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Dolores Galvez Crouter and Carole Galvez-Salazar

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South Colton Oral History Project

Interview Summary

Interviewee:

Dolores Galvez-Crouter, Carole Galvez-Salaazar

Interviewer:

Tom Rivera

Interview Date:

February 21, 2015

Interview Location:

Grand Terrace, CA

Length:

02:07:44

Interview Summary completed by:

M. Camacho Nuno, 2024

Description:

Tom Rivera interviews two sisters from Colton, Dolores Galvez Crouter and Carole Galvez-Salazar. The lengthy interview spans over various topics, particularly about family history in Mexico, in California, and interracial marriages. Both sisters discuss their family tree, the variations of the last names in the family, and their extended family ties in all of South Colton. There are mentions of dances, the schools they went to, the family store, and political work. Another topic that spans the majority of the interview was the family files that the sisters' mother kept as a kind of historian. The interview ends with everyone singing a traditional Mexican song, a discussion of interracial dating, and acceptance in their family.

Subject Topic:

- Family Geneology
- Deep Roots in Colton
- Bi-/Multi-Racial
- Keeping in Touch with Family
- Education
- Political Work
- Marriage & Dating

Spatial Coverage:

Name of Site (if relevant)	General Location/Address
Valley Ballroom	San Bernardino, CA (Defunct Location, Currently Houses the Inland Center Mall)
Ulysses Grant Elementary School	550 W Olive St, Colton, CA 92324

San Bernardino Valley College	701 S Mt Vernon Ave, San Bernardino, CA 92410
Fleming Park	3MCG+776, 525 N La Cadena Dr, Colton, CA 92324

Temporal Coverage:

1800s - 2015

Key Events:

- Add item (5-6 keywords)
-

Key Organizations:

- San Bernardino Valley College
- Valley Ballroom
-

Interview Index:

Media Format	Time (hh:mm:ss)	Topic Discussed
Digital Video	00:01:11 - 00:05:48	Some of the sisters' family history of living in Colton.
Digital Video	00:50:47 - 00:51:17	Dr. Carmel Acosta Cooper's recommendation regarding college.
Digital Video	00:57:41 - 01:01:53	Dances at the now long-gone Valley Ballroom and Carole's marriage.
Digital Video	01:29:28 - 01:30:26	Carole Galvez-Salazar and her job right after high school.
Digital Video	01:56:35 - 01:59:01	The group singing Las Mañanitas together.
Digital Video	02:03:28 - 02:06:31	The importance of accepting the family as is, whether that be having differences in ethnicity or sexual orientation.

Related Materials

Additional oral history interviews are available from the South Colton Oral History Project at CSUSB, <https://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/colton-history/>

Full interview transcript can be found below.

Interview Transcript

Start of Interview:

[00:00:00]

TOM RIVERA: Good afternoon. My name is Dr. Tom Rivera, and welcome to our oral history project taping. Today is Saturday, February the 21st, and it's approximately 1:45 in the afternoon, and we're taping at my house, 23170 East El Grande Way in Grand Terrace. And our guests this afternoon are two sisters. Let me introduce Dolores, Dolores Galvez-Crouter --

DOLORES GALVEZ CROUTER: Crouter, yes.

TOM RIVERA: Did I say it right?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes.

TOM RIVERA: Okay, say it for me.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Crouter.

TOM RIVERA: Yeah, got it. Okay. And Ms. Carole Galvez-Salazar. And welcome both of you, and thank you so much for taking your time out on a Saturday afternoon to be with us to talk about how it was growing up in Colton. The first thing that --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Thank you for inviting us.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Thank you.

TOM RIVERA: Pardon?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Thank you for inviting us.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, you're so welcome, I'm [00:01:00] delighted that you're here. And you drove all the way from --?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Banning.

TOM RIVERA: And you drove all the way from --?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: San Diego.

TOM RIVERA: San Diego. So we do appreciate your being with us this afternoon. Now, why don't we get started? Let me talk about your mom and dad. Tell me a little bit about your mom and dad. First of all, what are their names?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Katherine Gaytan-Galvez and Walter Guadalupe-Galvez.

TOM RIVERA: Uh-huh. And when did they come to Colton?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Our mother was born here --

TOM RIVERA: Ah, okay.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: -- as was her mother and her grandmother. And my dad --

TOM RIVERA: Before we go to your dad, tell me about your mom's family. You said your mom was born here in Colton. So it was your mom and several members of the family, tell us about your mom's family.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SAAZAR: Mama was born here in Colton on June 25th, 1915, she was the only girl with [00:02:00] three brothers. And she was born to Rose Smith Gaytan and Rudolpho Gaytan. Rudolpho was from Ciudad Lerdo, in Durango, Mexico. And Grandma Rose was born in Colton also.

TOM RIVERA: Mm-hmm.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And her parents were [Andres Hile?] Smith, who is better known as Andrew [Gill?] Smith.

TOM RIVERA: Okay.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And [Rocinda Auyio?]. And she was born in 1863, in San Mateo Canyon. And Andrew was born in Monterey in 1858.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: California.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Monterey, California, thank you. Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: In 1850 -- now, when did he come to Colton? Because --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: In about 1883. And I just [00:03:00] noticed that, in 1883, in a blurb that my mom wrote for Hazel's book.

TOM RIVERA: Uh-huh? Now, were they related to any of the people that settled the Agua Mansa colony?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: They were not from New Mexico.

TOM RIVERA: Right.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: But Rocinda's parents, [Loreto?] and [Guadalupe?], came up from Sahuaripa, Sonora, about probably 1848, 1849, and joined the colony at Agua Mansa.

TOM RIVERA: Okay. Okay. So they were intricately a part of the colony that -
-

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yes.

TOM RIVERA: Yes, okay.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: As I'm finding out.

TOM RIVERA: Yeah, because the church was established -- the colony was established in 1842.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Mm-hmm.

TOM RIVERA: So they were just getting started. They were just getting -- anyway, [00:04:00] your mom had quite a background, you know, and a long history of being one of the Colton residents, original Colton residents.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: My mom?

TOM RIVERA: Yes.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: She was born here. She loved Colton.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Grandma did, too.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And grandma did, too, yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: She was born here.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: We were -- this is home. All these -- I left in 1965, and it's still home.

TOM RIVERA: Uh-huh. Dolores, do you remember your grandma?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Of course.

TOM RIVERA: Could you tell us a little bit about your grandma?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, my grandma was --

TOM RIVERA: Her name was --?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, Rose.

TOM RIVERA: Okay.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: So she was just plain "grandma" to me. And she was a very --

TOM RIVERA: Where did they live?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: -- a very, very strong woman. I'm sorry?

TOM RIVERA: Where did they live?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: In South Colton, on N Street, East N. Grandma and grandpa lived behind the last [Bahamas?] Grocery, there was an apartment, and they lived right there in the same building. It was an apartment building, and they had the grocery store. [00:05:00]

TOM RIVERA: And the grocery store was located between 9th and 10th on the north side of N Street?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Not between 9th and 10th. Well --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: From the tracks.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: From the tracks.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, okay. Okay.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Wherever the tracks were.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I can't remember any -- it's been a long time since I've lived in Colton. But -- and they lived in an apartment behind. So to visit them, we were at the store, and there was property around it, so it was on a -- there was a side lot beside the store.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And a bit of grass.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And grandpa did his own butchering. It was before supermarkets, so --

TOM RIVERA: And your grandpa's name was --?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Rudolpho.

TOM RIVERA: Rudolpho Gaytan.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes.

TOM RIVERA: And he did his own -- everything that was to be done --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Everything that a grocery store requires, yeah.

TOM RIVERA: -- to get -- okay. And what were some of the commodities, or things that he sold at the grocery store?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, I remember bins of mash, bins of feed for different things, like chickens [00:06:00] and bird stuff, and there was the butchering section. He did that himself. Well, I'm recalling during the war, though. As a kid, we moved from -- my folks moved from Los Angeles. And when the war hit, my mom said, "My brothers are going to war, they're volunteering, and we have to help my folks with the store, and he had a liquor store on O Street.

TOM RIVERA: What year was that, Dolores?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Nineteen forty-one was when the -- World War II.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, okay. Okay.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Forty-two.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: World War II hit.

TOM RIVERA: And his liquor store was on the corner of N and 7th Street?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Good, I'm glad --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Seventh and O.

TOM RIVERA: Seventh and O?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: O. O. O Street, uh-huh.

TOM RIVERA: Seventh and O.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: So they were separate, and divided by the Boulevard, which was 8th Street, which is now La Cadena.

TOM RIVERA: So your mom ran a grocery store, your dad ran the liquor store?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: No, my grandpa ran -- well, grandma [00:07:00] ran the store. Mom helped. Sometimes she would, you know, break them, but and grandpa ran the liquor store, but he also was at the grocery store when he had somebody to watch the liquor store.

TOM RIVERA: They were busy people.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: They were busy people, yes.

TOM RIVERA: Very busy people.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And at that time, he had one leg that was severed from the accident at the Cement Mountain.

TOM RIVERA: Oh! Tell me about the accident, what happened?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, that was way --

TOM RIVERA: Your dad -- your grandpa?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: My grandfather.

TOM RIVERA: -- was working at [Fuller Cement?]?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes. The way I recall the story, it could have some variations maybe, but the way I recall was that he was in charge of the --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Blasting.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: -- blasting, yeah, for the cement blasting. And a charge did not go off. [00:08:00] I guess it was TNT -- I don't know what it was, what they used. But it did not go off. So he went up there to check on it, and it went off.

TOM RIVERA: Oh!

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: So he was in a very bad accident there.

TOM RIVERA: And how old was he, Dolores?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, I don't know. Do you happen to have that, Carole?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I know the date. It was August 12, 1936.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, okay.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: So I was three years old then.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And grandpa was born -- he had to have been at least 40.

TOM RIVERA: Yeah. And --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: She's got all the dates.

TOM RIVERA: That's okay, but we'll still rely on you, too, to give us some information.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I know, it was wonderful being in the store with both of them, because a lot of people -- well, they kept it kind of busy. And I think it was there that I just loved watching people. And he let me wait on the penny candy thing, you know?

TOM RIVERA: Yes.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: It wasn't just penny candy, they got, like, [00:09:00] 5 to 10 pieces for a penny, even, you know? It was really, really fun.

And when he saw me sneak a bubblegum, he would let me get just so far, and then he'd take his crutch and go, boom! Right on my little bottom. (laughter)

TOM RIVERA: Is your --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: So then I had to turn around and say, "Thank you, grandpa."

TOM RIVERA: As you walk in the store, what was located on the left hand store when you walked in?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: The main counter.

TOM RIVERA: Okay, and the --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: The main counter. There was glass, there was some kind of display, I don't remember exactly.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: That wasn't the butcher?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, there was -- yeah, probably the butcher area.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: The butcher with the dill pickles and the pickled pig feet, and --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I wish I had -- those were at the liquor store.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: No.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: They were in the store to -- I don't remember.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: You're on the butcher counter.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I remember the great, big jars of the pickles and pig's feet --

TOM RIVERA: Uh-huh. That was next to the counter?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: -- at the liquor store.

TOM RIVERA: Okay. Oh, at the liquor store?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: But I wasn't allowed to hang around there very long.

TOM RIVERA: Yeah. But getting back to the grocery store --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: The grocery store.

TOM RIVERA: -- on the left hand side was the counter.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And then they had a cash register, [00:10:00] and they had the little books for credit.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Everybody charged things, and they would send their kids to pick up whatever. And they would say, "Do you have your mother's permission, or, "your dad's permission?" "Yes." You know? And then they would write down what it is that they had to buy, and so on.

TOM RIVERA: And were the -- I'm sure there were regular customers, but did they pay on time?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, I really don't know. I -- when my grandfather passed away, my mom had to go through a lot of things that looked like they were pawned. So I think he loaned money, or to payment, some things like that. And they were all stored. And I don't believe that they were marked with people's names or anything, so it must have been something that was traded. But they were still kept separately. Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: So he was a generous person.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes. Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: And a good business person.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes.

TOM RIVERA: Yeah. [00:11:00] And past the counter where you had the meat display, what followed, on the back wall? Or on the right hand side?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: The door to the apartment was in the back.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, it was in the -- yeah. The apartment was in the back. You had to go clear through the store to get to the apartment, and that was usually closed off pretty well. And I don't remember much about the apartment except the kitchen, because I hung around grandma.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And grandma had a bird.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And she had a bird, yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: She always had a bird.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And there were lots of pigeons outside around -- under the trees.

TOM RIVERA: La paloma.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: La paloma, yes, lots of them.

TOM RIVERA: La paloma barrio.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes. But I don't remember a whole lot on the wall, I'll tell you why. When I was in that store, I was gazing at my grandfather's green eyes, and always wondering how he could get around on the crutches so well. So I didn't look around on the walls much. [00:12:00] You know, I was fascinated with my grandpa and grandma.

TOM RIVERA: Well, you know, I kind of mentioned that because I thought that the -- whatever was sold at the store was displayed on counters, you know, against the wall. Yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: They probably had shelves and stuff. I remember shelves of canned goods and things. But there was a lot on the right hand side, more. I think the left hand side was more of the meat area and the cash register area. And that's about all.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Mostly, we played outside.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: We played outside a lot.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: In that huge lot between the house and the store. Because our cousins lived in the back, Uncle Alan. Did they live close by?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: No, they lived on another street, yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: They were always there.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: But, well, let me tell you, when we first moved from Los Angeles, we could only find a rental. We lived on La Cadena for a while, until they became -- next door to the lot next to the store was [00:13:00] a house that was for sale, and my folks bought that one. So I don't remember what age I was there, but probably around --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I was about three. So you were about eight.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, yeah. I went -- I started fourth grade in Colton.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, what school did you go to?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Grant School.

TOM RIVERA: Grant School. They were right near the high school.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes. Yes, and I wrote --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: The old Grant.

TOM RIVERA: The old Grant School.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: On the hill.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I wrote something here about Grant School, but I don't know if you're ready for that.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Can they hear the story about the story about the --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Go ahead.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: -- the grocery store?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: We weren't allowed -- I wasn't allowed, I was only about three.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Right.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: But it -- we didn't have free rein to go in and out of the store anytime we wanted, because they were working.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Right.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And people thought we could get all the candy we wanted -- we couldn't.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: We couldn't. And we got --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And my best memory, when you asked what was sold at the grocery store, Hershey bars immediately came to mind (laughter)

[00:14:00] because I was promised a Hershey bar if I didn't cry when [Monteivo?], what was her name, down the street?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Rosie [Monteivo?].

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Rosie Monteivo came over to pierce my ears.

They sat me on the stool in the grocery store and put the red thread through there, and I didn't cry, because I wanted that Hershey bar, really. That's my grocery store story.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: That had to be during the war then, I mean, yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: That was -- well --

TOM RIVERA: But you know, Carole, I forgot about that custom.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Oh, yeah.

TOM RIVERA: Piercing the ears. How old were you?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And you had to keep turning the string.

TOM RIVERA: How old were you?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I was about three, three and a half.

TOM RIVERA: Uh-huh. Now, tell me about your grandpa, what was his name?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Rudolpho.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Gaytan.

TOM RIVERA: Rudolpho Gaytan?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: She's saying "Rudolpho," I'm saying "[Grodolpho?]," because that's what they called him, "Grodolpho."

TOM RIVERA: Grodolpho.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Grodolpho.

TOM RIVERA: And where was he from?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Ciudad Lerdo, Durango. [00:15:00] And he came up, I don't know what year exactly, but he went back to bring his sister back, Louisa Gaytan, who became Louisa Gaytan Serrano and raised a family. She raised a family in Colton. But he -- he came back to Colton.

TOM RIVERA: Did he start working at the Cement Plant?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I don't know. Probably, because as I go through the census, most everyone worked at the Cement Plant.

TOM RIVERA: Yes.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Or the railroad, or the --

TOM RIVERA: Or picked oranges [la borucha?].

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah, they were never pickers. They were never in the fields. So I think he was always with the Cement Plant, as far as I know.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And I remember him as a very bright man, my grandmother, too. They were very very smart.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Oh, grandma, yeah.

TOM RIVERA: Yeah. Yeah. And what brought them to -- what brought your grandfather to Colton?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I don't know.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Don't know.

TOM RIVERA: You should have said, [00:16:00] "My grandmother."

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Well, he met her there, and --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, I should have brought the frame.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: He was a handsome man. Like she said, green-eyed.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Wavy hair. And he raised -- all my uncles were tall and handsome. And my mom was pretty, too.

TOM RIVERA: Are you related to the ex-mayor of Colton?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Which one?

TOM RIVERA: Gaytan?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah. He's our first cousin.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, okay. I forget his first name.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Karl.

TOM RIVERA: Karl. Karl Gaytan.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: His father -- his dad was my mom's older brother. She had two older brother and one younger brother.

TOM RIVERA: And what was his -- what was the --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Rudy.

TOM RIVERA: Rudy.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: He was named for his dad.

TOM RIVERA: Rudy, because Rudy used to work in construction with my dad.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yes.

TOM RIVERA: They were very good friends. They were very good friends.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And he had the green eyes.

TOM RIVERA: Yes he did. Yes he did.

FRANK ACOSTA: Just a quick question. How did your grandfather spell his last name?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Well, it depends on -- G-A-I-T-A-N and [00:17:00] G-A-Y-T-A-N. In the same year, it'll be both different ways.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And then there is G-A-Y-T-O-N, because one of my cousins felt like he -- like, that's how he said it. So he would say, "Gayton" in school, so he would write it with an O-N. So it's got a lot of variations.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: But grandpa used both. Both spellings.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: But the one that I always saw him write was G-A-Y-T-A-N. And then Cousin Rudy Serrano, when he was looking genealogy and things, he said he found that the original spelling was in Spain, with a Y. So, I don't know.

TOM RIVERA: So it would be G-A-Y-T-A-N?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: So, yes. But he --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: But he -- Rudy uses G-A-I-T-A-N for his first name -- middle name.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Because that's how a lot of people wrote it here. But I think he said where that came from, but I don't remember what it was.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: In [00:18:00] fact, Rudy Serrano was named for our grandpa.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: For grandpa.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: For his tío.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: We're talking about, we shifted over to the relatives in Colton, and tell me about your relatives --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: We've got lots of them!

TOM RIVERA: -- tell me about your relatives.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Where do we begin?

TOM RIVERA: Yes.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Do you still want to be on grandpa's side or on grandma's side?

TOM RIVERA: Let's see, let's start with grandpa's side. You mentioned Rudy? Rudy's -- I don't know his --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: His only --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: That was his only sibling that we know of. And --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Was Louisa.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Louisa came and married [Dearso?] Serrano.

They lived up north for a while. Some of the kids were born up north, and I don't remember where. But then they settled in Colton, and they all went to Colton High School. Dearso, Rudy, Eddie, Molly, [Chavella?] and Freddie. I'm probably missing someone.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: [Amalia?], did you say?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Molly, yeah.

TOM RIVERA: Well, [00:19:00] you know, for this project --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And they helped each other through college, all over -- the two older ones, Eddie and Amalia, they helped each other --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: But they didn't go.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: -- I mean the younger ones, to all of them, go through college. So the first two didn't, but they worked. Then they helped the others as they worked and got their education.

TOM RIVERA: That was Dearso and Rudy?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And Rudy, mm-hmm.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Dearso Junior, and Rudy and --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Chavella and Freddie didn't go.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Chavella and Freddie didn't go. They didn't go.

TOM RIVERA: Well, you know, when we started the project, I called Rudy. I called Rudy up in Fresno, and said, "Rudy, you got me excited with the three monograms that you put together, so I'm going to take off from where you started." And that's how we started the project. Incidentally, our committee members are Mr. Frank Acosta, who's a retired teacher from Colton Junior High School.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Taught my kids.

TOM RIVERA: He's behind the camera. And he taught your daughter
[00:20:00] to --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: My son, too, and it was all of them.

FRANK ACOSTA: Just Carmella and Phillip.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And Phillip? Okay.

TOM RIVERA: Yeah, and Carmella is here, kind of being part of the audience. And the other member of our committee, Mr. Henry Vásquez. Anyway, Henry and Frank got the idea that we should do this project, many, many years ago, so here we are today.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: May I mention something here, because I'm very proud of it.

TOM RIVERA: Yes, go ahead.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I took piano lessons from his grandmother. Is it your grandma?

HENRY VÁSQUEZ: Yes.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: [Margarita?] Gomez. And I was very happy. I didn't know how well she was teaching me until I got to Valley College and was a music major. And I realize she taught me in the Spanish language, and I was ahead of most people in my class in theory.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, nice.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: She was very good. A very good teacher.

TOM RIVERA: How old were you when you were taking lessons?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: In middle school somewhere, probably eighth, the seventh and eighth grade.

TOM RIVERA: See, Henry? You are related [00:21:00] to everybody.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: It just radiates out.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, they lived around the corner from the store.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, that's right.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: So that was easy.

TOM RIVERA: That was perfect, yeah. Now, tell us about your mom's relatives in Colton. Well, everybody you like --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: How much time do you have?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Say, half of old Colton, not now, but --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: By the time I got to high school, my freshman year, it was, like, that's a cousin, that's a cousin, that's a cousin.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah. Can we name a few last names?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: First, let's see, there's -- I think of the Auyio family.

TOM RIVERA: I interviewed Frank Auyio just a couple of weeks ago.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: His first cousin is [Lucia Arias?], and she was graduated in '54. A really pretty redhead with freckles, yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, [Louis?], before that, he graduated the year before I did.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Well, Louis graduated with her. But the Arias family. Some of the [Espinosa?]s were always pointed out as distant cousins.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Auyio. [00:22:00] There's Auyio.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Martinez.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Martinez.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Okay, grandma's siblings. Aunt [Nana?] and Aunt Maggie never got married, okay.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: They were Smith. Smith. Don't forget the Smiths.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: No, no. Okay, Aunt Maggie and Aunt Nana did not get married. So of course grandma's off--

TOM RIVERA: And their last name was --?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Smith.

TOM RIVERA: Okay.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Louisa Smith [Bellarda?] and Aunt Maggie was a spinster, so, let's see. My uncles -- what other sister got married? Her sister, Josephine, married Martinez. And Martinez' ancestor was one of the original settlers from New Mexico. So they're from that line, but they're also our cousins, yeah.

TOM RIVERA: From that line, okay. Okay.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: All the Martinezes. Who else? Garcia, Virginia Smith married Garcia, and there [00:23:00] was Pancho, Abe and Eleanor.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: That's right. The red-haired side of the family.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: [Meneey?] -- yeah, they were all red-haired, freckles.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: They were all red-haired. Well, part of the Arias' were, too, they were redhead. That went down through that line.

TOM RIVERA: I went to school with Gloria Arias.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: She was Lucia's sister. Yes. Yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And then all of our Smith cousins. There were --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: A lot of them.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Got to wonder who that dark Smith is out on the ballfield, and they're cousins.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, [Tio Edo's?]'s family, he had a big -- how many are in Tio Edo's family?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I think he had nine.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah. Our great uncle. Our great uncle.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah. Antonio Smith. And then there was my Uncle Johnny Smith and my Uncle Frank Smith, and Joseph Leonard Smith, who raised his family in San Diego.

TOM RIVERA: Uh-huh. [00:24:00] So you're related to Agua Mansa colony in one way or another?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Exactly. Yeah. Whether it's Espinosa or Martinez, or there's another name. Some of the Trujillos. When they speak of the Trujillo Adobe in Riverside, that they're trying to restore. And Louisa was the matriarch. Louisa raised her family in that Adobe. Louisa's grandmother was our

great grandmother's sister, [Elouisa?] was the eldest, and Rocinda was the youngest of the Auyio girls. And we are related through the Trujillos and the [Rubidoux'] and the Espinosos marrying the Auyio women. So that's why I'm trying to document as much [00:25:00] as I can, because you never see the name. You never --

HENRY VÁSQUEZ: That's a comment that Frank made also, it's also that the Auyio name should be included in the history of Agua Mansa.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Exactly.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: He is adamant about that. And it's true.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And he's inspired me to get back into my mom's files that I inherited when she died, and get it going. And I'm doing it as much for my mom and for us, as I am for Frank.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And both our mom and dads were -- they were both family-oriented. They would even scold other relatives for not visiting each other. I mean, that's how much they loved family.

TOM RIVERA: Dolores, I was going to ask you, do you have any family reunions, where you get all the family members together?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Only the Galvez side.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah. Well, we've had a few on the Gaytan side, yeah. You worked on those with Judy (inaudible). [00:26:00]

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Basically, it was Auyio umbrella.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, right.

TOM RIVERA: Okay.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And they're planning another one for this summer, but I have --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: It's usually a picnic type, so it's kind of informal.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: So we had only one or two of those.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And then Carole usually has charge of the records for the reunions and stuff.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I have them all.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And the bank account.

TOM RIVERA: So there have been family reunions?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, yes.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: A couple. Yeah, not too many.

TOM RIVERA: And you do talk about the families and the different relationships?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Well, if one can keep their attention, you try to.
(laughter)

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And, you know, a lot of it is catching up with each other's stories.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah, there's so much social, for them to just sit down and pay attention, it's difficult.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Got a lot of interesting people that are doing interesting things.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: Well, you mentioned your mom. Your mom was quite a person.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: She was. Very smart.

TOM RIVERA: Very. [00:27:00] And then also, she wrote -- she wrote, you know, little stories about South Colton, and about different people in South Colton.

And how did she get started? Do you have a story that she wrote about different things?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Didn't I save something?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I do, but I think one of the things is, there was no TV. So when you visited, you visited with your relatives. You would sit and talk, and the children weren't shooed away. If you sat and you were quiet, you could listen to everything that was going on.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: My favorite place was behind the couch, because when they switched to Spanish, my ears would perk up and I wanted to listen to what they were talking about that was so secret, they switched to Spanish. But I knew Spanish, so --

TOM RIVERA: So they thought you didn't understand the language, and they would --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, I would -- oh no no, they knew I understood. But I would hide behind the couch so I could hear the juicy parts.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And [00:28:00] I learned by osmosis also, so that later I could speak to my [Tías Santios?]. Well, they'd speak to me in Spanish, and I speak back in English, and we had great conversations, but -- but I didn't practice speaking until --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: She wasn't as nosy as I was, when she was younger.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: No, I listened. I stayed awake. Because daddy would talk about his family, which went into Tombstone, Arizona. I know you'll ask me about that later. But he went way back into Arizona territory history. So we always knew that, and into Sonora also. And we're still very much in touch with our

first cousins in Sonora. So we have visited them several times. But mama just always had a tremendous respect for her elders, and we were taught that also.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: But besides [00:29:00] that, she was the go-to person to help anybody with paperwork; her cousins, her second cousins, her siblings, any of us -- anybody who needed help filling out papers, she'd have the typewriter at the ready, and she would help them with anything they had to fill out, if there was anything, or if they had questions, because she was very serious about her vote. She would take -- she would go to Valley College lectures about the politics and about the voting, and all that. And then she would pass the news around to the family. So she was the go-to person to ask for things. There was no Google.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: It was grandma. It was Katie.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Katie. They called her Katie. "Hey, Kate!"

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And she had the patience to sit with anybody who had trouble understanding what they were reading.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes. She was happy (inaudible).

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: She would explain it, and very wise woman.

TOM RIVERA: Now, when did you start [00:30:00] writing about people and things in South Colton, because I understand that she provided some articles for Hazel Olson, to include it in Hazel's book.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yes.

TOM RIVERA: When did you start doing that?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Hazel was her good friend, so they chatted a lot. And she just felt that the community needed to be recognized in Hazel's book about Colton.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, I'll tell you something about that, too, was that the book -- mom felt that the book was mostly things taken out of the *Colton Courier* papers and statistics, and she wanted to put real people's stories together with that. Also, she said many times, I remember, she would say, "*Colton Courier* made lots of mistakes." They gave wrong dates, they spelled names wrong. So she was trying to correct things, as well as put more humanity into Hazel's stories, [00:31:00] because Hazel was more a documenter.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: She was new to Colton.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: She was not from Colton, I don't think I know. I mean --

TOM RIVERA: And she was not a writer, yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: She was more of a historian, yeah. But my mom wanted things to be correct as much as could be.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Basically to be correct. She was -- yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: But when you quote from newspaper articles verbatim, then if they're wrong, they stay wrong in the book. That's kind of what mom was trying to deal with.

TOM RIVERA: Well, you know, I read some of her little stories that she provided for the newspaper. And I said, "I'll be darned, I didn't know anybody at that time wrote about South Colton." How did she get interested in writing about South Colton? Do you know?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, there was another friend that used to also -- I can't remember her name -- she called herself a friend of mom's --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Gertrude [Ariya?]?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: No. No, I'm [00:32:00] talking about [Moy?]'s sister, I think.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, Jennie?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Flores.

TOM RIVERA: Jennie Flores, yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Jennie Flores, uh-huh.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Jennie Flores. She wrote under the name of Blanca something, I can't remember.

TOM RIVERA: Yes. Yes.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And she would tell those stories also. So mom wasn't the only one. And they would talk with each other, too, and compare notes and stuff.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, okay. Okay. Okay.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And she interviewed her aunts and uncles. She would sit and interview them. And I'm still finding --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Little notes?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: -- notes that I haven't come across. For some reason, they don't appear until I need them. Until I'm on that chapter.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, so your mom interviewed family?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Oh, yeah. Yeah. Or she'd write something down. If she got a Christmas card, and from Mary and -- I say Mary and Joseph, and their four kids were all listed with their ages, she'd tear off the bottom of that Christmas card and drop it in the -- either Gaytan, Smith, or Auyio. And so she would [00:33:00] have the names. It was just important to her to document.

TOM RIVERA: What happened to that documentation and those stories?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: How many file drawers do you have?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: There's a four-drawer file in my garage, and I --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: She's still going through it.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: -- still go through it, and still discovering. Yeah.
For instance, about grandpa's leg?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: She's my go-to person because of our age difference. She's the oldest, you know, I was number three.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: We're five and a half years difference.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, okay. Okay.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yes, I was number three. So I said, "Lolita," I said, "When did -- I'm trying to do this thing. When did grandpa lose his leg, do you remember? When you were little, did he have two legs, or not?" She says, "I don't know." I said, "Well, I've written to the Cement Company, and they say they don't know anything about it." So one day, I pulled into my garage, left my purse in the car, just walked over to the four-drawer cabinet, pulled the second drawer open [00:34:00] and went to the Gaytan file. First piece of paper I took out was a torn corner, it was already brown, and it said, "My father, Rudolph Gaytan, lost his leg August 12th, 1936 in a blasting accident at the Cement Plant." I called my sister, I said, "Mom just told me!"

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: All I remembered was -- all I could remember was visiting at St. Bernardine's. He was there for treatment, yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Oh, okay.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And that's where we had that picture of Cousin [Gerry?], and I am, and Phillip. Little --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Oh, in front of the hospital, that's right.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: My brother, Phillip. My brother, Phillip.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, okay. Okay.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I didn't know that.

TOM RIVERA: Now, when did you start working with Hazel? What's her last name, Hazel?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Olson.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Olson.

TOM RIVERA: Olson, when did you start working with her?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh gosh, I don't remember.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Their friendship --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: That's a long time

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: -- formed from -- was that the [Elamanza?] Committee?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Probably the Elamanza Committee, when that was formed.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Mama was in -- they were a Latin American Civic club, but I don't remember Hazel [00:35:00] before -- at that time.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: No, no. No.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Hazel came later.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah. I don't know when that started, yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And she was an artist.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: She had arthritis -- Hazel also had --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Severe arthritis.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: -- severe arthritis. And she would paint -- what did they call it, like in a very simple style? Or do they call it primitive, I don't know, I forget.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Very crippled hands.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I'm not an artist, so I don't know the names of types of art.

TOM RIVERA: But they worked together for a long time.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: They were friends. They were good friends.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: When it came time, when she ran for -- Hazel ran for City Councilwoman --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I don't know. I didn't live there then.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: A husband of one of the other candidates came walking down a long sidewalk and asked mom to -- I won't mention names.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: He asked mom if he could put a sign, because we were on a busy corner, Colton Avenue and Fairview, if he could put a sign for his wife out there, who was already a Councilperson. [00:36:00] And mom said, "Absolutely not. I don't like her politics." So then she -- "Quick, Hazel, we need a sign," so she plunked his little sign out there. And of course, those two people never spoke to mom again.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: That's right.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I'll let you guess who that was.

TOM RIVERA: Yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: So where were we on the questions?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Sorry.

TOM RIVERA: Well, no, you know, you pulled out something.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I copied -- mom wrote "Interesting Facts" in 1920. And I think Hazel put it under 1920 because it started mom's memories, and writing started there. And she goes into the local markets, the tortillerias that were there, the bakeries, the -- oh, gosh, who used to be active in Boy Scout work, where

Garfield School [00:37:00] was. Just -- she goes on. I don't know where she got this --

TOM RIVERA: Well, I ran across those two pages, and when I looked at 1920, I said, wait a minute, [La Savas?], they would have made Savas, and a huge, old guy. And some of the other things, I said, no, I don't think that happened in 1920, I think it happened more in the '50s, because Savas was with the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts in the '50s. So anyway, I kind of saw that, and I said, hmm, they put it in the --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I don't know why she did that.

TOM RIVERA: They put it -- she put it in 1920, and then the 1950s.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Who was that, mom?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah. Some of the -- Hazel. It started out in the '20s, and then it worked into later years.

TOM RIVERA: And also, your mom was a very good friend of [Toula?] and Maria [00:38:00] --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: She went to school with them.

TOM RIVERA: Well, tell me about that relationship.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: (inaudible)

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, it was -- they kept each other well-informed about what was going on. Yeah. And even though my folks moved out of South Colton over to Colton Avenue, well, before that to F Street to be close to the Grant School, when we were going, and then to Colton Avenue. So and Toula and her other sister.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Maria. Gertrude and Manuel.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes. And they were all good friends, and they just kept -- well, it was a Mexican-American Civic club.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Latin American Civil club.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Latin American Civil club.

TOM RIVERA: Latin American Civil club.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: They were all together on that.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I get the names of the clubs mixed up with the high school clubs, too, because high school, we were Mexican-American.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: They were also active -- [Padias?] were active in La Asociación de Trabajadores Unidos. That was a very [00:39:00] active club in South Colton.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And that was pretty well connected to the San Salvador Church, too.

TOM RIVERA: Now, tell me about -- getting back to Toula, Gertrude and Maria, and your relationship with your mom, was your mom active in the Catholic Church like they were?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: No.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: She'd send us to catechism, send us to mass.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, we did our First Communion and Confirmations in San Salvador.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Oh, you did?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And then I used to sing at San Salvador for weddings and things -- yeah, with Margarita Gomez -- she was also my accompanist when I soloed. That's right. And then her daughter-in-law was my accompanist in high school, [Natalia Salazar?] married Tony Gomez, and she was my accompanist for the Mexican songs that I sang while I was in high school. Yes. Yes. He was well connected to your family over there, Gomez. Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: Yeah. So that was the relationship. What about -- [00:40:00]
what about, did she -- was she also -- did she work with him on the Fiestas Patrias?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yes.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Mom and dad both did.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah. The Latin American Civic club worked very hard. A lot of their fundraising, the dances that they would put on and everything, were for raising money for the Fiestas Patrias. Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: And I understand you were the queen in '52.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Was that the year? Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: Nineteen fifty-two. You were queen of the Fiestas Patrias.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Fiestas Patrias, yes. Well, the year before, my cousin, Lucia Arias was queen of the Fiestas Patrias, and --

TOM RIVERA: Now did Lucia marry David [Caska?].

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yes.

TOM RIVERA: Okay, got it. Okay.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: She was married to him a few years. And she's married to [Chavez?] now.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Judy Chavez -- Art Chavez.

TOM RIVERA: Art Chavez, he was in my class.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: He's probably in your class, yeah. But he's older than I am, but he's (inaudible).

TOM RIVERA: You're a young one, then.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: No, it's [00:41:00] just that the Mexican kids were always older than the Anglo classmates in their class.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Sometimes, sometimes, yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah, many of them were.

TOM RIVERA: I never noticed that.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah. Many of my classmates were a year or two older. I remember Nadine was about three years older, Nadine [Rodrigues?]. She was --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I don't know, because kindergarten wasn't required then, so I think a lot of times -- and the Catholic school did not have a kindergarten, and that was why you ended up going to public school. Well, I went to public school, too, but --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: But they had a kindergarten at St. Bernardine's.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, did they? When you were little?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Mama sent me in a taxi to San Bernardino.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, okay.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: They closed the iron gates on me, and after a week, she pulled me out. She says, "No. They say you cry every day when those gates close in front of you, so you don't need kindergarten." So I never went to kindergarten, I stayed home, and --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I remember now.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yes. And I didn't. I knew how to read already, so -- [00:42:00]

TOM RIVERA: Dolores, tell us about your running for queen and getting elected, and all the activities that went with it.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, I have to back up a little bit, because --

TOM RIVERA: Okay.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: -- see, I went from piano to voice. I started taking voice with Miss Brooks, who was a very long-time Colton High School teacher, and Miss [Pasquetta?] was the Spanish teacher, I was very -- I always took music and Spanish. I had four majors going. But anyway, I was a performance major at Valley College, but I wasn't at Valley College yet when I ran for queen. But I was taking Spanish dance and voice. So I was a performer. And when -- I think it was [Pasquala Lima?] was one of the active people in there, and he kind of talked me into -- and my folks -- into telling me to run, because they -- this was fundraising.

[00:43:00]

TOM RIVERA: Yes.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And each vote cost, I think, a penny? Or --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I think it was a -- I thought it was a dollar.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, no, no, no. I think it was penny votes. It might have been more later.

TOM RIVERA: Yes.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: But I can't remember, exactly. But and then Lucia, he said, "I'll have your cousin, Lucia, tell you a little bit more about it, because" -- and so she did. She told me what you had to do. And of course that meant you had to go to ballroom dances and sell votes, and I loved ballroom dancing, I loved Latin dancing. And that was when the Cha-Cha first came in, the Cha-Cha. And before that the Mambo was real big stuff at the Valley Ballroom. Before that, it was the [Erbida?] Ballroom, then it got named to the Valley Ballroom. And now it's the shopping center.

TOM RIVERA: The Inland Shopping Center.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, Inland Shopping Center. It's too bad, because we had more fun at the ballroom.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Right.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: All I had to do was, be careful not to take any drinks from anybody, because my [00:44:00] uncles warned me about that. So my folks would take me --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Even then.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: -- they loved dancing. And my uncles would be there, so I'd have family every time I was there, and they were all helping me sell votes, too. And then, one of the things that helped me a lot was, because I was a dancer, Danny Landeros from the radio station said --

TOM RIVERA: From Redlands? Redlands.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes, he was from Redlands, he was a friend of my Uncle Pete, and a friend of my folks --

TOM RIVERA: Pete [Leslie?]?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Gaytan.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Gaytan.

TOM RIVERA: Okay.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And he said, "Dolores, you're a dancer. I'm going to have you be a judge for the Mambo contest, okay?" "Oh, great!" I had more fun doing that. So every time there was -- I think they had them on a Saturday night, or a Friday, I'm not sure. They had them fairly often. And I didn't realize that people were going to come up and buy votes from me [00:45:00] when I was a judge. But I think it helped me a lot.

TOM RIVERA: Well, not only that --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: It wasn't on beauty, it was on --

TOM RIVERA: -- of the five girls, you got 75,000 votes!

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I know.

TOM RIVERA: And the next one got 40,000 votes.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Really? I never knew.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: You didn't know my dad. (laughter)

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes, dad was quite a salesman.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: People in Riverside were buying tickets, because my dad, through his brother, was connected to the Espinosa family in [La Cita?] in Riverside. So every time we'd go to a dance, an anniversary, a birthday over there --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Everything, yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: -- boy, that book of tickets came out, and daddy hit them all. He was a very amiable man, so . . .

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, we had a lot of relatives, too, you know, and relatives will help you when you're doing something like that.

TOM RIVERA: And then you got elected. And then tell us about what happened when you were the queen. What did you have to do?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, they got one of the most beautiful floats for that year. It was a turning -- I even have [00:46:00] some snapshots with me that I found, I'm going through stuff. But anyway, it was a very nice float that had a moving part, and the queen sat in this circle. And the other girls were right there, and it was a beautiful -- everybody dressed beautifully. It was a really fun time. The parades were all very ornate, the decorated cars, the caballeros on their horses, and just everything was very nice then.

TOM RIVERA: Who were the princesses? Do you remember who the princesses were?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Sally [Ortega?] was one of them. And let me look --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Sally [Hortagee?]

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, Hortagee --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Rachel [Carrasco?].

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Rachel Carrasco and --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Because she lived across from the market.

TOM RIVERA: Yes.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Mm-hmm, on East N.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And then the -- oh gosh, I don't know if I can tell who some of them are. No, these are really -- oh, and that was the following year.

No, who was -- what's this girl's name, do you remember? Because I think she was in your age group. [00:47:00] Yeah, Sally Ortega is in that picture.

TOM RIVERA: How about Sophie Felix? Was she --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Sophie Felix --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: That's Sophie.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: That must be her, yeah. I couldn't remember her name, I've got to write it down. Yeah. And so it was -- it was very nice. And --

TOM RIVERA: So you rode in the parade, and what was the parade route?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, it went down 8th Street.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Eighth Street.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And it was still 8th Street, which is now La Cadena.

TOM RIVERA: It started at -- where did it start?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And I think it just started at one end of town, and -
-

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Fleming Park?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Fleming -- yeah, Fleming Park.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I think Fleming Park.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, that was about it.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Into South Colton, to the Fiestas grounds.

TOM RIVERA: And where were the Fiestas grounds located?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: In South Colton at --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Eighth and N.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: -- 8th and N.

TOM RIVERA: Eighth and N Street?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: It was a big, empty lot, and now there's a liquor store, or a market.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Houses there, too.

TOM RIVERA: There's a market, a market.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: A Sombrero Market, they call it.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Oh, really?

TOM RIVERA: Yeah, it's behind the Sombrero Restaurant. Yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh yeah, now that grew, too, that Sombrero Restaurant is

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Sombrero was around 7th Street.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: -- several buildings put together.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Oh, okay. [00:48:00]

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, it was a smaller building.

TOM RIVERA: So you had a stage, or --?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh yeah, they had a stage, yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And street dances.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And it would start on the 15th. The grito was on the 15th, at midnight, so on.

TOM RIVERA: September the 15th?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Mm-hmm. It was always a two-night -- a big two-night affair.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Harry Sheppard crowned me, I think it was. He was a Congressman. Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: And besides the activities and the speeches at the platform, was there a dance?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, yes. Dance and food and games, all kinds of things, yeah. Yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: A street dance.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, so they would close off the street?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yes. They'd close off N Street. And there was always a band. We're talking about these ballroom dances and the street dances.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Live music, yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: There were no DJs then. We always had live music.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Live music. Mm-hmm.

[00:49:00] TOM RIVERA: The street was closed off between 7th and 8th Street?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yes.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Probably, yeah. Yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And all alleys in between.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, right.

TOM RIVERA: And there's a --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And always the food was so good. You remember the food?

HENRY VÁSQUEZ: I do remember it.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: (inaudible)

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And it was all very --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah, the (inaudible).

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, yes. That's the one.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Harry Sheppard.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Harry Sheppard.

TOM RIVERA: Now, who was Harry Sheppard?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: A Congressman.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Congressman. Long-time Congressman.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And later when I married --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: (crosstalk 00:49:32)

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: -- later when I married Ben Crouter, we were both the worst, and I married him. He told me that he used to fly Harry Sheppard back and forth to wherever he had to go from Colton, or San Bernardino area.

TOM RIVERA: What, was your husband a Colton boy?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: No, he was -- well, he lived in San Bernardino first before -- well, L.A. and then San Bernardino, and then Colton. He was very active [00:50:00] in the Immaculate Conception Church building.

TOM RIVERA: Is that where you met?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And the Knights of Columbus -- yes. That's where we knew family, our families each --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: But he was from Nebraska, right?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: He was from Nebraska. When he left Nebraska, he went to Los Angeles and worked in the movie theaters and stuff over there.

TOM RIVERA: When did you marry? What year did you marry?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Nineteen eighty-three. We were both divorced, and we married. Yes.

TOM RIVERA: Any children?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: No, just my Acosta children from my first marriage. No, he and I -- no, we married later in life.

TOM RIVERA: Okay. And from your first marriage --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: My first marriage was with Acosta --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Phillip.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: [Phillip David Acosta?].

TOM RIVERA: And did you have any children?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: From San Mateo.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes. Carmel, who is over here on the couch.

TOM RIVERA: Carmel.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Carmel Acosta. She is Dr. Carmel Acosta Cooper.

TOM RIVERA: And she went to -- got her [00:51:00] doctor degree from Harvard.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes, she did. Santa Barbara first, like, and then -- UC Santa Barbara first, and then Harvard, yeah. And Valley College before that. And she recommends everybody go to a community college first, right?

TOM RIVERA: Any other kids?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes. Phillip Walter Acosta, he was named after both grandfathers. His grandfather, [Phillipe?] Acosta, and my dad, Walter

Guadalupe-Galvez. And then Gerald Acosta, named after our first cousin who died in an accident.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Sixteen years old.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Sixteen years old, when we were sixteen, Gerald. He was named after Gerald Gaytan. Anyway, my son, Gerald Acosta. And then [Vince?] Acosta, my son that sang. And a lot of people will remember him in school productions, but [00:52:00] he was also in California Boys Choir in Los Angeles. And he died at the age of 30. Then there's Florence [Vida?] Acosta, she works for the post office. And those are my five, I think I named them all.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: You did.

TOM RIVERA: You did a good job. Now tell me about Padua Hills. You were a singer and a dancer, and --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes. Yes. Well, as I say, I majored in all that, so I was lucky enough to -- well, I was still connected to the dance school. I took dance with Vera Lynn. She was a very, very good teacher, in that her students were allowed to blossom. She would teach and teach and teach, and then we were allowed to go find our jobs. So Padua Hills wasn't my first job. I was a telephone operator to begin with, right out of high school, [00:53:00] before I went to college, to Valley. But I found out I had claustrophobia; I couldn't be a telephone operator. You had to be right there to the board, you know? And I couldn't take it. So I went to college, and continued my journalism and dance, well, performing major, and Spanish. So later on, when I was working at Harris Company, that was one of my jobs, in advertising. I was writing advertising material and stuff for Harris Company, with a group of other people. And I auditioned. I had friends who had been working there before, Carmen and Bill Nieto. They met when they were at [Padua?]. So anyway, they lived in Colton, and they said, "You know, let us take you to see about

an audition, because you're doing your Spanish dancing," I was performing [00:54:00] all over the place in groups that were connected to the radio station. And we called it "road show groups." And we would sort of get paid, the money was divided among the five or six performers in the group. So it was being -- it was keeping up the performing. And the dance school was very active in doing programs, like the Redlands Bowl, and all that. And I did have to take ballet for that, which I didn't really like, but . . . So Padua Hills, they took -- Carmen and Bill took me to the audition. But first thing I told them is, I will not do waitressing. I said, "My mom never let me take up waitressing, because she said, 'You have more knowledge than that. And by waitressing, you will get used to tips, and I don't want you stuck in that kind of job.'" So I told them that, and because everybody had another job there, it [00:55:00] was a theater, dining room, and performance venue there.

TOM RIVERA: Then you debuted with *Mi Pueblito*.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Probably. I can't remember what my first play was. *Mi Pueblito*, yeah. And oh yeah, I had a lead in that one, I think.

TOM RIVERA: Yes.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes. Yes. The stage manager and I -- see, we all had other jobs, so we two, who were the leads then, the stage manager was the male lead, romantic lead, I guess, because there were other leads in it, but we were the romantic leads. And I had the lead. And my other job at Padua Hills, I could relieve the switchboard, so I was switchboard relief. And also, I was PR. Publicity. I would interview a client, people who were waiting for the dining room, and they only served two lunchtimes, you had to have reservations, and dinner, [00:56:00] they only served two dinnertimes. And it was different on Sundays, but anyway --

TOM RIVERA: And the theme was Spanish entertainment, and Spanish plays?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Both Mexican and Spanish.

TOM RIVERA: Right.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Mexican Theater, they called it.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Mexican -- the theater was every other play -- the theaters -- I mean, the plays ran about six to eight weeks. Every other play was in English, and it would be early California. Every other play -- and there were different stories, they were written by different people. The plays in Spanish were Mexican, and sometimes they involved the Mexican native peoples and their customs. And costumes -- costumes a-plenty. They had a wardrobe department, we never had to furnish our own costumes. So they were all made for us at our measurements. Even the dining room costumes, we had cotton frocks, the women had cotton frocks that were especially -- [00:57:00] and they were on the style of early California. So the dining room was a separate thing. There were some dining room people who did not participate in the plays. But at the plays, it was a company. Nobody was a big star of all the plays. It was a company. Yeah. And that was the best thing.

TOM RIVERA: And how long did you do that for?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: A year and a half.

TOM RIVERA: So it was a good experience.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes. Yes. It was --

TOM RIVERA: A wonderful experience.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: -- yeah. And I -- it was very enjoyable. I learned a lot. And I also used my journalism, I used three of my majors -- well, yeah, journalism, Spanish and performing.

TOM RIVERA: Very good.

FRANK ACOSTA: As a student of Vera Lynn, did you ever have a vision to perform at the Orange Show?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Many times.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: In Redlands Bowl.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I'll never forget, one of them was a very important performance, and I was going to dance my solo of Malagueña for the first time at the Orange Show. [00:58:00] And I was working a split -- I was working for the phone company then, and I called in sick so that I could perform, and guess what? The very next day, I was down with the flu. So I never tried that again.

TOM RIVERA: And Carole, your activities, tell us about your family. How many kids -- how many children do you have?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Well, at the Valley Ballroom, I met this tall, handsome young man, Gilbert Salazar, Jr., from San Bernardino. From Meadowbrook area. And we danced every date, every date to the big bands that would come into town. We dated for two years. He was in the Navy, and I said I wouldn't marry him until he got out and got a job. That's how stable mom made us.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes. Yes. I had the same rule.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: About control, yeah. Yeah. So we were married in May of 1959, [00:59:00] and married at Immaculate Conception in Colton, where I made my First Communion and my Confirmation -- I mean, my First Communion before it was a church where it is. It was in a store front across from Valley College. And then they built the church on 8th and --

HENRY VÁSQUEZ: Olive?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Olive, thank you.

TOM RIVERA: Olive, okay.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah. But we were married there. We bought our -- after renting for a little bit, we bought our first home in Colton, off Colton Avenue and Florence Avenue. And we had a son, Victor, April 1st, 1960. And we were told that birthday couldn't have happened to a better couple, so I had my April Fools' baby. And he worked for [Norton?] at the time. I remember he -- we were just married, and he had taken the federal tests to start working there. And he worked in a family-owned company, [Wright?] Sheet Metal, [01:00:00] and he knew he wasn't going to go anywhere there, and he didn't like the labor, working with his hands like that. So he applied at Norton, and we got a letter. It said, you will be -- please report on such and such a date, in a certain building at Norton Air Base. You will be working in data processing. Nineteen fifty-nine -- he looked at me and he says, "What's data processing?" I said, "I don't know, but I think it's clean work," you know. So he went, and he just could not believe that he would have to wear a white shirt every day and a necktie. It was really hard for him, the way he was raised, to get used to that. His dad worked for the railroad, his brothers-in-law, they worked at Kaiser or railroad, so here he was, having to dress up like he thought a lawyer or a doctor would. He didn't know everyday [01:01:00] people could do this also. So it was really an eye opener for him. And he stayed in that field for 32 years. And they added his service -- four years' Navy time to that. So when he retired in 1991, he had 36 years of government service. And we had Victor -- he worked at Norton, and then we moved to Long Beach because Norton was closing up. So then we were in Long Beach eight years, and then Long Beach Naval Ship Yard was going to close up. So we moved, he found a job in San Diego. And in the meantime, while we were in Long Beach, we adopted a second son, David. So I have the two sons. And now I have two grandchildren.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, congratulations.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Thank you.

TOM RIVERA: How old are they?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Christina is 20, Christina Salazar, [01:02:00] and Michael is 17 and a half.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Tell him where he's headed.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Michael is on his way to Ohio State, the Ohio State University as a -- he's a nationally ranked swimmer.

TOM RIVERA: Ah, okay.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And specialty, the butterfly.

TOM RIVERA: Well, you mentioned his competition in San Diego.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: He's the top right now. He is pretty much -- he's in the top three, if not the number one. And the newspaper just got in touch with him, he's going to be their featured swimmer when the season opens next month, so they interviewed for a big article.

TOM RIVERA: Congratulations! It was a big --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: But he's been in the top 10 for his age group, nationwide, almost every year, because they go by age and stroke. But yeah, my husband died. He had cancer [01:03:00], and he died in 19-- June 24th, 1995, and is buried at Hermosa, where I will be one of these days.

TOM RIVERA: Me too.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: Me too.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I already have my name there. So it's close to my parents and my great grandparents. Then in 2001, my sister and I, who had never traveled together, took off to --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Not since we were little, anyway.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Not since we were little, well, alone, yeah, took off for Europe for three weeks. And we were in Paris, and then in the south of France, and back to Paris. And the last two hours of the end of the three weeks, we boarded a shuttle bus, and the next stop, next hotel stop for the shuttle to go back to the airport was this gentleman [01:04:00] from Monterey, California boarded, and we talked for those two hours. Mostly, she talked to him.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I was sitting between. I was sitting in the middle, and I remember saying to him --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: My sister's the widow. He was a widower. After finding out he was a widower.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, no, he --

TOM RIVERA: Your sister wouldn't let go (inaudible).

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: She was married to him.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: He said -- the first thing he said was, he noticed that there was a couple at the back of the little bus, and they were speaking another Asian language. And he said, "I hope you two ladies speak English, because I'm rather upset. My daughter is going in for a major surgery, and I'm rushing home." And he said, "I need to tell a few jokes to relax a little bit. Do you mind?" And we said, "Oh no, we're fine." And then he told one joke, and then I said, "Oh, we didn't introduce ourself. I'm Married Lady Dolores, and she's Widowed Lady Carole." And boy, he glommed onto that, "widow lady." (laughter) [01:05:00]

TOM RIVERA: And when did you marry him, Carole?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Two years later, almost exactly.

TOM RIVERA: And you know, there's a -- it's a wonderful relationship, because he said, "You can keep your name, Salazar." Tell us about that.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: A week before the wedding, in May of 2003, he came over, he was standing in the kitchen, and he said, "You know, you probably want to keep the name Salazar." And I looked at him. It hadn't even entered my mind. And I'm -- "Okay." He said, "You've been Salazar for over 40 years. Your kids and your grandkids are Salazar. Your house is in your -- you know, everything's Salazar." And I looked at him, and I said, "You're right. Okay." And that's the way it is. Now when he answers the phone and they ask for Mr. Salazar, he goes, "Yes?" (laughter) [01:06:00] So he jokes that maybe he should change his name. I said, no, he's too white, to English.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: You didn't say his last name, though.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Oh, his name? Paul Grisham. I'm sorry.

TOM RIVERA: Paul Grisham, yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And it's interesting, when we go back to Monterey, he helps me with research for my great grandfather, Andrew Smith, who was born there. He and his siblings were born in Monterey. And I tell him, "You lived here for almost 40 years. My roots, I've never lived here, and my roots go centuries, generations deep there, I mean, clear out to Big Sur, where the Smiths were, and Baja, California. And that's --

TOM RIVERA: Possibly with Frémont, Captain Frémont --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: No --

TOM RIVERA: He came to Monterey in 1848.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Well, [01:07:00] the other branch that we haven't spoken about, the Smith branch -- how do I begin this one? Thomas Smith was a sailor from New York, he was born in 1781, the son of George Smith and Mary -- Anna Maria Mott. Thomas was on a sailing ship that came around to Baja, California in about 1808, and he jumped ship. He stayed there. The ship kept

going, and the ship's captain wrote about it in a later log, that Thomas Smith, a carpenter, had jumped ship and stayed there. He was then baptized and took the name of his godfather, who was [Javier Aguilar?], so there are some Smith descendants and some Aguilar descendants, but they're all basically Smiths, and maybe changed their name back to Smith. [01:08:00] But in the old baptismal records from -- [Pablo Martinez?] has a thick book on Baja, California. My mom, when I inherited her things, it's a big book, "Do not lend this book out," in her handwriting. And I kept that, and added my own cover to it. I was showing Carmela, she went through that book, which is probably 500 pages at least, underlined every Smith, every connection that could be to our branch of Smiths. So she would sit and just go through these books, and see the information. And I've been able to expand a lot on her Smith research, too. But Thomas Smith and his family, he had about nine children, were evacuated [01:09:00] from Baja, California in 1848, they came up on the Lexington, USS Lexington, to Monterey, for one thing, because he had been working as a translator for the U.S. government. He owned land in Mexico, but it could have been dangerous for he and his family to stay there, because he had already worked for the U.S. government. So he was given the choice to evacuate with his family to Monterey, which he did. There is a book written by Nunis, N-U-N-I-S, about the Mexican-American War, and there is a page on there that's listed all the monies that were paid to the evacuees. And Thomas Smith, Juan Smith, [Jose Maria?] Smith, who is my direct ancestor, and [Juan Batista?] Smith were all [01:10:00] paid. And Thomas Smith was paid one of the bigger amounts. So then they're in the Monterey census in 1850, 1851, 1852. And that's where my great grandfather was born, because Thomas Smith had -- one of his sons was Jose [Maria?] Smith. Jose Maria, one of his children was Louisa Smith, who was my second great grandmother. Here again, Louisa married a

German, whose name happened to be [Schmidt?]. So we always knew we were Smith-Schmidt somehow, and I've been able to delineate that down to today's world. But he was a German. They did not stay married. He started another family in Castroville, and she married a man by the name of Gibson, and had one son. [01:11:00] But the four children of Smith-Schmidt, all born in Monterey, but they all came to Colton and raised their families here. And that's the [Belardis'?), the [Espinosos?), the Smiths and the Smiths. There were two boys and twin girls.

TOM RIVERA: A wonderful story. You know, you would never think that the world operates in that fashion, you know, from leaving the ship from Mexico to then later on and winding up in Monterey, and then later on in Colton.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And why all the roads led to Colton, I don't know, because my dad came here from Arizona. And Wyatt Earp was in Tombstone with my great grandpa.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, yeah, really.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: With my grandpa, not my great grandpa. So we have history in the ledgers in Tombstone.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Colton must have been big stuff then.

TOM RIVERA: It was big stuff.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: It was on the path to L.A., [01:12:00] I think.

TOM RIVERA: Well, the railroad, so the Pacific.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: The railroad. Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: They had to set up the Santa Fe railroad. And the Cement Plant, lots of jobs.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yes.

TOM RIVERA: Even the PFE, lots of jobs.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And even the Mormons.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Mormons.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Catholics, Mormons --

TOM RIVERA: Well, they were here for a short time, but -- and then the orange groves, you know. Southern California was a huge --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Some of my uncles, that's all they did, was pick oranges. Yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, Tio Edo and then [Tio Ramon?] was -- I think --

HENRY VÁSQUEZ: You mentioned your dad coming from Arizona, I was going to ask you because you concentrated on the Gaytan family, but you didn't really mentioned very much about the [Melendrez?] family.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: My dad was named Guadalupe Galvez, for his father. But he said Guadalupe was too difficult for people to say, so he just changed it to Walter, so he would get teased about [Walterio?]. No, no no. So he ended up being Walter Guadalupe Galvez. He [01:13:00] was born in May, 1905 in Tombstone.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And he's a [Domingas?], also.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Well, he made sure that we knew. I got it. It was Tombstone, Arizona territory.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Territory.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Not Arizona, because Arizona didn't become a state until February 14th, 1912. Don't ask me why I remember these things, but it was driven into us. I was one of the few kids in grammar school who could write where my parents were born, and knew it, you know, so, because they talked about family. And daddy was -- daddy's father was married twice. The first wife had about eight or nine children, and then she died when her youngest was two years

old. And she's buried in the Tombstone City Cemetery. Then he married Dolores Domingas, who is our grandmother. And Dolores [01:14:00] and Guadalupe are buried in Evergreen Cemetery in Riverside. But they had, I don't know, maybe six - - they had five children grow to adulthood, and --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, they had more than that.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I know. There were 17 altogether, but only 12 grew to adulthood. And my dad was number 11 of the 12, of the combined overall family. And he was Mr. Social.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: He kept the first one in touch with the last one's children, and --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And in his mind, there were no half siblings, they were all brothers and sisters.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: No. Yes.

TOM RIVERA: They were all related?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, yeah.

TOM RIVERA: They were all related.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: They were all real brothers.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I have one cousin, he's in his 90s, and he still refers to us as half-cousins, and it just grates. It just grates.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, because daddy never talked that way.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: Well, talking about daddy, your dad was very active in community activities.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: They both were.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: They both were, it was together. [01:15:00]

TOM RIVERA: And your dad was one of the drivers of the Fiestas Patrias, along with Manuel [Pallila?] and --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Pete [Lukey?].

TOM RIVERA: Pete Lukey.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Pasquale [Oliva?].

TOM RIVERA: Pasquale Oliva.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Pasquale Oliva.

TOM RIVERA: And I don't know whether (inaudible).

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Manuel Pallila.

TOM RIVERA: Manuel Pallila. But I think that was the group of people that were the -- I guess they were the community leaders of Colton. Yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Pretty much.

TOM RIVERA: Tell us, what activities did your dad participate in with this group of -- did they have an organization?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Well, that was the Latin American Civic club.

TOM RIVERA: Okay.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah. And then they were active in studying, you know, who to vote for, and stuff like that. Yeah. But there were also things that were happening in South Colton, well, even before mom and dad would -- well, I remember as a kid, too, that there were tent shows that would be brought in, but I don't know who brought them. I don't know who the people were that arranged these big tent shows, because the first time [01:16:00] I saw the big comedian from Mexico, oh gosh --

TOM RIVERA: Cantinflas?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Cantinflas was in a big tent show in South Colton. And I think that was somewhere near Congress Street. Those tent shows -- well, maybe they were not that far down.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: There was a big swimming pool and bull ring out there.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah. Yeah, I think --

TOM RIVERA: La Caldera, yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: But yeah, so there was something big enough for these tent shows, and they had famous artists come in. But that was before my dad was really active in that. I mean, that was the people --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Earlier.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: -- earlier. So anyway, see, there was a lot of activity in South Colton that didn't have anything to do with the northern part of town. It was really odd.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, of course. Of course. We had been -- the railroad was the dividing line.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes. And part of it -- and part of it was just the customs, [01:17:00] you know, people, families kind of enjoyed each other and stuff like that, so but there were a lot of things that went on.

TOM RIVERA: But getting back to your dad, being actively involved in politics -
-

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Not really to run for anything.

TOM RIVERA: Right.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: He would never want to run for anything.

TOM RIVERA: Yeah, but he would be a supporter, a person that would encourage.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Both he and mom. It was --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Both he and mom, yes. Yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: It was -- you can't say one without the other, because they were together on that.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, okay. Uh-huh. And they belonged to this club that you mentioned?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: They were actually, at some points, president and vice president. I don't know when.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I think daddy was president for a while.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: They held offices different times. It was all shared, it wasn't just them. They were not leading it particularly, it was the group. It was led by a really active group. They were all equally involved.

TOM RIVERA: And this was during the late '40s and the early '50s?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: The early '50s, yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Early '50s more. [01:18:00] Late '40s, we were dealing with war. Well, actually, everybody was getting back to normal, say, from the end of war, '45, '46, and then people were trying to get back to normal, back to their families and stuff like that. Then I guess in the '50s was when it was more so. Well, late '40s, yeah, you're right. You're right.

TOM RIVERA: Yeah, because I know the first councilman that was elected in Colton, Mexican councilman, Mexican-American councilman was [Pettis?], Johnny Pettis. The boxer. Johnny Pettis, the boxer.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: When was that?

TOM RIVERA: In 1948. And then he was a councilman for three years, and he decided to resign, and he requested that Pete Lukey take his place.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: And then after that, Pete Lukey won another term.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: Yeah. What was the name of the organization that your parents belonged to, [01:19:00] were very active with? You mentioned the name of --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Latin American Civic club.

TOM RIVERA: And some of the members were Pete Lukey, Manuel Pallila --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I had -- I was remembering Manuel Pallila, Pete Lukey, Sr., Pasquale Oliva and Paul and [Amelia Torres?] were active also.

TOM RIVERA: Okay, okay, yes.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah. And they were very good friends of mom and daddy's.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: But there were other people, but I can't remember the names.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And they're all -- I know there were others, but that's all that comes to mind to me. And Pasquale became a mayor. Didn't he?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah. He was -- yeah, I think he was a mayor at some point.

TOM RIVERA: Yes. He became a mayor, yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And Pete was a councilman.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Part of the time I was gone, too, but I --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah, you were gone, yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, I lived in San Bernardino.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And I was in high school.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I lived at -- when I was at Padua Hills, I was totally there, not doing anything in Colton.

TOM RIVERA: I picked on you. What were you going to ask me?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Well, I just remembered another name that [01:20:00] came up, a Colton name. Rimbaugh. Carl Rimbaugh was mayor, councilman and mayor. Then head of little league, and head of Red Cross.

TOM RIVERA: He was an attorney, too.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: He was --

TOM RIVERA: He ran for office, and very active.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: He was my grandma's second cousin, he would be a second cousin.

TOM RIVERA: So he's also related to the Agua Mansa clan?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: The Auyios.

TOM RIVERA: The Auyios?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: His grandmother was one of the sisters of the -- yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And Frank usually reminds us of that connection, Frank Auyio. Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: Yeah. Now tell us about you. You mentioned your husband and your two sons. Where did you go to school?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I went to the old Grant, the old Lincoln, the old Roosevelt, and old Colton High, and whether there's a wall left there or not, I don't know.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And Valley. You went to Valley.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I went to Valley College, and then I -- when we moved to San Diego, I continued at Grossmont, just got my [01:21:00] AA. That's as far as I went.

TOM RIVERA: When were you in high school?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Fifty-two, September, '52, and I graduated in June of 1956.

TOM RIVERA: And during the period of being a yellow jacket --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yes, I was.

TOM RIVERA: -- you were a yellow jacket. What kind of activities were you involved in at Colton High School?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Oh, wow. I did two years of drill team, and I can tell you why, one of the good reasons.

TOM RIVERA: Tell me.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: If I came straight home -- I found out as a freshman, if I came straight home from school, I had to make the tortillas for dinner. (laughter) If I stayed for a meeting, the dough was already done, all I had to do was roll them out and cook them. Two years at drill team -- tortillas were done by the time I got out. And then I learned to drive, and by that time, mama's through making tortillas, so she sent me to South Colton to get tortillas. [01:22:00] At one of the tortillerias, [Martinez?], maybe? Or --

TOM RIVERA: Martinez, or (inaudible)?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And they'd wrap them in that butcher paper, and easy to get into, so two or three were gone by the time I got back to Colton. Nice and warm.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Tell them what you were into, also. She was into another activity, too. She was studying for modeling. She was studying --

TOM RIVERA: Oh, you were?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: She has always been tall, and --

TOM RIVERA: Statuette.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, yes. And mom always kind of drilled that we had to have good posture, so she had really, really good posture.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: If you're going to be tall, be tall.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes, because mom was tall.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: If you start slumping in pictures next to your friends, you're going to look like you're slumping in pictures next to your friends. So give it all you've got, pretend there is a balloon tied to the top of your head and walk straight, and be proud of who you are.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Right. Always.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Well, it pretty hard for a 13, 14-year-old girl, until one day, like I said, I learned to dance at these anniversary parties that [01:23:00] they had in Box Canyon, with the Espinosa client from Riverside, and --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And how did we learn to dance?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Well, birthdays and anniversaries -- with daddy.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: With a mop and a broom. Mama would drill us on dancing --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Oh, you, she didn't do --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh? I thought it was you, too. Maybe the two older one, then.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I had a mop.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Because she said, "You'll be dating in a few years, so you're going to learn how to dance," one with the mop and one with mom, and the other one with the broom. I thought you were also in on that. You didn't get to learn that way?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I was playing jacks.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Awww!

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I was riding my bike.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I thought it was the three of us, anyway.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: No. I learned to dance with my daddy, stumbling over, poor guy, at his -- at these dances, anniversaries, birthdays, whatever. They said, "It's Saturday night, let's have a party." So I always went with them.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: We always did.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And I danced with my dad. Well, here, I'm very self-conscious, because I'm tall. I wasn't even as tall as I am now. But at that time, [01:24:00] it was unusual. So one day, I was out there dancing, and everyone, all the men and women -- the women used to sit around --

TOM RIVERA: All around the room, right.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: -- the room, and they'd sit there and they'd watch and they'd talk. I noticed I was being stared at. I was very self-conscious and didn't like to be stared at, but I knew it was happening. So I went back and my dad took me back to my seat, and I sat down next to mom, and I said, "Mom, those women were staring at me." And she said, "Which ones?" And we're both -- she taught us never to point. So, "Which ones?" And without looking at them, I said, "Oh, the one in the green and the one in the blue, and the one in the red." And she says, "Okay." We were in Riverside, right? My dad's old stomping grounds. And she said, "Your daddy dated the one in the red, he was engaged to the one in the [01:25:00] green, and then he was engaged to the one in the blue." So I go, "Oh, really?" So I'd just be as tall and try to exude as much beauty as I could from this 13-year-old face.

(laughter) And that was part of it, you know. If you're going to be tall, be tall.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Mom was tall, too, herself, she knew what it was like.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Mom was five seven and a half, so she was very aware. So for her to be a teenager in the '20s, late '20s, was tough. So she was supportive.

TOM RIVERA: Very, very supportive.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Very supportive.

TOM RIVERA: Besides the drill team, what else were you involved in?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Oh, Mexican Youth club.

TOM RIVERA: Tell me about the Mexican Youth club. What was that?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Well, all I remember is dress-up day. They had meetings, but there was, like, social -- when's our next dance? We had, I think, a couple of dances a year. [01:26:00] You probably Bobby [Velasquez?]?

TOM RIVERA: Oh, yes!

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And he was -- he had the band that played. In fact, he and his nine-piece band played for my wedding in 1959. So I was in journalism. I was lucky enough to have the same teacher she had, C. D. [Beason?], and she had me in accelerated sophomore English, and then I went into journalism at the (inaudible), where I was -- she found out my talent was proofreading. So she said, "Nothing gets printed without Carole looking at it last." So I was always head copyreader, head copyreader, which I later thought was a curse, because I can look at a blimp and find the typo in it, but I was told by a writer, a proponent [01:27:00] of the English language in San Diego, he said, "It is a curse, but it's a gift. You just have to live with it, learn when to use it, when not to." But then I was on -- she put me on -- she hand-chose her yearbook staff, so she put me on the yearbook staff for my senior year, and I was in there one week and I came home, and I said, "Mom, I just don't want to do it. Can you write a note for me to

get out?" And I had already taken all of the business classes I needed, I knew I had to work. I couldn't go straight into college.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And we weren't allowed to go into waitressing, either.

TOM RIVERA: No, no. I worked at Taco Tia for two days, and they fired me because I was putting too much cheese on the tacos, so -- (laughter) That's the way I like them. So there went that job. But other than babysitting, I hadn't worked. So I prepared -- [01:28:00] she said, "If you're" -- she said, "You can come out of high school with" -- not talents -- "skills," so, she said, "You have to be prepared no matter what. If you get married, what happens if something happens to your husband? You have to be able to take care of yourself." So she was very big on that, on being able to, because she went to school later. She got her high school diploma.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: After the twins were born.

TOM RIVERA: After the twins were born. Yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: My brothers were born.

TOM RIVERA: She went back, she worked at Norton Air Base, and retired from there. But she said, "Come out of high school with skills. Don't depend on anyone else to take care of you." So instead of yearbook, I took a second year of shorthand. And I had, you know, all the typing, all the business classes I needed. So consequently, I took the state test my senior year in June, and much [01:29:00] to my shorthand teacher's surprise, I came out number one on the list. (laughs) He just rolled his eyes at me, yeah, because I didn't like to do homework, which consisted in shorthand of copying out of a book. I thought, "No, dictate to me." You know what I mean? "Let me hear the spoken word."

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: That's the good practice.

TOM RIVERA: So from that, the interview -- so that was in June. So then the state was hiring a junior -- had an opening for a junior steno. And they took the top three off the list, and they interviewed me, and while they were interviewing me in the employment office on 5th and Mountain View, a man walked out of the disability -- I later found out it was the Disability Insurance Office. He walked down the hall, he stopped, came back -- I remember seeing him. Came back to the doorway and stood there, and then walked over, and he said, [01:30:00] "Are you interviewing for a job?" And I said, "Yes." And the woman told him it was the junior steno job. He said, "Would you like to work in this building?" I went, "Sure, I'll work anywhere." And he said, "Okay, come with me." And I was hired like that. So I graduated from high school on a Thursday night, and started working Monday morning for the state, and worked there for 15 months, and then decided, okay, now I have money, now I need to go to junior college. And my mom was fully supportive, she said, "Okay." So I quit, and then September of '57, I went to Valley College. But a couple of months later, I also met the man who I was to marry. So I got in one year of junior college there, and then finished up in -- I took some classes in Long Beach, and then finished up in San Diego, because my son -- by this time, my son [01:31:00] was attending UCLA. And I told myself, okay, I can't get my degree before he does, because I'm still raising David. That was my -- I had an excuse for everything. But I was determined to get my two-year degree before he finished his second year. So that was my goal, and that's what I did. And that was fine with me. That's all I wanted. I always just really wanted to have a home and children. I would work, and I'd see these career women, and they'd be complaining about their kids. And I thought, I'll never do that. I'll stay home first. So, that's me.

TOM RIVERA: So you stayed home, and are doing the family genealogy.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Now I'm busier. I thought, oh, gosh.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: That's a job.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: But I've worked through the years.

TOM RIVERA: Right. [01:32:00]

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I didn't work for about 15 years, and then I went back part-time. The manager of the Disability Insurance Office saw us downtown one Monday night. And he said, "Are you working?" And I said, "No." He said, "Do you want to work?" And I said, "Maybe four hours a day." He said, "Okay, call me in the next day." And he made a four-hour position for me so I could come back. So if you leave with a good reputation, they remember.

TOM RIVERA: So things worked out very well for you.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah. And in ensuing years, I worked for a couple of different school districts in San Diego, part-time, always.

TOM RIVERA: Yeah. You know, many of the people that we interview, so far we've interviewed -- you're number 45.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah?

TOM RIVERA: And the theme that comes out of growing up in Colton is that north of the railroad tracks, Mexicans were not allowed to go back and forth, or participate in the theater [01:33:00] or the Plunge, or things like that. Do you remember any other incidents?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, as I was waiting for my eye appointment the other day, I had to wait because they were running late, so I wrote something. And let me see if I can read my scribbles, because I was sitting in -- well, let me back up to Grant School.

TOM RIVERA: Okay.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: We all sent to Grant School. We walked across town when we lived in South Colton. She had to get permission, because it was a

long walk, and she didn't drive, and father -- my dad was working. So Grant School was a long walk across two sets of railroad tracks.

TOM RIVERA: Where did you live in South Colton?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: South Colton, Las Palomas, East N Street.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, East N Street, okay.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Next to the store.

TOM RIVERA: It is a long walk.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes. I was in fourth and fifth grades then. We later [01:34:00] moved north, and no problem moving there, either. But Grant School was across town, and we went to -- it was a smaller school, they had two grades to each classroom, and teachers who had been there a long time, and the principal was a wonderful, super woman, and she knew how to handle our brother, but anyway -- who was very smart, very bright.

TOM RIVERA: What was her name?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Phillip.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Phillip.

TOM RIVERA: No, I know Phillip, but that principal.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Oh, Mrs. Gray, was it?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: No, what was her name? Oh, gosh.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I can see her.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: No, Mr. Gray was a teacher in Roosevelt School.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Oh, Mr. Gray.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: But anyway, this is back to the school thing. To -- and so with two grades in each room, mom figured there's faster learning there, because she knew we were all active, our brains were active and curious and everything. So she had to watch for that. But junior high, we lived on the north

side. There [01:35:00] was no problem in our neighborhoods of any discrimination. We had no problem buying a house, no problem at all. And our last name was Galvez, which is a Mexican last name.

TOM RIVERA: Where was the house that you bought? Where was it located?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: On F Street.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: East End.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: East.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: 465 West F.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, anyway, F Street, whatever.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: By the school.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: That's all -- okay. We had no discrimination, and we did not expect any, nor did we behave as if there were any. We did not expect any, and nobody -- and we all spoke clear, no accent, English anyway, being here for generations, and our Spanish was clear. We're not allowed to use slang in Spanish or English, and we were not allowed to combine the two into a Spanglish. That was rules in our house. Okay. And we had pride in our ethnicity, and we never denied it in our family at all. [01:36:00] I can't say that for all our relatives, though, but anyway, mom did have --

TOM RIVERA: Footnote.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: -- separation memories of Colton when she lived there, though. And she said during parts of her childhood, and they were namely -- and these are the only ones that I remember that she named -- were the Colton Plunge, because you could not go until -- I mean, they --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: They date that --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: -- in her age group there. She was born in 1915. They could not go until the day before the cleaning of the Plunge. And then the

Hub City Movie Theatre, and the other one, the new Colton Theatre, there was no problem there. We had no problem when we were growing up, with any of that, the Plunge or the movies. People were still saying that there was a problem, because they were still abiding by it in their own heads. But anybody could go anywhere in those places at the time. But it took a while for people to realize [01:37:00] that. Okay. And the schools were mostly separated by main, busy streets. Railroad tracks -- dangerous for youngsters to cross. We had no problem getting permission from the superintendent of schools to transfer to the Grant School and stuff, when we moved from L.A. And oh, the other thing was about the school, Los Angeles schools, where I was going, and I think my brother had started school then, too, the system was very good there at the time. This was before war, before World War II. There were two teachers to each classroom, and they had semesters, you could promote from one semester to another, into another grade, even. But mom was pretty adamant about keeping in our age group. So she always helped teach, anyway. In our house, there was always teaching going on. So that was one of the [01:38:00] reasons for wanting to go to the schools on the North side, because we had come in from L.A., where it was very good schools. I don't know what they're doing now. But our parents wanted the same type of education as we were getting there. And that was my little cogitation while I was waiting. Yes.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Can I add the reason I told you?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I heard that she says, "I didn't want you to go to school in South Colton, because they would spend the first year teaching you English."

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, that's right.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: "And you already knew English."

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes.

TOM RIVERA: Ah, okay.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And when you speak English, you're going to speak it well.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: You're not, as she said, you're not to do slang.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, our parents were accent-free, too, so --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah, they didn't -- oh, yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: -- all they had was a California accent.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And yet they just switched back and forth. When mom worked for the employment, like I said, she worked for Norton later, and then she worked for the employment office --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Stayed.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: -- she did some counseling, but she also did [01:39:00] the radio announcements in Spanish on the Mexican radio station.

TOM RIVERA: Ah, okay.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And one time I was sitting in the Salazar --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Our parents kept up that Spanish-English.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Oh, yeah, in the Salazar's backyard with my husband's grandpa, [Abundio?] would sit at the picnic table in the backyard taking apart radios and transistors, and he always had the Mexican radio station on. And I sat back there with him, and everyone said, "Oh, you never speak to grandpa in English, it's always you have to speak Spanish to grandpa." And here I come in, I'm the only daughter-in-law, and I would sit back there and speak to grandpa the way I spoke with my [Tía Santos?]. He talked to me in Spanish, I talked to him in English. And we had great conversations going. Well then, one time I was sitting

back there talking with him, and my mom's voice came on. I said, "That's my mother." And he said, "What?" Now, he had visited with my mom, he had spoken Spanish with my mom. But hearing [01:40:00] her on the radio was a whole different -- it was like she was a movie star! So I said, "There's my mom." And he said, in Spanish, "She speaks Spanish?" I said, "Grandpa, you talk to her." But she kept it up. She counseled people on jobs and the forms. I think it was a very, very difficult time for her when she retired. She really missed the interaction with other people.

TOM RIVERA: Well, it seemed that she was at the cutting edge of women's lib.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: She -- yeah?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, her mom was a good example.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah, grandma was the libber.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Grandma was a working mom.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah, she had to work.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I mean, yeah, she was a short order cook before they had the store.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Ran boarding houses.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah. Her mom always worked, too. So and had a tough hand on raising the family, too, so, you know.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah, [01:41:00] their grandma.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: They were strong women.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And we heard she could cuss like a sailor! Oh --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Grandma --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: -- that's my grandmother.

TOM RIVERA: That's a good -- that's even better.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, do you want me to quote something? Do you have the camera off, I hope?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Go ahead, you start.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, we lived on the corner of Fairview and Colton Avenue, and of course, the bus stop there, and when grandma had been off shopping in San Bernardino, Berdoo, and she -- the bus stopped, and I would happen to be out in the front yard. And I saw somebody stepping down the steps from the bus, and I said, "Grandma!" And I yelled really loud, "Grandma's here! Grandma's here," because I didn't want to run in and yell, I just said, "Grandma's here!" And thinking mom would hear that from inside. And my grandma heard it from stepping down off the bus. And she said, "Shut up, Lolita, you sound like a goddamned peacock!" (laughter) And the whole bus drove off with people "aha-ha-ha-ing." [01:42:00]

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And that was across Colton Avenue.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes. Across the divided Colton Avenue. And but I always laughed, my grandmother cussed, but it was funny.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Funny. It was always funny.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: She cussed in a funny, loving way. That's what it was.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Nobody ever got angry with her.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: No. She was a funny cusser.

TOM RIVERA: Listen, we've been at this for a little over an hour.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, my goodness.

TOM RIVERA: And it's great, but let me ask you another question. Looking back and growing up in Colton, what are some of the wonderful or best memories that you remember about growing up in Colton?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: The Plunge.

TOM RIVERA: Tell me about the Plunge.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: The natural artesian warm water Plunge. And we lived down the street, and I could walk by myself down Colton Avenue, stop and get a five cent root beer on the way home, and I had, I think, a dime for the locker. Or [01:43:00] we'd just go watch the swim meets, just walk back down the street, and watch the swim meets that were on, and the park. And then my little brother started little league baseball, so we'd go back there and watch their baseball games. But the Plunge, and --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: The movie house.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: The beautiful downtown we used to have.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, yes. Yes, yes.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: All the old buildings that when I go to towns like Petaluma, or some of the other towns that have not torn down the buildings, I'd go into Colton, would be even prettier.

TOM RIVERA: Yes. Yes, yes. I go to Santa Paula and I have the same thoughts.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: How about you, Dolores? Memorable memory.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, I can remember not liking Colton when we first moved from L.A., because part of our entertainment in Los Angeles was my dad taking us to the airport to [01:44:00] watch the airplanes land and take off. That was a big deal then. There was none of that in Colton. But it took probably a while for me to get used to the trains being so near, the trains and -- but we did move when the war hit, and one of my -- I remember one of my happy things was waving to the troops as the trains went by.

TOM RIVERA: Ah, okay.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And to me, it was really neat to have people waving back from those trains, and knowing that they were going to be training for war. And I remember that so clearly, that I thought, oh, we're lucky we can see these guys before they have to go, you know, before their training, even, a lot of them. And then you saw them being transported from the different bases after they were in uniforms and stuff. So that was a memory that was -- to me, I began to like Colton when I saw there was more [01:45:00] activity than just missing the airport. Yeah. And seeing in L.A., there was -- the schools were so good. I was already a performer in things in the kindergarten. I was already singing in kindergarten. So I missed that a lot. Then also in Colton, there were free dance lessons at the parks. Everything was, like, there, and you didn't have to pay any extra, it was right off of Depression, you know. So there were things -- so Colton took a little getting used to, for me. But then I found out how nice everybody was, and all the family stuff that went on, you soon get used to that, because you feel a lot of love. And that's what I -- that's what I -- yeah, Colton was very loving then. Even on in through high school then. Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: Well, you know, I would normally end my interview with that [01:46:00] question, but let me pose another question that would be -- I'm asking both of you. Did I forget anything? Or did you remember anything that I should -- that we should cover on this interview?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: You got another three hours?

TOM RIVERA: Sure!

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: She mentioned the trains. When we lived on Colton Avenue, we lived on Little Colton Avenue, because there was, like, the Boulevard that went to the Orange Show, and then the tracks, and then the smaller

access street, and that's where we were. And at the end of the war, the troop trains would come by, and they were all going home.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yes.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And the soldiers were just hanging out of the windows. We would hear the train, and we'd run out into the front yard, we had a deep front yard, and we'd just wave and wave and wave until the last car went by. I have that memory of being a little part of their smiles, coming home, type things.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah. [01:47:00]

TOM RIVERA: Dolores, anything that came up during our interview?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh my goodness. Oh, you know, you talked about separation problems, I remember one problem. I think the problem that people bring up in the housing was, when the tracks were starting to be built after all those war things, and I think it was after the Korean thing, though, when they built this track up in the northern part. And there was one of my classmates had applied to buy one of those new [tracked homes?]. And they were going to try the Hispanic -- his name, his last name was Alvarez, right? And they were going -- they were starting to make noises like they were going to refuse to take his downpayment. He was working, he worked in Riverside, he had a lovely wife and everything, and they had children. And I remember that [01:48:00] people like MacIntosh, who was principal of the high school, and several higher-ups in the city gathered together and told that builder what was what. And he got this -- Alvarez got his home there. But it took city people to tell that builder, "Back off!" And so there was help for anybody who had any problem with it, and who didn't want to accept that, because the city itself was integrated. And there were already people living in the north and south and east and west.

TOM RIVERA: What year was that, Dolores?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: That had to be -- we graduated in '51.

TOM RIVERA: Okay.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: So it had to be in the middle '50s. See, when I graduated, I think when I was a junior and senior, they started taking guys for the Korean thing. So after that was done, they came back. And I remember Alvarez had been in the military, [01:49:00] I think Army, but I'm not sure. So it was after that. And working a while, you have the downpayment money, and so it was in the middle '50s, probably.

TOM RIVERA: Probably.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah. But see, if people got the hair up on their neck, and said --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah defensive, yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: -- "Okay, I'm going to fight this," there were people that helped them fight it. So it was cleared up very fast.

TOM RIVERA: Okay.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: So there was not that separation as much as people like to remember. And I'm here to say, it was better than that.

TOM RIVERA: See, I forgot that, see. I'm delighted that I asked that question.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: So then there's a time I come home from school, it was about maybe 1955 or so, I'm a junior, maybe a sophomore before that. And daddy was -- I was home from school, and daddy came walking in the back door. It could have been a weekend, I don't know. And he says -- [01:50:00] he announced in the kitchen, because we all used the back door to the kitchen, he says, "We're going to have to move." And we all went, "What?" You know, mama said, "Why?" And he says, "Well, there are Mexicans moving in next door."

(laughter) And that was just a standing joke. And they were just wonderful people from New Mexico, who had moved in. And she still lives there and still remembers our family.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah. They were really fun neighbors.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: But daddy just had fun with that. It's how we got them --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, he used to kid about people that would want to steal our nopal plants, our tender nopales that were growing.

TOM RIVERA: Yes, yes, yes.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: He always had nopales.

TOM RIVERA: And tunas? Did he have tunas? The prickly pear?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I don't remember. She probably ate them, I didn't.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: No, I didn't like them, but daddy liked them.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: Now that we're talking about foods, and chorizos?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Chorizo, yeah. It was all -- [01:51:00] yeah. And of course, they had their favorite stores to buy their favorite things that didn't have so much fat in them, you know, because some people that made those sausages, or even tortillas, or whatever, they -- you know.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Well, somebody asked mom at one time, they were going to eat there, and he said, "Are we having Mexican food?" She said, "Well, anything I cook is Mexican food." (laughter)

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: So when I took -- in nutrition classes, and oh, in home ec in high school, we had home ec, right? So my menus always had tortillas and everything, and the teacher would say something about bread, and I'd say,

“That’s our bread. That’s our bread.” So I was proud to say what we liked to eat. And I would even tell teacher, my dad calls beans -- he would say, “Eat your strawberries,” you know. So they had to accept what we wrote in class. So I said, “That’s our menu, that’s what I want.” You don’t know --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: We were always taught to be proud of who we were.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Sure, [01:52:00] yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Because -- and our roots, I think that’s why mama would bring it all forward to this day, and say, “This is who you are.” And that’s the way I look on the genealogy. This is --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And also, she would level the important people field, because she would say, “Oh, see, MacIntosh is your school principal, right? High School principal?” “Yeah.” She said, “He was the football coach when I was in high school.” You know. Okay, you know, when you’re here a long time, you know, you see people growing.

TOM RIVERA: Yes, yes, yes. Yes. Yeah. Yeah. Well, listen, thank you so much for --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Letting us ramble on.

TOM RIVERA: -- no, for being with us this afternoon. It was just a great interview. And I’m delighted that I finally found out not only a wonderful background of your family from Agua Mansa, but also [01:53:00] of you being actively involved in the arts.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, yes, I still am.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: May I make a correction?

TOM RIVERA: Okay.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: She -- my sister, contrary to many rumors in Colton, was never in the Ramona Pageant.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, yes, never.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Never.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Never.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Didn't even want to be, did you?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: No. It was outdoors.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: But a lot of people say, "Oh yeah, your sister was in the Ramona Pageant." And I said, "No, she wasn't."

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: It was Padua Hills Theatre, but they had it wrong.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah, they didn't know.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: The Padua Hills Theatre, I was a salaried worker.

I was a salaried worker, player, whatever you call it. And that was a big difference.

In fact, they had to go hire then, what I was getting at Harris Company, which

wasn't the best pay. But they gave -- they started me at more money than I was getting at Harris Company, doing advertising. And that was --

TOM RIVERA: So that was a good move for you.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: So she switched, yeah

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, so I switched. And the people [01:54:00] in advertising were very angry, because I left just before the big Christmas push of advertising. And they said, "Don't ever come back!" And I said, "Thank you, I never will!"

TOM RIVERA: And that was in 1950 or so, was it? No, early '50s. Early '50s.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Fifty-three?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And I could remember what year -- '50-- yeah, '53, maybe.

TOM RIVERA: Yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I didn't take any music, and no dancing, because how can you follow that?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: No, see, I didn't -- I thought that --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: People say, "Oh, do you sing, too?" And I went -- "No."

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I thought that was sad that she didn't, because she has a good voice. It's a deeper voice than mine, but she could have --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: We blend. If we sing together, we blend. But, you know, people will ask.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: But she grew taller, and I grew short.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: But she had all the kids, and I had one.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I was the practice one. Is that off? Well, anyway, I'm the runt of the litter. I won't say it the other way.

TOM RIVERA: Well, listen, Dolores --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: What? [01:55:00] I have a lot of grandkids. I forgot to mention all my grandkids.

TOM RIVERA: How many grandkids do you have?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I forgot to mention all my grandkids.

TOM RIVERA: How many do you have?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: A lot.

LILY: Nine natural, and then many were her --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, I have several from a second marriage, but also, I have nine of my own grandkids, and four great grands. Three of Angelas -- five great grands and another one coming in June.

TOM RIVERA: Congratulations.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: So I have multiplied many times.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Oh, heavens!

TOM RIVERA: Do any of them sing or dance?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yes, well, her granddaughter in San Luis Obispo sings.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, yes. My son, Vince was a performer when he died. And he was a singer before, when he was in the California Boys Choir and got really good training. And I remember his middle school teacher complaining when he left. Were you teaching there, then, Mr. Acosta?

FRANK ACOSTA: No.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: When Vince was in middle school --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: "No," he said.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: -- in [01:56:00] Grand terrace. His teacher said, "Oh, if he performs in Los Angeles with this California Boys Choir, he won't want to perform with his peers." And I looked her straight in the face and I said, "His peers are the kids who want to sing and dance and perform, those are his peers. And he will be performing in many languages, and learning operatic stuff, everyday stuff, and he will be learning stage presence."

TOM RIVERA: So it was good training. Dolores, I'm going to pick on you again.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Uh-oh.

TOM RIVERA: Dolores, can we end this interview with the song that you sang before? Can you remember any of the songs that come to mind back then?

LILY: What is it you'd like to hear her sing?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Cuando Escuches Este Vals. [01:57:00]

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Oh, my God. You're pulling a surprise on me.

TOM RIVERA: I am. I know I am.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I don't sing alone much.

TOM RIVERA: I'll join you.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Three chorales, and I don't do any solo singing.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: He'll sing with you.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Okay.

TOM RIVERA: Go ahead.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: She sang at both my weddings.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Cuando escuches este vals, has un recuerdo --
No, sorry.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, go ahead.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I've been talking, and I'm not -- I'm not warmed
up, sorry. I can't sing --

TOM RIVERA: How about "Las Mañanitas?" Come on, we'll join you.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Okay. Yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: But I only know part of that.

TOM RIVERA: But I will. I will.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Okay, we'll all sing "Las Mañanitas."

LILY: We'll all sing.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Right here, come on.

ALL: Estas son las mañanitas que cantaba [1:58:00] el rey David. Hoy por ser
día de tu santo te las cantamos aquí. Despierta, mi bien, despierta. Mira que
amaneció. Ya los pajaritos cantan. La luna ya se metió. Qué linda está la
mañana en que vengo a saludarte. Venimos todos con gusto y placer a felicitarte.
Ya viene amaneciendo. Ya la luz del día nos dio. Levántate vida mía. Mira que ya
amaneció. (applause) [1:59:00]

TOM RIVERA: Thank you very much. Thank you, yes.

LILY: You know, we have not addressed the topic of mixed marriages. And I wonder if these girls might be appropriate interviewees to address that.

TOM RIVERA: Okay.

LILY: With a Hispanic community.

TOM RIVERA: Okay. Okay. Do we have tape?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: How far back would you want us to go? There have been mixes way back.

FRANK ACOSTA: We're at 12 right now.

LILY: You all (inaudible) --

TOM RIVERA: No, but what's the limit?

FRANK ACOSTA: There are 23 minutes left.

TOM RIVERA: How many minutes?

FRANK ACOSTA: Twenty-three.

TOM RIVERA: Okay. Okay, Lily, pose your question again, because we have 20 minutes.

LILY: Well, just go ahead and ask.

TOM RIVERA: No, go ahead. No no, we're not recording yet.

FRANK ACOSTA: Yes, we are.

TOM RIVERA: Oh, we are recording.

LILY: Perhaps it would be appropriate for these girls to address the topic of mixed marriages in our community.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Mixed with what?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Men and women?

LILY: Mixed in the sense of ethnicities, mixing.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Okay. [02:00:00] Well, a lot of people are Latino -
- have Latino blood, but they don't know it. Some of it is kept secret. We found out
in some of our relatives.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Oh, we didn't talk about that.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And so we've been kind of surprised at that,
because we've been raised kind of proud.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: We both married men of Mexican descent, and
mine was probably more in the [barrio?] than yours.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: They lived in the barrio, too.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah, but Phil didn't speak Spanish.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: He was a baby in his family.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Anglicized, yeah. And Gill was raised with five
sisters, my husband. But people thought we were mixed, because he was darker
than I was. And there were people I went to school with that didn't realize I was of
Mexican descent.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: But we are mixed.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And we are. And we were at an anniversary, at
Katie and Joe [Wayo?]'s anniversary party one time. And my fair-skinned mother
[02:01:00] was sitting there, and some women were speaking in Spanish behind
her. And they spoke about [Vicky]'s son and his "Gringa wife," and my mother
turned around and told him, in Spanish, that I am, that's her daughter, and I am of
Mexican descent. But people went just by looks. And but I knew of some cases
where the Mexican girl married an Anglo, and they were always self-conscious of it,
even later into the '60s. So that was too bad.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, because we had -- our great grandpa was a Smith. And our great uncles and aunts, they were, you know --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: They were all Smiths.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And we couldn't be ashamed of a Smith relative. I mean, they were mixed blood also.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: They were all mixed.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: We have [02:02:00] -- well, who did the genome study she sent to -- we have a little -- everybody has a little bit of a lot of blood.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: We all start in Asia, right? Or Africa, right?

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And then go on from there.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: They sent for our genome study. It was pretty interesting, but then, you know, it goes into the back of -- the back files.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Centuries, centuries, that.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, I mean, to keep it in our heads. It's not running around every day, either.

TOM RIVERA: Yeah. Well --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Everybody's a big mix.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: We didn't have that -- later, we both married Anglo men, but sometimes you need some Latin blood. He doesn't dance. Where did we go wrong?

TOM RIVERA: You know, I'm glad you asked that, Lily, because in my family, grandpa was from Mexico, a very, very kind of conservative person. And he was [02:03:00] very angry when his granddaughter -- you know, we had Norton Air Force Base, then they had the dances, and then they met the boys from all over the country.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Right.

TOM RIVERA: And then they brought them home. And when my grandfather saw a Gringo with his granddaughter -- ooh! Más enojado.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: We didn't have any of that.

TOM RIVERA: Más enojado -- oh!

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: We were already mixed.

TOM RIVERA: Well, no, it's -- and now we look at contemporary California, and contemporary California, especially Southern California, everybody goes to school together. Everybody gets acquainted with each other. Now, everybody is -- you know, they want somebody from whoever it is. And then they finally get married. So I guess you were ahead of the game back then, because that's what's happening in contemporary California, [02:04:00] Southern California.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: No, because our ancestors were ahead of the game.

TOM RIVERA: Yeah. That's what I mean.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: I know some families where the parents steered their daughters towards Anglo boys. They didn't want them to marry a Mexican-American. And I always thought that was kind of sad, that they were going to lose -- down the generations, I could already see that they were going to lose things. But they were so proud of their other name. And I thought -- we'd go home and tell mom, and she's, "Ehhh."

TOM RIVERA: Was it because of economic reasons?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: No, it's just to look good in front of their friends, I think. Really. There was a lot of that social --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: We never knew the reasons.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: No, but I knew some people who did. They wouldn't date -- "Oh, I don't date Mexican boys." I said, "I do." Tall ones, though. [02:05:00] Yeah. And we met at a --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah, for my sister, they had to be tall!

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: They had to be tall, because I wore heels. In fact, that's what my husband told me later, after we were married. He was telling somebody, he says, "Yeah, I fell in love with Carol because she was the first Mexican girl I could dance with cheek to cheek. And I liked it. So I kept asking her to dance." And he did. And we danced all night, we danced forever more afterwards.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Good thing mom taught us to dance. Mom and dad taught us to dance.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah. And he did. He could just -- you could tell he really enjoyed holding me, and that's what he said. He said, "I can hold you this close in public!" And that was the good thing about dancing.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, in our family, there are all kinds of races now in our whole family, right? Yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: And nobody ousted anybody on that. No. And nobody ousted Vinnie [02:06:00] when he came out as being gay, being homosexual. He -- nobody ousted Vinnie in the family, either. It was all -- it's all -- we are a mixed mash of everything, right? Everybody is welcome, because we live in a country where everybody is welcome. So why not be part of that country's credo?

TOM RIVERA: I've heard many people say that you don't marry a person from an ethnic group, you marry a person because that person is a person.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Yeah.

TOM RIVERA: Yeah.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Well, you know, I --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: If you're shopping right. If you're smart enough.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: I don't know if you could find a pure anything.

Nobody is pure any one thing.

TOM RIVERA: Well, you know the old Mexican saying, the old Mexican dish, we're a product of a capirotada. Right? We're a product of a capirotada. Well, with that, again, thank [02:07:00] you so much for being with us this afternoon --

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Thank you for giving us this time to --

TOM RIVERA: -- to thoroughly enjoy our interview.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And good luck with your stories.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: We do this -- now, I want to say right now, we do this in mom and dad's memory.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: Yes.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: They were both interested in family histories, the backward and forward. They were both interested, totally. They were both interested in relatives keeping in touch with each other, too. And we try to do that.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: They say my dad was a social director, and my mother was the --

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Historian?

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: -- the glue that held it all together.

DOLORES GALVEZ-CROUTER: Right. Yeah.

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: And they all acknowledge that. The historian.

TOM RIVERA: Well, thank you so much. Thank you. (applause)

CAROLE GALVEZ-SALAZAR: We were just -- oh!

End of Interview:
[02:07:44]