you would work probably right around the area?

M.J: In the community.

C.W: Just...

M.J: For their flower yards or whatever their little job they wanted me to do even going to the store for other folks, but the one thing about it, when I would go to the store for other folks, my mother taught me don't ever come back with your hand out. If I went to the store for somebody and come back with my hand out, I mine as well had my behind out too. My mother taught me don't do that after no chore, and it blessed me.

C.W: Wow, wow, sounds like your mother was a pretty amazing woman.

M.J: Well I tell you what, I thank the Lord for allowing me and suffer me to be her child, because one more thing I'd like to put in important too, we got some folks, government, defax in particular that don't want folks correcting their children, when I was about four and a half years old, somewhere in there I hadn't started school, my mama's little boy hauled off one day and made some (unintelligible)

to two grown ladies, about fifty feet away from them, and the little fool sit back and hollered hey, called them by their name, hey Sally Joe, and then I told her what I wanted, and I named it that's the reason children pick up fast that's the reason you have to start on the behind (unintelligible), and I told her what I wanted, I named it, and she said (unintelligible) then went on about her business. And another lady going up the street I called her by name, and I made my request from her what I wanted. Well that night the two ladies Miss Ada B. and Miss Lilly Mae and my mother, mama Ethy there, that was before we moved to Railroad Street. I'm about four and a half years old on (unintelligible) Street, and mama Ethy told her baby get on your knees and say your prayers.

C.W: That's you?

M.J: That's me, and when I got on my knees to say my prayers I don't know whether I got the amen in or not, and mama put some don't do it on my behind, and Marvin didn't act that big a fool no more.

C.W: You never said that again probably.

M.J: And I just wonder if I got in touch with defax would they go dig mama up and punish her for whipping me like she did, but she hasn't had to fish me out of jail and certainly she taught me enough to try to keep me from going to hell.

C.W: Sounds like she did right by you.

M.J: Well she blessed me.

C.W: Yeah, wow. So where would you say that most people worked in Summer Hill?

M.J: In Summer Hill, well they did, men did WPA and yard work and then a few mills around there, particular men of color, black men, and then at that time the WPA

had started, that was a government program there so they had, besides picking cotton and farming and whatever was available.

C.W: So the WPA...

M.J: The WPA, that was the work program from the government (unintelligible).

C.W: They helped people find jobs?

M.J: Helped people, they created jobs where there wasn't no jobs.

C.W: A lot of people...

M.J: Oh yeah, of all colors worked on the WPA, that was a program the government put out there, because that was somewhat during the Depression area.

C.W: Okay, now farming was still popular?

M.J: Popular, yes uh huh, because you could pick cotton in cotton season, and chop cotton and different things like that.

C.W: Right, and that was probably the biggest crop, cotton?

M.J: Oh yes, king cotton.

C.W: King cotton, interesting. Can you, now I know we've talked about the drawing, and we won't even have to do that, but can you just paint me a picture of what the Summer Hill community looked like, you know what recall of it?

M.J: Well now the Summer Hill in the general section, now it's a few folks there that had a home or two, but it was mostly whatever somebody else had put up. It wasn't a beautiful community, but it's what folks could afford to live in, and there were some right nice halls, but most of us had to rent somebody's else rented house, or things like that, but it was mostly a black community where we lived in,

because everything was segregated. In some parts of it was rough, and then some parts it wasn't. You had a (unintelligible) just like anywhere.

(???): Tell them about that old house where we lived in.

M.J: Nah, that (unintelligible) she trying to me about the old house that we lived in.

Well when I first moved in there, we lived in one side, no shared it, shared it.

One family lived in one side, another one lived in the other side.

C.W: Of the same house?

M.J: Same house, yeah.

C.W: This was in Summer Hill?

M.J: That's on Summer Hill.

C.W: On Railroad Street.

M.J: No, Railroad Street came after, up on Summer Hill as I grew up, when I got married in my day, but in my growing up Railroad Street was it.

C.W: Railroad Street was it.

M.J: Railroad uh huh.

C.W: But when you got older you had to...

M.J: When I got older and when I got married that's when I got married, and I had a family I lived up on Summer Hill, but right now we are still on Railroad Street.

C.W: Okay, and that you said there was good parts and there was bad parts...

M.J: Yeah.

C.W: ...you mean is there a violent part or a run down part what do you mean by good part bad part?

M.J: Well some of it wasn't too fit to live in, but you had to live where you could.

There was certain areas that I think that I didn't live in because you had another area down there called walford flat.

C.W: Walford flat?

M.J: Uh huh, and that's where it looked like a different bunch of folks at times, people had to live where ever they could, some things went on down in that other area that didn't go on over there in the area where I was next to the railroad tracks.

C.W: What sort of things went on down there?

M.J: Well a lot of drinking.

C.W: At Walford flat?

M.J: Yeah, a lot of killing, a lot of folks abusing misuse of the sales, and it was a tougher neighborhood.

C.W: But you stayed away?

M.J: Well I lived all among there, but most of the time my mother sort of kept some guide on me at certain areas there that I wasn't to be hanging around in.

C.W: Did you ever get curious and go over there?

M.J: Well, I was exposed, and I saw a lot of stuff that wasn't too nice and wasn't like that, and there was a lot of things in there that was hurtful to see, and some of the things in there made me glad that I was not living down in that certain area.

C.W: Right.

M.J: Because most of the people had to live wherever they could, in particular being a child, you had to live wherever your parents could afford to put you.

C.W: Did you have friends or people that you knew that lived in that area?

M.J: Oh sure, sure, uh huh.

C.W: (unintelligible) things with them that you didn't want to do, or you knew better?

M.J: No, my mother kept some guide on me. It's just like if I had a friend that had sticky fingers and stole something, my mother dared me to have that kind of a friend and if she had found out that I was running around with sticky finger Bill, if I hadn't stole nothing, I mine as well had because when she found out I was running with him, she would put some don't do it on my behind.

C.W: And that's not good, did you, on the area that you lived, you had how many places, houses were around you?

M.J: Oh well for a while, in that exact area where I lived, I lived on the let me see, the west side of the railroad tracks, and on that side where I lived we had a ditch there before you get to, between the railroad track and our home.

C.W: Okay.

M.J: And so, but over in that area wasn't many people living over there, and there was some good people living over in that area too. A matter of fact...

C.W: Where you lived?

M.J: Where I lived right, there was some mamas that lived over there that was a spirit fearing, God fearing people lived over there too, and they had an influence in my life there that was very important and if Marvin got out of line they could doctor on him, and Mama Ethy wouldn't raise no hell, and they also, I had people over there in that neighborhood where I lived, later on they got saved was some Godly folks. Folks that confessed salvation, and life in the Lord, and they had an input in my life too.

C.W: Right.

M.J: In particular one family, mother and brother Conyers, they are two saved folks, sanctified folks, them folks talk about calling holy rollers, and they were some of the sweetest folks I could have ever lived around.

C.W: This was...

M.J: When I'm growing up.

C.W: ...right the railroad tracks, the ditch...

M.J: And the railroad tracks and the ditch, but over in that area there they had some little flowers, and some things to make it home, and they neighbors around there were concerned and cared about one another mostly.

C.W: Took care of the area?

M.J: Well one another, well we were very knitted together.

C.W: Right, right, at the beginning of this you gave me a nickname, didn't you, you said better known as, did you have a nickname growing up, did they...?

M.J: Well let me see, Marvin there, and let me see now, Mo is what they called me.

C.W: Mo.

M.J: My name is Marvin O'neal Jones, and most of them around instead of calling me Marvin O'neal, just Mo.

C.W: Mo.

M.J: Mo.

C.W: When you were little they called you...

M.J: Growing up, uh huh, and right now they call me Mo.

C.W: Mo, you've still got the same name.

M.J: My friend that (unintelligible), they respect the title that I carry, but I don't get offended, its like a friend of mine once she said, now Ella Jones said, I'm not trying to disrespect you, except for I just got to say Marvin. I didn't have no problem with that, because a prophet is that honor in your own hometown.

C.W: Right, that's so true.

M.J: Uh huh, and the main thing I want an opportunity to do is to minister as the Lord has laid upon me to do, and if I can minister to them I don't mind being Mo.

C.W: You can be whatever you want right...

M.J: (laughing).

C.W: Now what kind of fun, tell me some things that you did for fun in Summer Hill.

M.J: Well at Summer Hill there I played basketball.

C.W: As a kid.

M.J: After I got going to school and got big enough I played basketball...

C.W: This is high school?

M.J: From first grade to ninth grade I went to Summer Hill, and at Summer Hill was a school there, I thought that when we got in the ninth grade, (unintelligible) I done finished school, but at the ninth grade only the black children in the ninth grade was finishing for them, but we had teachers of such quality and caliber and that loved us so, they drilled into us all they could, that if a student left Summer Hill school, and you went somewhere else you had, if you had any get up and go in you, you had a foundation take you on. And those teachers they loved us, and they whipped our behinds.

C.W: Just like the neighbors did?

M.J: Thank you, and along that time we got some foolish things now, now caring a pocket knife to school and these fools want to put somebody in jail for carrying a pocket knife to school. I carried a pocket knife if I could afford one.

C.W: Right.

M.J: But I knew if I got in a fight and reached in my pocket for a knife, I mine as well pad up my behind.

C.W: Because you are going to get...

M.J: Because Professor Morgan, our principal, when he found out a fellow had reached in there for such as that, he took him into the office and put a blessing on his butt he didn't never forget, and the average guy going to school knew if you got into a fight, didn't no body call no police and send nobody to jail like these fools do now.

C.W: Right, you fought fair.

M.J: The first thing they need to do is get in touch with the parents if something comes up that nature, lets get this thing dissolved, don't put our kids up there in jail and then put a fine on them, that's a bunch of educated, that's a bunch of dumb fools that do such.

C.W: Yeah I hear you, I'm going to flip this tape over, because I don't want to interrupt the (unintelligible).

END TAPE 1 SIDE A

BEGIN TAPE 1 SIDE B

C.W: Okay, now you played basketball when you were getting older...

M.J: Yeah, on Summer Hill.

C.W: ...as a youngster, little one what kind of games did yall play?

M.J: We had baseball, and...

C.W: Did yall have a baseball team?

M.J: No, we had the same, in the school there we had a big field down there to play in, and baseball field, and ironically for a while it was a trash pile too beside it.

C.W: Beside the baseball field?

M.J: Right off the school, as a matter of fact the trash would be burning sometimes, and children of the color, that's our school, and that smoking stuff up there, sometime we had to have a little clearing out where that, and the trash pile they called themselves building it out, but they pushed, put trash there to build it out, and so, but the thing about it, we had teachers and (unintelligible) we had a good basketball team, and we had some coaches that was dedicated to all of us, and we had some of the best teachers I could find, think of anywhere, and I'm thankful for Professor Morgan, and Mrs. B.E. Morgan, the Morgan brother's parents and many others, like Mrs. Bessie Shell, and all those precious teachers there they loved us.

C.W: Yeah, they were like a family probably.

M.J: Listen, listen if they sent a report home to sister Ethy, that Marvin had acted ugly, if I had a pair or extra behind, I better tell it don't go no where, because when mama got through with the one I had, I would have needed the other one.

C.W: What were some of your favorite hangouts in Summer Hill, places that you would hang out with your friends?

M.J: Well mama didn't allow too much hanging out around there, now I think one thing in my life, I did a lot of fishing.

C.W: You did a lot of fishing.

M.J: I did a lot of fishing.

C.W: In Summer Hill, or around?

M.J: In my growing up.

C.W: In your growing up, okay.

M.J: Now I played a little baseball, but my mother didn't allow too much hanging out in certain areas.

C.W: Right.

M.J: And back when I got up, I got up good size there, she kept me doing something and while other guys were out playing, I was in the house washing the dishes, which I didn't love, and I walked from one room to the other washing dishes around there, but I knowed I had to wash the dishes or else.

C.W: Right, that was part of your job.

M.J: But really it blessed me, because when I got out of the ninth grade, and I was going to go to school, somewhere else, because we only had the ninth grade, and I got a job there, mama let me have a job at the Braven Hotel, and the job I had was washing dishes.

C.W: In ninth grade?

M.J: After I got, the ninth grade, that's how far Summer Hill went at that time.

C.W: Okay.

M.J: And we had to go somewhere else to go to school, I went in Marietta. I finished up high school in Marietta by the grace of God, and the help of my parents and my family, but when I, at that Braven Hotel, they didn't have no complaints with my dish washing.

C.W: Is that in Summer Hill?

M.J: No, no Cartersville, that was downtown.

C.W: Okay.

M.J: That was after I graduated from Summer Hill, getting ready to try to go somewhere else.

C.W: Wow, wow, so now hanging out not really, because you stayed around the house?

M.J: Mama was particular about where her boy hung out at, and certain places she had I better not catch you there.

C.W: You went fishing though.

M.J: I did a lot of fishing.

C.W: Where did you go fishing at?

M.J: Up that at Atco?? Creek, that's about two miles or so from where I lived, and I went fishing with my mother. We spent many days, matter of fact she (unintelligible) fishing because I would go fishing with her at Two Run Creek, and time when she would be going fishing, and me and my buddy there, that grew up together, we did a lot of fishing too, and up there at Atco Creek, which is up there, that's where we I think we had weared out.

C.W: Did you catch some fish?

M.J: Yeah, and kept out of devilment too.

C.W: Did you ever eat the fish?

M.J: Well sure, hey we couldn't throw them away, hey you caught them good fish and didn't bring them home, that's fools (laughing).

C.W: Now this was two miles...

M.J: Uh huh, from my...

C.W: ...Railroad street?

M.J: Uh huh.

C.W: Okay, were there any customs or celebrations that Summer Hill residents observed anything, maybe the whole community got together once a year to do something or...?

M.J: Well...

C.W: Was there anything like that?

M.J: ...most of the time the whole black community got together probably was a some kind of church program or graduation things and like that.

C.W: Graduation, okay.

M.J: And they'd be pretty much together on that.

C.W: Okay.

M.J: And I think through the churches help keep the black community in more contact and together.

C.W: Right.

M.J: And then another thing that helped keep the black community together was Brotherhood Lodge.

C.W: Okay.

M.J: That's where the Brotherhood there, because back at that time people didn't have (unintelligible) or something, and so they had that lodge there, Brotherhood Lodge which not only gave fellowship, but gave support in the time of trouble or distress there that Brotherhood was to be there brother for brother and sister for sister.

C.W: Where was the lodge?

M.J: It use to be down there on the, where they got, was E.Z. Mill down there, and there was a lodge there, a two story building which was also a lodge, and also it was a church, the Church of God in Christ, and when I first remember it, the ministers of the Church of God in Christ had great services in that building, which not a flat was down on the other end, you had to come to the flat to get to that church, but you had some of the deepest preaching you'll ever have, preaching you've ever heard up there in that old Brotherhood Hall. I've heard some of the best preachers, some of the strongest preachers, and I can yet remember the song I learned there, you've got to move, and when the Lord gets ready, you've got to move, you maybe rich, you maybe poor, you may be high, you may be low, but when the Lord gets ready you've got to move.

C.W: Wow.

M.J: And I mean those two (unintelligible), if anybody went to hell, it wasn't their fault.

C.W: (laughing).

M.J: And I was a kid growing up.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: And I went to church there, you know Sunday school.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: But I have never forgotten those, at the end of the flat there up there where it was, even the folks that been down there raising the devil didn't have no excuse down there, because the word was preached down there to them right there in that spot.

C.W: People would meet at the lodge anytime?

M.J: They had special time, lodge meeting, it was a brotherhood, and then if somebody was sick in the brotherhood there, the family wouldn't be by their self. If they knew brother Joe was in bad shape there, the brotherhood lodge there, somebody would always be there, and some times sit up with the people they died.

C.W: Wow.

M.J: Uh huh, that was what the Brotherhood Lodge was all about.

C.W: Did they share food, furniture, or whatever they had?

M.J: Whatever they had, the brotherhood taught them to share and care and be concerned about one another, and each other.

C.W: Wow, that's amazing. What do you think one of your fondest memories of Summer Hill is, I mean something that maybe sticks out in your mind as you know...?

M.J: Well I tell you what, one of the things I remember that I enjoyed was a play I was in, "Hearts and Blossom," but I'm thankful for the teachers that you know the things we shared.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: Uh huh, and we had plays and drama and all that.

C.W: And you were in, you got into the drama.

M.J: And I'll tell you something else too, Professor J.S. Morgan ministered to us in that school. You see these fools in this world now a days, anybody that don't want prayer in school is a fool, and all fools pass the word around, all fools is going to hell. Our children need to be taught, before you sit down and eat that meal, give God thanks, in all things give thanks, but here we got some fools wanting to run the nation, and anybody, like this nation that we want God, we want the almighty God to bless this nation, this nation got to bless him.

C.W: That's true, I agree.

M.J: The Lord says He will honor those who honor Him, and those that don't honor Him, neither will He honor them.

C.W: Did you, for things of entertainment, did you ever have, you did plays, did you ever go to the movie theater or...?

M.J: Oh yeah, I'd go to picture shows if I had the money.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: Uh huh, and I didn't go to many dances, but we had parties.

C.W: You had parties?

M.J: Uh huh we had parties, parties when I was growing up, but yeah I went to parties, had a nice time.

C.W: Is that through the community?

M.J: Well no, different ones, we'd have different affairs there, but it wasn't anything that anybody (unintelligible), you know. Of course they have some other

amusements I went to, and places I went to there that my mama didn't know I went to, but I finally learned sense enough not to go there myself.

C.W: Where was this?

M.J: Well it's a diner and a place they call, Froggy Bottom, and it was a bottom.

C.W: How old were you?

M.J: That's after I got up a little size and could sneak away, but I tell you what when I use to go down there, it looked like every time somebody would show their behind, so I liked to keep my mama (unintelligible) I'm down there, and he's still here now. No anything that's not, your conscience don't lead, it (unintelligible), because if you go (unintelligible) your conscience you run into something you can't get out of.

C.W: That's true.

M.J: Uh huh.

C.W: Any favorite restaurants that you all liked to go to?

M.J: Uh huh, we had one on the corner of Railroad Street, and I (unintelligible) could get us a picture of that place, Hamburger Bills.

C.W: Hamburger Bills.

M.J: Uh huh, and he had, he had a restaurant up there on the corner of Railroad Street and Carter Street, and he had one side they called it segregated at that time, he had one side there for the white people, and the other side for the colored, and he had a little, and he had some of the best hamburger there.

C.W: Really?

M.J: Uh huh, and everybody liked Hamburger Bill.

C.W: That was the best burger around.

M.J: He had some good ones then, and I don't know what all he did to it, but it was so, and right now I would if I could find a picture of Hamburger Bills place.

C.W: Did you, who were some of the kind of the leaders of the community at the time?

M.J: In the community?

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: Well Professor J.S. Morgan, he was the professor there, and of course we had some preachers there that would somewhat stood out in the community too there.

?????: Dr. Moore, Dr. Moore.

M.J: Oh yeah, Dr. W.R. Moore, his daughter was named, (unintelligible) Moore. They lived on the corner of, he was the only black doctor in this town, and he ministered to both races, anybody, whether white or black, Dr. Moore, he was there for everybody.

C.W: He was a leader.

M.J: Dr. W.R. Moore, and he blessed the whole community, because I remember as a boy that my eye there, a fellow was playing with my sister with like pipe there, and he wasn't trying to hit, but when he drew back, and when he come back there that pipe hit me right over my left eye.

C.W: Dr. Moore.

M.J: Dr. Moore put the stitches, you could probably see it even now, but he fixed it up, and he was always there for the community.

C.W: Now he did this for you just because he wanted to help you out right?

M.J: Well, naturally there was some fee behind it, but he was a blessing.

C.W: Right.

M.J: In the community there, and he was there not only for us, he was there for others that needed, he was a good doctor.

C.W: Wow. Now you mentioned just a second ago about Hamburger Bills having one side for the whites, and one side for the blacks, did you have any other areas that were considered whites only or blacks only?

M.J: There was plenty.

C.W: Really?

M.J: Really, uh huh.

C.W: Did they have signs up that keep out or...?

M.J: Down here where they have whites only, well you didn't go in there, and that existed even when, and when I came back out from World War II that's one of the things that made this nation look bad. Those Germans that they brought over here, and had them even as prisoners had a better chance of going in those places than some of us that had been over there trying to tear up Japan. Uh huh, but the thing about it, Burger Bill, he had a place there for both sides, one side and folks, everybody respected him.

C.W: Where were some of the places where it was whites only?

M.J: Well in the picture show you had to sit back up in the balcony.

C.W: You had to sit in the balcony.

M.J: Yeah uh huh, and of course there wasn't no place for us in the Braven Hotel.

C.W: You couldn't check out a room?

M.J: No, no they didn't have a special place for you that was an understood thing, now but...

C.W: Just don't go there.

M.J: ...not hey, they didn't have no signs black or colored, black or white there, but it was understood.

C.W: Okay.

M.J: Okay.

C.W: How about places where people shopped, any place where you couldn't go shop?

M.J: Well you could shop, but there was still some people had to get some prejudice out of them around there, because a customer was a customer, and certain privileges others had that citizen of color wasn't you know invited to, but it was some difficulty things there too.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: Yeah uh huh.

C.W: Did you have any really, did you ever have a bad experience...

M.J: Huh?

C.W: Did you ever have a bad experience going somewhere you know where it was like your not suppose to be here, or how did these things work, I mean how, you were saying it was kind of understood...?

M.J: Uh huh, well its just like I don't think I got any, because I respected those things, and I tried to avoid, but its just like even getting on the bus there, you had to wait and take your seat back in the back, and it's a lot of things that you had to encounter in growing up.

C.W: Right.

M.J: Uh huh, it's different today but then, uh huh.

C.W: Okay, this is a fascinating area, I really, I really want to know about how the church, because it sounds like, what you're saying, it was a very spiritual community, how did the church in Summer Hill, how did that really affect the community, how did that...?

M.J: Well the churches in Summer Hill in general or Cartersville I might say, of course in the church where I went to white people could come there when they wanted too.

C.W: White and black were church members.

M.J: White in particular in the Church of God in Christ or the holiness churches.

C.W: Is that what it was called?

M.J: That's the holy, when the holy church there, of course some folks call them holy rollers, and some folks still do but you know that's through ignorancy, because any church where in the spirit of God is, if it's not holy He's not there.

C.W: Right, what was the name of the church...

M.J: Church of God in Christ.

C.W: The Church of God in Christ.

M.J: Uh huh

C.W: And you, that's the one you attended while you grew up?

M.J: Yeah, I could go to most any of them, but the thing about it, I went to churches, I went to a Methodist Church, and other churches, but I wasn't delegated to one church at that time.

C.W: Oh you would go to different ones?

M.J: I would go to different ones, I would go to the Baptist church, Methodist church, Holy church, because I was not, well I was not saved, and for a good while I wasn't a church member.

C.W: Was that popular for a lot of people, did a lot of people go to different churches?

M.J: Oh yes, uh huh, and white, Methodist church go to the Baptist church and all around and visit different churches.

C.W: Now can you describe real quick from where you lived where a couple of the churches were that you attended, or how far they were?

M.J: I went to the holiness church in my early, growing up years, latter years I joined the Methodist church, because I got tired of everybody (unintelligible), (unintelligible) I was a church member, but I wasn't saved, and I go to most any of them (unintelligible) churches, but the thing about it, I didn't get saved until I think I was about twenty five, and the Lord sent a missionary over here from Cedartown to run a meeting in old Barrow Hall, that was another hall, and she, she, and she said the Lord sent her over here to run a meeting, and I...

C.W: This is at Brotherhood Hall?

M.J: This here is at the old Barrow Hall now up there on Bartow Street.

C.W: Okay.

M.J: And they made an alter call, and my son, I think my baby boy then was, Terry, he was about the baby at that time, and I went down there, and they made an altar call, who wanted to be saved. See I was a church member, but there's a

difference in being a church member and being saved, because you had a whole bunch of church members aint saved.

C.W: Right.

M.J: Because anybody aint quit nothing aint got nothing.

C.W: Right.

M.J: And I obeyed, and I got on that alter like they said, and I cleaned up my act, my life. I started throwing my junk, getting rid of the trash.

C.W: How old were you?

M.J: I think I was about twenty-five at that time.

C.W: You were twenty-five?

M.J: Somewhere in that area.

C.W: So before twenty-five, now you were just...

M.J: I was just a church member.

C.W: And the Methodist...

M.J: I was in the Methodist, I joined the Methodist church, but I just joined because I hadn't quit nothing.

C.W: And you'd go to the Brotherhood...

M.J: Baptist, I would go to the Baptist church, and (unintelligible), but in my early years I went to the holiness church, I was raised up around under that teaching too, but I didn't, I had to give up something that I was hanging hold to.

C.W: And you didn't want to give it up?

M.J: Listen you don't, and I had it, but I found out that in order to please God you've got to give up your junk.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: But no man can serve two masters.

C.W: That's true.

M.J: But I got saved, sanctified, and the Lord filled me with the Holy Ghost, His holy spirit.

C.W: I'm sorry, go ahead.

M.J: Yeah, and I have never regretted getting on that alter, because one thing about it, anybody that won't clean up, definitely won't be going up.

C.W: Yeah, that's true. Can you describe when you were growing up in Summer Hill what some of the church services were like?

M.J: Oh well I tell you what I went to Mt. Zion, and they'd have (unintelligible) and they'd have some right good meetings down there, but I was...

C.W: What did they do?

M.J: Well they sang, and preached, and baptized...

C.W: Uh huh.

M.J: Uh huh, and...

C.W: How was the preaching, was it hard line preaching or was it...?

M.J: Some of it, listen some of it was pretty good and some of it was just something else, because, and some of the preachers there did a right nice job, but some of them there, just about like what we got today, some are called, some are sent, and some just jumped up and went. So we've got a conglomeration.

C.W: Right, right.

M.J: And we've got a problem in the world today, because we've got people fighting what God has ordained. The Lord has ordained, like they make deacons out of anything, and deacons got one of the sharpest qualification to be a real deacon, and they got it drawed out in the book what it takes.

C.W: Right.

M.J: And we've got some stupid folks that want to ignore the qualification, and you can't be what you ought to be without qualifying.

C.W: I agree, I think that's, I think that's a big problem.

M.J: Uh huh.

C.W: I guess it's, what is it in the book of Timothy where it talks about deacons?

M.J: Listen, and first of all I'm going to start in the pulpit any preacher trying to preach and have them in the field with the Holy Ghost needs to get back on the alter.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: Because he's in danger, because you can't preach what you don't know.

C.W: That's true.

M.J: You can't lead where you don't go, and the (unintelligible) that labors must be first fore taker of the fruit. Now we've had some good men in this community, I try to pin flowers every where I can, I don't say nothing negative, but I'm going to tell, I'll tell the truth, because in the end aint nothing but the truth going to stand.

C.W: That's true.

M.J: But I'm thankful for the preacher, like a, the preacher in my life Reverend JT Davis. I was his boy, his and Mrs. Davis' son, little boy when I was growing up,

and they loved me, and he use to tell my mama Joan the boy's going to be a preacher, because I was such a little rascal. The boy's going to be a preacher.

C.W: (laughing).

M.J: He kept saying it, now listen I didn't go out preaching right away, later on in life, (unintelligible), yes Lord, (tongues) yes Lord, later on in life the Lord saved me and anointed me.

C.W: Wow.

M.J: He filled me and anointed me, and I thank the God for Reverend Davis and Mrs. Davis, they loved that little chocolate boy, me.

C.W: (laughing).

M.J: And he'd tell mama Joan, the boy's going to be a preacher, because I was such a little rascal I guess.

C.W: Sure enough.

M.J: And I'm so thankful for the lives that touched my life.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: For with out them brother, where would I be?

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: There's no such thing as I did it all by myself, no I didn't, by the grace of God and the other that inspired me I'm yet trying to be what the Lord would have me to be.

C.W: Amen, amen. I'm going to change tapes here I don't want to interrupt you.

END TAPE 1 SIDE B

BEGIN TAPE 2 SIDE A

C.W: So you were speaking of Mt. Zion, they had I guess several different...

M.J: Preachers, oh yeah different ones, preachers.

C.W: Different week, or just whenever people feel like it they would get up and, or did you have one, for a while you'd have one, and then they would...?

M.J: Well I visited all of them, and as a matter of fact I went to Sunday school at Mt. Zion.

C.W: How was that, what was that like?

M.J: Well, I had some good teachers and sometimes my teachers taught me in school, were my teacher, and the things they taught me there, it blessed me. Like Ms. Pearly Lay, Mrs. Bessie Shell, and all those good teachers, of course one teacher I don't want to leave out that's been valuable in my life was Mrs. B.E. Morgan, Professor J.S. Morgan's wife, which was an articulate lady, and Mrs. Morgan gave me voice training in a way through the plays and things we had, and she had a character that a lot of young women if they'd followed, it could take them places.

C.W: Wow.

M.J: I loved, and I yet loved Mrs. B.E. Morgan, uh huh.

C.W: Did you, did you feel like the church ever had any political stances, did it make any, you know because they have a lot of stuff going on?

M.J: Well I tell you what, we've always, even in the civil rights there have been further things that's going to better, because we knew there was a lot of wrong that needed to be righted.

C.W: Right.

M.J: And in our churches certainly we stood up and had to stand against some things, because if you don't stand for something then you'll fall for anything, uh huh, and the church of all places needs to take a stand, but I tell you what in our church particularly the holiness church there, we've always had black and white fellowship.

C.W: So you would see white people in your fellowship?

M.J: Oh yeah, oh yes, uh huh. They've always been welcomed there and as a matter of fact we've had some strong alliances in those areas.

C.W: Through the church?

M.J: Through the church, oh listen, by one spirit are we all baptized into the body of Christ, there's no discrimination in Christ. A brother is a brother whether he's white, black, blue or green, and we've got to remember this where the scripture said, beware how you entertain strangers for some have entertained angels unaware. Angels don't walk around with robes and lights shining, no no no, it's just like Sodom and Gomorrah, see we've got some fools that don't believe there was a Sodom and Gomorrah and that's the reason them fools in Sodom got messed up. They thought they were going to do some men in, whip the strange flesh, and it's because, if they knew they was angels, it'd been some skittin and gittin. Brother I believe some of them would have almost took wings if they knew they was angels they was messing with.

C.W: I'm out of here.

M.J: (laughing).

C.W: You can do whatever you want, I'm gone.

M.J: And the angels, (unintelligible) get out of here, God is going to destroy this city. We've got some folks today don't believe God. Listen Sodom and Gomorrah orta convince anybody whose hanging on the wrong side of the tracks to get off it, and I don't care if it is a hundred folks, a thousand folks in a march talking about hanging a name over gay, aint no such a thing. Now listen, here's one of them important part, the Lord has proved his love to man kind, man kind got to prove himself to God, that's the reason the Lord going to (unintelligible) let him come. Then He said, come unto me all ye that labor and have laden, but I'll give you rest, take my yolk up on you and learn of me, for I'm meek and lowly and heart, and you shall find rest for your soul for my yolk is easy, my bird of light. You know what messed man up, self.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: He messed himself up.

C.W: That's true.

M.J: And don't nobody hate them folks, because listen, I hate to see them messed up, but one thing about it, if you're on the wrong track just reach and grab a train going the right direction. That's why we teach repentance, because one thing about it, aint nobody going to camp on this side of the river forever.

C.W: That's true, that's true, now did you go to church with your siblings and your mom, did yall go together?

M.J: We went together.

C.W: Yall went together.

M.J: We took our children to church, we brought them up in the church and thankful by the grace of God we had children that are confessing salvation.

C.W: In Summer Hill, with your sister and brother did yall go together or was it kind of...?

M.J: Well one would go to one church but most times we'd go over there to the holiness church there down there, because we had some strong mothers in our community that lived the life before, and it (unintelligible), and but the hardest part of the whole thing is getting a child to turn the world a loose and seek the Lord.

C.W: Right, that's true.

M.J: But one thing they got through to me, I had a young sister, a friend of mine, classmate that had gotten saved when she was a girl, (unintelligible), and sister Maddie Martha cousin, and I was in school in Marietta when Maddie died, and a friend of mine, Anita Walker told me about Maddie dying. Maddie had a thing in the brain, but they thought she was crazy, but that tumor on the brain had made her sick, and my mother would explain to me how they would see about it, and they had them put in jail, and how the (unintelligible) said, oh yall go get that girl out of there, she's sick she aint crazy, and they tell me how that Maddie when she was, they called, the Methodist preacher came down to have prayer with her, and said when he got there to have prayer with her, said the spirit of the Lord took over, and Maddie prayed for Him, and that night that girl said she sang and prayed, and the Lord let her go on. I think she was about eighteen or nineteen, young girl, and sister Maddie went onto rest, that sort of touched me.

C.W: Wow, and how old were you?

M.J: I was about along somewhere along that area, because I was going to school at that time.

C.W: Eighteen?

M.J: But the life that she had presented, somewhat left an imprint on me.

C.W: This was a classmate?

M.J: She was a classmate that one time.

C.W: And you saw her change her life?

M.J: Her life was different, she was a saint.

C.W: Wow.

M.J: Uh huh, but who'd thought she'd been going in at eighteen.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: But her life has yet been a beacon in my life.

C.W: Wow.

M.J: Yeah, they thought she was crazy, said no she aint crazy.

C.W: Did you, did the church that you went to some of the churches, did they go through any changes?

M.J: Well we've got some that need changing, because we've got some foolish preachers. Any preacher that fights against being saved, sanctified, and filled with the Holy Ghost is either stupid or you've got a fool there, because any body who won't clean up, won't be going up, because the Bible said, I will seek ye brethren by the mercy of God that you present your body's a living sacrifice holy and acceptable under God which is your reasonable service and be not confined to the

world, but be transformed by the (unintelligible) in your mind that you may prove what is good and perfect and acceptable will of God, and the one thing about it see Brother Jones aint going to be up there telling folks come on in, no I want to hear him say to me, well done.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: And if he don't say well done, I can't help what the folks say at the funeral, if he don't say well done everything else was said in vain.

C.W: Yeah, now did the people that you, that would, when you were growing up in Summer Hill the people that were attending church, did everyone get a long or were there kind of...?

M.J: Well they got along pretty good, but there was some hell raising.

C.W: Really?

M.J: Oh yeah...

C.W: Did everyone know who it was like this person we know...

M.J: Hey, it had some hell raisers, and it had some ignorancy there too, but as a whole we all needed each other and one another.

C.W: Right.

M.J: And that made the difference, and we had some good leaders there too like when I was a child over there, the Sloans over there, on what's now St. Francis Street, it was some good people that gave us a direction, and I'm thankful for them, they yet live in my heart and in my memory.

C.W: They would go to the church that you...

M.J: No they maybe going to another church, just in the community.

C.W: Right.

M.J: Other churches in the community, everybody in there wasn't (unintelligible)...

C.W: Right.

M.J: ...they, they listen, we had some very nice, sweet, loving folks and caring folks there, and one I'd like to point out there we had a principal here by the name of Mr. Matthew Sloan, and when I was a boy growing up he lived on the (unintelligible) Street where I first lived when we'd come there, and Mr. Sloan, Mr. Matthew Sloan there he was a teacher too, but he was a good example to all of us, and when I was in California in the service there, I had a chance to be with him, and I had a special (unintelligible) I said he was a special blessing to me, and men like that, we inspire and admonish one another, and Professor Sloan there he was an inspiration in my life.

C.W: Wow, that's neat, that's neat. I'm going to switch gears on you a little bit and talk about the school, can you describe the school, the Summer Hill School the grade levels?

M.J: Well I think I can.

C.W: Was it a large school?

M.J: Well Summer Hill at first now listen, first Summer Hill we had a big, as you go by Mt. Zion Baptist Church there it was a school sitting right there in the center of that road there which was the old Summer Hill, and that was one of the coldest places in town during the winter, because when you be going to through that alley between Mt. Zion Baptist Church and head to Summer Hill that north wind met you. So that was one of the, what's the other part of the question?

C.W: The school's right there, and what, you know what grades were there, and how big was it?

M.J: Oh yeah, well the first Summer Hill we had only went to the ninth grade, and we thought when we got to the ninth grade, whew I done finished school, but the other schools on the other side of town for the other people went to the twelfth, eleventh or twelfth.

C.W: Is this a Carters school?

M.J: In Cartersville.

C.W: Are these white schools?

M.J: White schools, yeah they had the full high school, but for us, we, but the ninth grade, but here's the one thing that made the difference we had dedicated teachers that drilled into us all the things that they could that if those that listened if wherever they went they could make it because they had a good foundation on account of the quality of teachers that we had that drilled into us.

C.W: Wow, now about how many students went to Summer Hill when you were there that you can remember?

M.J: I couldn't (unintelligible)

C.W: In your classroom?

M.J: I think in my classroom, I think there was about nine girls, and nine boys, if I remember correctly.

C.W: Nine boys and nine girls.

M.J: Uh huh, the class of eighteen, I remember correctly.

C.W: And did you walk to school or did you ride the bus?

M.J: I T P'd and W, (laughing) I took pain and walked.

C.W: Really.

M.J: Hey, it wasn't no bus, even the kids from the country around there couldn't catch no bus, if somebody had to convenience them with some cars, because out in the country area rural area there, well actually for children of color there wasn't no bus ride, no you had to, later on it got to be some bus available, but along that time wasn't no bus ride.

C.W: You were there, you just had to walk.

M.J: Hey, and a lot of them would come from around the country there away from up that (unintelligible) would walk.

C.W: From the country.

M.J: To up to Summer Hill.

C.W: How long did you walk, how long was your walk?

M.J: Well I just lived on Railroad Street, so I didn't have far to go.

C.W: You were in better shape, what were some of your favorite subjects?

M.J: Subjects?

C.W: Yeah, what did you like, you told me you like the theatre...

M.J: Oh drama, uh huh and then I had a teacher there Mrs. Morgan gave me voice training while I was in school.

C.W: You sang?

M.J: Uh huh, she gave me voice training, and I remember playing, we were in and I had me a little dance skit in there, and everybody said it was great, Hearts and Blossom.

C.W: Wow.

M.J: And Mrs. Morgan was a beautiful lady.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: And she drilled it in, and she had quality that any young lady would have picked it up there it would have helped them in life.

C.W: Wow, wow.

M.J: Oh by the same token there I don't, while I mentioned Mrs. Morgan there, she lost a son, they lost a son there that was in the army, in the Tuskegee airman, and John Morgan, and John was a nice guy.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: And he, he won the first black (unintelligible) in that, the Tuskegee airman that was search of support in that war to those ships, those planes that they escorted, they didn't lose them.

C.W: Wow, wow.

M.J: And that was Professor J.S. Morgan, Sr. and his wife Beatrice Morgan that's in the old Summer Hill up there on the hill where it was, and later on they moved the old Summer Hill down there to where it's at now, but that Summer Hill had only nine grades, but it has a legacy.

C.W: Wow, so the Morgans were...

M.J: Oh they were very, listen, they were very inspirational in all our lives, and Professor Morgan on Friday's we would have, we had prayer in school, and we've got some fools now, aint nothing but a bunch of fools that don't want prayer in school, and them bunch of fools going to wind up in hell because they

don't want prayer in school, but Professor Morgan, and on Friday morning, he would practically preach to us.

C.W: Really?

M.J: Yeah, and one of the things that he use to say that lived with me, he said, if you can't be the bell cow, gallop in the game, yeah, listen you don't have to be the lead cow, but at least get with the bunch.

C.W: (laughing).

M.J: And so many things...

C.W: He would preach...

M.J: Yeah, on Friday morning we had a program, and he would, he said, listen, he didn't minister to us, he didn't have no title to be a preacher, but he preached to us.

C.W: Wow.

M.J: And then he gave us shop, art out there in the shop, he would, listen he was a blessing, and of course he got called a lot of names, Big Cheese, and some more names too, but you know what I appreciate the bridge.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: ...that I crossed over.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J.: ...that helped me across.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: I'm thankful today that I had such teachers and in my life the beside my mother and those around, but those teachers that loved us, and it's just like one teacher

there that said something to me once that blessed me, Mrs. Wanita Lovejoy, and I was back there doing something back (unintelligible) too acceptable, and she called me up there and said Marvin, she took me and said you're one of the most unmannerable boys I ever did see, and I couldn't, it always wondered me, what did I do to tick her off like that, but I got an idea about what I did, I didn't do it on purposively, but stupidly, and so I always wanted to see her, I really wanted to ask her what did I do that day, because if I, if that report had gotten to my mother that I was the most unmannerable boy in school, if I had a spare behind somewhere I better have told it not to go nowhere, because no sooner that mama Ethy had found out that I had earned that title, I would need an extra behind. So what Mrs. Lovejoy said to me that day, it hurt me, but it helped me. I was determined not to live that down.

C.W: Wow.

M.J: I never did get a chance to ask her, but I'm glad that it got through to me, and I had some sisters that helped me about certain things too, but Mrs. Lovejoy, the most unmannerable boy.

C.W: Why did she say that?

M.J: Something I was doing, like some boys do, got your hand in certain areas you aint, some men got a bad habit of it now, they'd be sitting in front of women, all of a sudden they have to adjust a certain area and aint paying the women no attention.

C.W: Right.

M.J: Which is ugly.

C.W: Right, okay.

M.J: Certain places, a man is suppose to keep his hand out from, off his self.

C.W: Right, right, I hear you.

M.J: Okay.

C.W: Well what were some of the clubs, did you belong to any clubs or organizations?

M.J: I belonged to the New Frontiers.

C.W: What was that?

M.J: That's a community club there, we had a lot of life there, but at Summer Hill we didn't have no clubs there, but later on I got into New Frontier club which made things better in our black community, which was a good organization.

C.W: What did yall do?

M.J: Well we took concern about things that would affect our citizens, and we had somebody act as a spokesperson so folks wouldn't take for granted, this is what they want.

C.W: Right, right, that's great.

M.J: Uh huh.

C.W: And did you, what did you do after school, did you have any activities?

M.J: After school?

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: Well I had to wash dishes (unintelligible) Summer Hill, when I was growing up, I had a job of washing dishes, because mama didn't want me hanging around up there by the ballpark, and...

C.W: Why not the ballpark?

M.J: Well I tell you what she just thought I better be doing something so she gave me the dishes, and I better have those dishes washed. (laughing).

????: (unintelligible).

M.J: Yeah, that's when I, that Braven Hotel was when I was getting ready to go off to school, but in the evening, in the evening there they had a stadium there that Paul Thomas had built around there they called SLAB stadium, and it was a ballpark. My mama figured she better give me something to do or otherwise just hanging around up there, so I was the dish washer.

C.W: You washed dishes.

M.J: Wait, I was better none as the sub-buster (laughing).

C.W: Did you have a lot of homework, or was it...?

M.J: Well not a whole lot of homework, but I had some to do.

C.W: And the sports, you said you played basketball...

M.J: Basketball.

C.W: With the school, or just in the community?

M.J: Well I played as I went to Marietta, because I, but I played a little bit at Summer Hill there, but we had ball teams around there.

C.W: You had a team?

M.J: Sure did, we had some good teams.

C.W: Did they?

M.J: They named the Summer Hill Bluedevils, and that name has lived on now.

C.W: Really?

M.J: Yeah.

C.W: That was for the school, the school team?

M.J: The school, uh huh.

C.W: Was that a team...

M.J: Up there at Summer Hill there on top, Summer Hill School.

C.W: Okay.

M.J: The black school there, the Summer Hill Bluedevils.

C.W: That's what they were?

M.J: Yeah, uh huh.

C.W: How long did you attend Summer Hill?

M.J: Nine years.

C.W: Nine years.

M.J: Uh huh, then I finished my high school in Marietta.

C.W: In Marietta, okay, and did you go to college after you graduated high school?

M.J: No, I wound up with Uncle Sam.

C.W: You went, okay.

M.J: In the army.

C.W: You went to the army.

M.J: Uh huh.

C.W: And then you fought, did you fought in World War II you said?

M.J: World War II.

C.W: You fought in World War II?

M.J: Yeah, uh huh, yeah. They carried me to a place called Zi Pan.

C.W: Zi Pan, okay, how long were you in the war?

M.J: Well I was occupation soldier so I spent about nineteen months, or twenty months, maybe almost two years I served, and I got discharged.

C.W: You did?

M.J: Uh huh.

C.W: What happened?

M.J: Well the war came to an end.

C.W: Yeah, and that was it.

M.J: Uh huh.

C.W: And how did, how do you think, you've probably answered, I think you've answered this, just how education really affected your life?

M.J: Education is nice, but I tell you what it's the quality of teachers...

C.W: Right.

M.J: ...that we, that I had, and like Professor Morgan said, if you can't be the bell cow, gallop in the game, and then I had some good teachers when I was in Marietta, and one of my teachers that left something with my life to pass on, and she'd tell them around there about the dog that went under the railroad cart train running and got his tail cut off, and he turned around and reached over the rail to get that tail, piece of tail and got his head cut off. She said it in such a manner that nobody should have been embarrassed or blushed, but (unintelligible) all which we need to get to a whole lot of our folks, don't lose your head over a piece of tail.

C.W: Wow, that's so true, that's so true.

M.J: And she didn't say it in any embarrassing way...

C.W: Right.

M.J: ...and anybody that's got common sense could pick it up.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: But what mama Simpson said, it's soaked in the meat.

C.W: Right.

M.J: Uh huh, and it's just like another thing that I was told too there, one of my classmate there wrote in a card, Marvin, friends have many and trust them well, but never to them your secrets tell for when your friends become your foe into the world your secrets go.

C.W: Wow.

M.J: Brother...

C.W: Who taught you that?

M.J: ...that saying stuck with me.

C.W: Who taught you?

M.J: A classmate...

C.W: Taught you that?

M.J: ...wrote it, she wrote it on a card there, I done lost track of it.

C.W: Your classmate wrote it, wow.

M.J: Yeah, Marvin, friends have many, trust them well, but never to them your secrets tell for when your friends become your foe into the world your secrets go. I got a pin in it right now, it aint written right here visibly, but I still got the pin stuck in it.

C.W: Wow, that's amazing.

M.J: Yes sirree.

C.W: Now do you think that you received an education equal to the white schools, do you think it was as good?

M.J: Well as far as I went the teachers, I believe the teachers did a good job, and as far as I wanted to go, I didn't really want to go to college.

C.W: Did you know of any differences between the black schools and the white schools?

M.J: Well yeah, I think a lot of the times the books we got, when they got through with them at the white school was shoveled over to us.

C.W: You got them later.

M.J: Yeah, uh huh, and so in a way it was some prejudice there but never the less we got our education.

C.W: Right.

M.J: And due to the quality of teachers that we had that loved us and drilled us in those things.

C.W: Yeah, how were you affected by the segregation going on with Cartersville and that?

M.J: Well I tell you what...

C.W: Bartow County...

M.J: ...it didn't set too well, because one thing I got a bone to pass to this nation now too, segregation in the jury thing, I had to sit on a case once and this all white jury need to be changed. I've seen its devastation and right now we've got folks in prison, anybody that sit up there, I've set on a case up there, and the judge, this

here lawyer well he looked and saw that I was a man of color, black, immediately I wanted to set in a case and that's something there that needs to be corrected, and then the jury system needs to be changed too, because everybody aint got common sense enough to be a juror.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: I mean listen, black or white, we need, gone get some juror get somebody that knows what they are doing and then old enough to do it, and then got common sense, because some folks aint got common sense enough to be a juror.

C.W: I agree.

M.J: Yeah.

C.W: What was your relationship like with white families before desegregation?

M.J: Well...

C.W: Before you know they started...

M.J: Well I tell you what, I'm blessed today because of the white lives that touched my life.

C.W: Wow.

M.J: We had some good neighbors, and I was inspired by many of them and like Mrs. Margaret White, Jerry White's mother, and those people like that left an imprint.

C.W: This was in Summer Hill?

M.J: In Carters, in this city, listen I wouldn't have made it without some white friends that really cared for me.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: Because some times love is colored blind. I use to say some of the black guys saying, don't no white man care nothing about no, I asked them how many of us love one another, don't tell me who loves who if I'm catching hell from you.

C.W: Right.

M.J: A friend is not picked by the color of his skin, if you pick a friend by the color of your skin you'll cheat yourself every time.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: A friend is friend regardless of what complexion they might have, because the one thing about it, the Lord don't go by color.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: He goes by what's on the inside, and thank God my mother the friends that she had there, we wouldn't have made it with out some white friends.

C.W: Wow, how did you feel when they destroyed the school?

M.J: Huh?

C.W: How did you feel when they destroyed the school?

M.J: With the segregated school?

C.W: Yeah Summer Hill school.

M.J: Well I figured it was time to do something around there, because listen, we should teach them all the same principals and things, and let them teach them how to learn together now.

C.W: Right.

M.J: And because one of the things about it, if children raised up together and taught things properly they'll care for one another.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: Because love is not colorblind.

C.W: That's true; let me flip this real quick.

M.J: Okay.

END TAPE 2 SIDE A

BEGIN TAPE 2 SIDE B

M.J: I'm praying that it'll be a blessing.

C.W: It will, do you think that there's a place for an all black school today in today's society?

M.J: Not if we are going to live together, by no means. Listen together we stand, divided we'll fall, and the way things have gotten to be now, it couldn't be anymore because things have become so integrated you see folks marrying different folks like that and gotten different children, it would be a hard job to separate.

C.W: Yeah, I agree.

M.J: Uh huh.

C.W: Real quick I just wanted to get a picture of kind of the bigger things going on in technology in life, how did your family, did you guys have a television, did you...?

M.J: No, for a long time we couldn't afford no television, and thank God maybe we didn't need one at that time (laughing).

C.W: I hear you, I don't have one now so...

M.J: Now listen, it's nice to have, but don't become obsessed.

C.W: Right.

M.J: And then I'm going to have to hit a heavy hand, our television and our newspaper needs some God in it, the devil has got it so now you can't buy a newspaper, and you look on the second page, and they've got some ungodlys they call themselves selling some clothes. And here you've got some, maybe equals about three (unintelligible) and then got a picture of a naked woman, how much would (unintelligible) color? And then they want to talk about, listen that's what's got the nation in a mess.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: And then put it right there, time you turn the first page there that mess is.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: It's like our television is rotten.

C.W: Yeah I agree, I agree.

M.J: And then this here business this rape business, it needs to be reexamined, because it's a shame what's happening.

C.W: I agree.

M.J: Uh huh.

C.W: I agree.

M.J: And we in the home got to bring our children up like, put some clothes on them and put some don't do it on their butts.

C.W: I hear you. Did yall have a telephone growing up?

M.J: No, we...

C.W: Did that impact...

M.J: We didn't have no telephone, long time before we got a telephone, thank God we got one, and didn't have no television because couldn't afford one at that time.

C.W: Right, the time during the Civil Rights Movement, how did that affect your family?

M.J: Well, the Civil Rights Movement...

C.W: You said you got involved with the New Frontiers...

M.J: Oh yeah.

C.W: ...and things like that, any thing else that your family, how it was affecting yall?

M.J: Well, I tell you what I was a full supporter of MLK, because it's a shame that we born here in this country could not have the basic rights that we had earned, because like in World War II they I think they looked they treated the German prisoners better they did the American black boys. And it's like this bus riding down there training, they could sit anywhere but here, we done went over there and fought for freedom and come back then get to be second or third class citizens.

C.W: You'd have to sit in the back of the bus.

M.J: Yeah, uh huh.

C.W: Did that anger you?

M.J: Well it didn't make you feel good at all...

C.W: Right.

M.J: ...because going over there to fight for something you don't have yourself don't make sense, and their going to treat the enemy more than you're going to treat your fellow victors that helped win the battle, that's foolish.

C.W: Did you ever protest or anything?

M.J: Well basically around here we did a little protesting like that, but I wasn't, I wasn't with in the march with Dr. King like they was.

C.W: You didn't that...

M.J: I didn't, no I wasn't in nothing like that.

C.W: How did yall protest, did you just...

M.J: Well we had some protesters around here, and I think by the time we had a few folks protest around there, (unintelligible), but any how it didn't no great big thing blow up.

C.W: Right.

M.J: No, uh huh, but it's been some protest.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: Uh huh.

C.W: How about some global events, you were in World War II...

M.J: Yeah, uh huh.

C.W: ...and you saw, you saw World War II, you saw Civil Rights, Vietnam...

M.J: Uh huh.

C.W: ...the suburbs, you saw all these things happening, how did it affect the life of the community of Summer Hill as all these things are going on in the world?

M.J: Well it called for some changes to be made.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: Yeah, and then some of it wasn't too pleasant to taste, uh huh.

C.W: Do you think Summer Hill, have you seen a lot of changes?

M.J: Well it's changing, and right now it's some sure enough changes on Summer Hill, we've full integrated in the projects you don't know who's living next to who.

C.W: Right.

M.J: And it's a nice folks both ways.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: And then if some folks either way aint too nice.

C.W: Right.

M.J: I don't care what color you paint them, they still aint too nice.

C.W: Right, when did you officially leave Summer Hill?

M.J: The school or just the area?

C.W: That area.

M.J: Oh well I've been out from there...

????: Forty-six years.

M.J: Since my kids was small.

C.W: So you were probably in your twenties when you left there, you went to finish high school in Marietta...

M.J: Uh huh.

C.W: So you were still living in Summer Hill?

M.J: When we married I lived up on Summer Hill, but I'd been out of school a while, the Summer school area, uh huh.

C.W: Okay, and then if you could pick one person that had the most positive influence on your life who would you say it would be?

M.J: Well I tell you what I'd have to pass the credit around, because I've had folks that loved Marvin and corrected me and certainly I want to thank the Lord for allowing me to have the mother that I had, and I thank the Lord for my daddy that he didn't throw me away, but there are so many other lives that touched my life till I'm grateful to so many.

C.W: Yeah.

M.J: So many, not just one person, but so many because mama could have did it by herself.

C.W: Yeah, that's it, that's a great story.

(Abrupt end of interview.)