

[0:00:00]

Gary: We're interviewing Hazel Marie Thomas. Her maiden name was Wright and her home in Lenexa, Kansas on January 4th, 2010. Hazel worked on the home front during World War II in various manufacturing vocations. In fact, she was a Rosie the Riveter at the North American Aviation Plant, making B25s during World War II.

[0:00:32]

Hazel was born August the 22nd, 1924. Hazel, where did you grow up as a young girl?

Hazel: I was born in Northwest Missouri.

Gary: And where was that in Northwest Missouri?

Hazel: Graham, Missouri. And my father was a barber.

[0:01:02]

And I think about the time I was ten years old we moved to Colorado. And my father worked there for Gates Rubber Company until my mother passed away. I was ten years old. And from that point on, I've lived with loving aunts and uncles, the last ones being in Providence, Rhode Island, where I graduated from high school.

[0:01:35]

Gary: What year did you graduate high school?

Hazel: 1942.

Gary: 1942. What was your father's name, your daddy's name?

Hazel: Raymond Wright.

Gary: Raymond Wright. And how about your mother and her maiden name?

Hazel: She was Mary Esther Garrett.

Gary: Mm-hm. Any idea where Raymond and Mary Esther might've met?

[0:02:00]

Hazel: I think somewhere around Fillmore, Missouri, because that's where her parents lived.

Gary: And so she was living there.

Hazel: And his parents lived there too.

Gary: I see. How many brothers and sisters did your daddy have? Do you know? Or your mother?

Hazel: My mother had ten siblings. My father had about four: two brothers and two sisters.

[0:02:35]

Gary: Mm-hm. And your dad was a barber in Graham.

Hazel: Yes.

Gary: And then you moved to Colorado when the - more opportunity out there with Gates Rubber, making things, I'm sure, for the military.

Hazel: Oh, this was...

Gary: It was before the war.

Hazel: ...before the war. Long before the war, they made automobile tires.

Gary: Tires. Mm-hm.

[0:03:03]

And your mom and dad must've met up there around...

Hazel: I'm sure.

Gary: ...Fillmore, I'm sure. The good news is they found each other. And you were one of how many brothers and sisters?

Hazel: Six.

Gary: There were six of you. And were you the oldest? Youngest?

Hazel: No. I have a sister and a brother older than I, but the brother then passed away when he was about ten.

[0:03:33]

So that made me the second oldest with three brothers behind that.

Gary: Are any of your brothers and sisters living today?

Hazel: All but one. I have a sister and two brothers living.

Gary: Did they live up around the home place?

Hazel: They all live - let's see. I have one brother here. And my brother and sister, other than that, live up near Maryville, Missouri.

[0:04:04]

Gary: Mm-hm. So you went to, when you were ten years old, and your mother died, your dad obviously couldn't look after six children. And so they kind of farmed you out. And you lived with various aunts and uncles.

Hazel: In the Missouri area. He brought us all back to Missouri. And we had, of course, lots of aunts and uncles. And they were just more than willing to help us out.

[0:04:34]

Gary: Mm-hm. How'd you happen to get to Providence, Rhode Island?

Hazel: My one aunt married a doctor. And he was an Italian fellow. And they lived in Providence, Rhode Island. And by the time they had a family, they needed a babysitter, which was myself. And I went there to live with them and take care of their little ones and lived there two years until I graduated from high school.

[0:05:05]

Gary: Mm-hm. Did your dad happen to serve in World War I, do you know?

Hazel: He was drafted after he'd had no family and was stationed at Leavenworth, Kansas.

Gary: Mm-hm. So to the best of your knowledge, do you have any other people in your family who've served in the military going back to maybe the Civil War?

Hazel: I don't know back that far.

[0:05:31]

I had a brother-in-law and several cousins that served during World War II.

Gary: Mm-hm. Was it kind of a normal childhood upbringing for you, other than the fact that your mother did pass away at age ten and that completely disrupted your family life?

Hazel: Yeah. I didn't have good contact with my brothers and sisters.

[0:06:04]

But on family celebrations and that sort of thing, we kind of kept in contact. But since we've all grown and have families, it's not a problem now. We stay in contact with one another.

Gary: Mm-hm. That's wonderful. Do you know, when did your dad's people, when did they, Wright, come to this country, from what country? Any idea?

[0:06:30]

Hazel: Have no idea, but they came to somewhere in the east.

Gary: Mm-hm. Somewhere in the east, and then somehow they got out to Missouri.

Hazel: Yes. I don't know how.

Gary: Did your dad go to barber school, do you know, or did he just learn on the job?

Hazel: I think he went to barber school, but that would've been when I was really small.

Gary: Mm-hm. So you went to Providence, Rhode Island, and you lived with an aunt and uncle.

[0:07:04]

And you babysat their kids. And you went to Providence High School.

Hazel: Mount Pleasant in Rhode Island.

Gary: And what year did you graduate high school?

Hazel: 1942.

Gary: 1942. Now as you know, the war began on December 7th, 1941, when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor.

[0:07:30]

You would've been 17 years old at that time. And it quickly became obvious that all the young men were going to have to go to the military, those who were fit, because they all went. Did your uncle, did he go to the service?

Hazel: No.

Gary: Maybe because he was a doctor.

Hazel: I think he was spared from that.

Gary: Mm-hm. And did your brothers serve in World War II?

[0:08:04]

Hazel: One brother. His name was Roy Wright, and he served overseas. And at one time, he was stationed where he took care of those big white horses that performed so well.

Gary: Mm-hm. In Austria.

Hazel: In Austria.

Gary: The Lipizzaners.

Hazel: Yes.

[0:08:29]

That was kind of a highlight for him. And my brother-in-law was a man who transmitted messages. And he was stationed in the Philippines.

Gary: Mm-hm. So you got out of high school in 1942.

Hazel: In May.

Gary: May of '42. What did you do then?

Hazel: I went to a welding school for three months.

Gary: Back here in St. Joe, Missouri.

[0:09:01]

Hazel: I came home from Providence in May and went immediately to welding school in St. Joe, Missouri, and served there about three months.

Gary: That was sponsored by the National Youth Administration, which was a national program to give you something to do, give them a meaningful trade. Correct?

Hazel: Yes.

[0:09:29]

Gary: And so they had schools everywhere. They had the welding school in St. Joe. How did you happen to hear about that school, do you know?

Hazel: When I came from Providence, I stayed with an aunt who lived in St. Joe. And probably by word of mouth or something, they knew there was a school there. And it just didn't take any time at all to get enrolled.

Gary: And so you learned to weld.

Hazel: Yes.

[0:10:00]

Gary: There was a great need for welders, and particularly, all the able-bodied men of military service age were sending, and so it fell to the women and 4F guys, guys who couldn't qualify for the military, to do all of the work back home to supply all the military activity.

Hazel: That's true.

Gary: So you had three months of welding school. Learned a lot, I'm sure.

[0:10:31]

Hazel: Oh, I'm sure.

Gary: And then did he find you a job?

Hazel: Yes, sir. They did. They had jobs waiting for us. And only requirement we needed, we had to have a vaccination and \$20 cash to keep us until we got a paycheck. Those were the only two qualifications.

Gary: So where did you go to work then?

Hazel: Rearwin Aircraft.

Gary: Rearwin, R-E-A-R-W-I-N, Aircraft in Kansas City.

[0:11:01]

Hazel: In Kansas City, Kansas. And the National Youth Administration found the job for you.

Hazel: I'm sure that's who did.

Gary: Oh, you had to interview, of course. But they said, "Go talk to these people."

Hazel: Yes.

Gary: And what was the Rearwin Manufacturer Airplane Company doing?

Hazel: Gliders. They made transport gliders. And that was their only industry.

Gary: And where were they making the gliders at that time?

[0:11:32]

Hazel: In Kansas City, Kansas. And during the process, they changed their name to Commonwealth, and they moved into the American Royal Building.

Gary: The American Royal Building, making gliders for the military. Okay. And what was your job then at Commonwealth?

[0:12:00]

Hazel: Mostly working on the nose of the glider.

Gary: Do you mean welding?

Hazel: Yes.

Gary: Fabricating, manufacturing?

Hazel: Didn't do any fabricating, just welding.

Gary: Welding. All day every day? Is it a 40-hour week?

Hazel: Yes.

Gary: Where were you living at that time?

Hazel: It was a nice old lady, had a boarding home at 7th and Quindaro Street. And we all were able to land there.

[0:12:30]

And she was really nice. Didn't need any money until we got a paycheck.

Gary: That was good, wasn't it?

Hazel: Yes. She fixed our lunches and we rode the bus to work.

Gary: The bus came by, they took it on -- it was a pretty good haul, actually -- across the bridge and down into the American Royal area.

Hazel: Probably five miles or more.

Gary: Mm-hm. And all women living there at the boardinghouse?

Hazel: Yes. All women.

[0:13:00]

Gary: Mm-hm. And then you went down there and then of course you had men and women working.

Hazel: Yes.

Gary: Was it hard, difficult work for you?

Hazel: When you get used to it, just like a job, you do your job and let everybody else do theirs.

Gary: Any idea how long it took to make a big glider?

Hazel: I haven't any idea.

Gary: Mm-hm. But you made one. Were you working on more than one glider at a time?

[0:13:31]

Hazel: I don't remember that we were. But certainly, there had to be some preparation ahead of the welding.

Gary: Yes. How did you happen to leave Commonwealth to go to North American Aviation at the bomber plant in Fairfax making B25s?

Hazel: I had married the supervisor, the welding supervisor.

[0:14:02]

And we couldn't both work there because he was my supervisor. So we quit, went to St. Louis working at the - it was a (beer) distributor. Had opened their wagon shop for people to build gliders.

[0:14:29]

And we went there and immediately went to work. And by his changing jobs, he was drafted into the Army. And then I came back to Kansas City and went to work for the North American Aviation.

Gary: Where were you living when you worked for North American?

Hazel: By that time, I had a little home out in the west edge of town.

[0:15:02]

Gary: The west edge of town of Kansas City, Kansas at that time wasn't very far west, was it?

Hazel: No, it wasn't.

Gary: Twenty-second, 23rd street. Something like that maybe.

Hazel: Yeah.

Gary: Mm-hm. And so you rode the bus to - did you have a car? Did you ride the bus?

Hazel: No. I never had a car until after I was remarried.

Gary: Were you working the day shift?

Hazel: I worked at times different shifts. They ran a three-shift operation.

[0:15:30]

Gary: Now at one time or over the life of that plant down there, 60,000 different people worked there. Probably in the welding department you had many people working, didn't you?

Hazel: We had a number of them. That one picture shows how many in that welding department. They had a number of departments.

Gary: Mm-hm. Do you remember how much an hour you were making?

Hazel: At the time that the war was over and we no longer had a job...

[0:16:02]

...class A welders were making \$1.35 an hour, which was top pay for a class A welder.

Gary: That was very good pay, wasn't it?

Hazel: That was the same as men. There was no difference between men and women according to their classification.

Gary: Were you working five days a week or six days?

[0:16:32]

Hazel: I think five. I don't recall any overtime.

Gary: Was the plant working seven days a week and you just had staggered shifts?

Hazel: I'm sure it was, but I don't really recall.

Gary: It was hard, strenuous work, wasn't it?

Hazel: I was a gas welder, and that's lighter work than electrical welding.

Gary: And what was your job in welding? You were welding wings on?

[0:17:05]

Hazel: No, no. Just small parts that made up the parts of the airplane. The parts were delivered to our workbench by a person on roller skates. And when I finished one job, they brought me another one, and we were never informed of what part of the airplane it was.

[0:17:30]

Gary: Just weld it and get it done in a hurry.

Hazel: Yes. But each weld had to be stamped with a number. My number was ten. And if they picked up that part and it wasn't good, they knew exactly who had welded it. I never had any returned.

Gary: You did a good job.

Hazel: I hope.

Gary: Now did you carry your lunch or did they have a cafeteria?

Hazel: We carried lunch at our convenience, but there was a cafeteria that was open around the clock.

[0:18:05]

Gary: And when you got home, you were living by yourself at that time, were you not?

Hazel: Yes.

Gary: And when you got home you were pretty tired probably, weren't you? Just ready...

Hazel: Oh, I was young. I loved to garden and mow grass and that sort of thing. So I stayed busy. And I had neighbors. Neighborhoods were different in those days.

Gary: Yes.

[0:18:30]

You kept pretty much abreast about what was going on in the war, didn't you?

Hazel: I worked up until the time that it was over. So we did know.

Gary: Putting out airplanes, putting out B25s. As you know, the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor December 7th, 1941, and that started the war. And then we invaded Europe. D-Day was June the 6th, 1944.

[0:19:00]

And the war ended in Europe on May the 8th of 1945. But of course, the war in the Pacific was still going on. So as far as you're concerned, on a day-to-day basis, you didn't do a whole lot different. Based on what was going on in the war, your job was to help make airplanes.

Hazel: Yes.

Gary: And as you know, we dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima on August the 6th of 1945.

[0:19:34]

And the Japs didn't surrender. August the 9th we dropped the second bomb on Nagasaki. They didn't surrender. Finally, they surrendered August 15th, 1945. And the surrender document was signed on the deck of the USS Missouri battleship, September 2nd, 1945, in Tokyo Bay. And the war was over.

[0:20:01]

I'm sure that was greeted with a great deal of enthusiasm down at the bomber plant, wasn't it?

Hazel: Oh, it really was. And that ended my job.

Gary: And the job ended soon after because you quit making planes because we didn't need them.

Hazel: Yes.

Gary: Now during the time that you were working there, did you have big departmental meetings, or did you ever have big employee meetings where they came and talked to you about what was going on in the war?

[0:20:32]

Hazel: Not really anything about the war, but there were various meetings, which were more of a friendly, get acquainted thing. I don't recall anything business wise.

Gary: Did you feel that everybody was on board, behind what was going on, and attitudes were good about all the hard work?

[0:21:00]

Hazel: Everybody was tickled to death the war was over, but that raised another problem. You had to find a job.

Gary: That's true. And so what did you do? You weren't married at that time. You married Charlie in June the 29th of 1946. So what did you do?

[0:21:27]

They said, "Great job. Thank you for what you did, Hazel, but we don't need you anymore."

Hazel: I immediately looked at the want ads. And lo and behold, they needed some welders down at Vita Craft, which makes household cooking utensils.

Gary: Pots and pans.

Hazel: Pots and pans. And they needed a welder. So I went there immediately and got hired...

[0:22:00]

...and began putting handles on pots and pans. And I welded them on and everything just went fine.

Gary: And so how long did you work at Vita Craft?

Hazel: I must have worked there a year and a half or so. But they changed the location and moved farther from my home. And I had never learned to drive a car.

[0:22:27]

So by that time, I had married Mr. Thomas and really didn't need to work. So I left Vita Craft and didn't work for a number of years.

Gary: Started a family, which we'll talk about in a little bit. But then you did go back to work. And of course, you have these great skills and all this welding experience. So where did you go to work then when you finally did again?

Hazel: Probably in 1959 or so.

[0:23:02]

I'm not sure of that date. Finances were getting kind of low, and I had three children. We needed more things. So I got a job on the midnight shift at EMCO Container in Kansas City, Missouri, and worked there 21 years.

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This was a plastic plant that made numerous kinds of containers. And they had lines running and machines going. It was a busy time. And women were kind of restricted to women's work. And if you decide you want a man's job, you weren't very popular.

[0:24:00]

Gary: Because you were competing with a man, or they just felt like...?

Hazel: There were different jobs that ladies liked and the men liked. I thought I could run a forklift as good as a fellow, so I bid on a job and got the forklift to run and really was not very popular.

Gary: Because you were competing with a man for a man's job.

Hazel: Yeah.

Gary: That probably didn't bother you a whole lot, did it?

[0:24:28]

Hazel: It paid more money.

Gary: Sure. So you worked at EMCO quite - and then where did you go?

Hazel: I went to Kramer Industries down in Kansas City, Kansas. And they made ladders and chairs and office equipment. And I worked there.

Gary: Were you welding down there?

Hazel: No. Worked on the assembly line and upholstered chairs.

[0:25:04]

And then I went to Fairway Office Center in Roeland Park, Kansas, and worked in the maintenance department of the office building for nine more years.

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By that time, my husband was gone and my children were grown, so I retired.

Gary: Ever since you were a young girl, I'd say young, after you got out of high school and you went to welding class, you've been in welding doing man's work, what was thought of as man's work.

Hazel: Non-traditional.

Gary: Uh-huh. I'm sure that was a great example for other women to feel, "Any job that can be done by a man can be done by a woman."

[0:26:05]

Hazel: It sure can.

Gary: I'm sure you have a lot of satisfaction, I'm sure, out of having done that and knowing that.

Hazel: I've been active, and I think that helps you live longer.

Gary: So that was a good career. You served your country well during the war and served you and your family well after the war with skills that you'd learned from the National Youth Administration...

[0:26:35]

...class of welding. Let's talk about the most important part of your life, your family. You and Charlie, Mr. Wright...

Hazel: Mr. Thomas.

Gary: Mr. Thomas. I'm sorry.

Hazel: It's okay.

Gary: Your maiden name was Wright. You and Charlie married on June the 29th, 1946. Where did you meet Charlie?

[0:27:01]

Hazel: He and his son lived in the same apartment building that I did. And they were active people and asked me to go fishing. So I did, and that was the beginning of a real romance.

Gary: Ah. How long did you and Charlie go together before you married?

Hazel: Oh, six months or so.

Gary: Did sparks fly right away when you started fishing and just being together?

[0:27:33]

Hazel: Yes, that just kept going.

Gary: Uh-huh. Where did you get married?

Hazel: Warsaw, Missouri.

Gary: Went down to the Lake of the Ozarks to get married.

Hazel: Yes.

Gary: Did you catch any fish that weekend?

Hazel: No.

Gary: That's wonderful. How many children do you and Charlie have?

Hazel: We had three: one girl and two boys.

Gary: Who is the oldest one?

Hazel: Amy Sue.

[0:28:02]

Gary: Amy Sue. And where does she live today?

Hazel: She lives in Overland Park.

Gary: Okay. That's close by here. That's wonderful. Does she have children?

Hazel: She had two boys, and they both live in California.

Gary: What are their names? The boys in California?

Hazel: Boys in California, one is (Steven) and the other is (Brian). And they have small children. They have Andrew and Lissa.

[0:28:33]

And I can't remember the other little kid's name.

Gary: You'll think of it. How about your number two child?

Hazel: He's grown and retired.

Hazel: What's his name?

Hazel: Charles Junior.

Gary: Charles Junior. And where does he live?

Hazel: He lives in Leavenworth, Kansas.

Gary: Okay. That's just up the road just a little ways. Does he have children?

Hazel: He has three. Two of them are in their 30s.

[0:29:04]

And then he has one little darling that's six.

Gary: What are the two who are in their 30s? What are their names?

Hazel: [Stacia] and Robert.

Gary: And Robert. And how about the little six-year-old darling?

Hazel: She is Chloe.

Gary: Chloe. Yeah. We're going to show a picture of Chloe. That's wonderful. So that's five grandchildren so far.

[0:29:30]

Okay. And how about your third child?

Hazel: That's James Daniel. We call him Danny. And he had one daughter and she's married and living in Lawrence, Kansas, and has two sons, Michael Junior and Jaden.

Gary: And where does James live?

Hazel: Lawrence, Kansas.

Gary: Okay. So he's just a hop, skip, and a jump away. That's wonderful. So all your children, your three children, live within an hour's time of where we're sitting right here.

[0:30:05]

That's absolutely wonderful. So three children, six grandchildren. How many great-grandchildren?

Hazel: Six.

Gary: And six great-grandchildren. That is absolutely wonderful. You've got some very nice pictures of your life and your career and your family. Let's take a look at some of them.

[0:30:31]

Hazel, who are these beautiful people?

Hazel: It's my mother's family: her father and mother and siblings. There were 11 all together. But I think two may not be in there.

Gary: What were her mom and dad's name? Do you know?

Hazel: Her mother's name was Helen Anne, and her father was William Garrett.

[0:31:03]

Gary: And were they living on the farm up north?

Hazel: Yes.

Gary: They were living on the farm. And here's your mother. Must've been among the oldest ones.

Hazel: I think she was the oldest.

Gary: There's a great picture of them. So who is this little girl?

[0:31:30]

Hazel: This is my mother's mother, Helen Anne Rutherford. And she was born in 1884.

Gary: Did you know your grandparents very well?

Hazel: Very, very not well.

Gary: Because the children were kind of dispersed and because your mother had died.

Hazel: The most of us off and on did live with her at a time, between the time we were grown and were orphaned.

[0:32:05]

Gary: Mm-hm.

Hazel: This is my grandmother, Helen Anne Rutherford and my mother on the right who was Mary Esther Garrett.

Gary: Your mother is on the left as the camera sees it. And her mother, your grandmother, on the right.

[0:32:31]

This is a prized picture that you have, isn't it? And here's a shot of your mother, probably about the time that she married.

Hazel: I would think so.

Gary: She looks like she's a young woman. Got the long skirt on. Dressed.

Hazel: Boots. Lace-up boots. Who's this lady, Hazel?

Hazel: This is Minnie Wright, and she's my aunt.

[0:33:05]

And this is her 100th birthday.

Gary: In St. Joe, Missouri. Did you ever live with her?

Hazel: Yes, when I was in the seventh grade.

Gary: Here's a beautiful shot of Hazel, high school graduation, Providence, Rhode Island, 1942.

[0:33:29]

Ready to go out and conquer the world. Here's a great shot of Hazel doing her welding job down at North American Aviation. And she has a number of badges that you had to wear, you had to have them on. Security was tight, and you had to have a badge to get in and a badge to show the kind of work that you did.

[0:34:01]

Hazel: And a badge to get out.

Gary: And a badge to get out. Here's a picture taken before she went to North American Aviation making B24s, and this is when she was making gliders with Consolidated. Down on the front row where she belongs. This is the whole welding department. As you can see, it took a lot of people to make a glider.

[0:34:32]

These are just the welders.

Hazel: And here's a great shot of Charles and Hazel about the time they got married. And that wedding date was June the 29th, 1946. Sadly, he passed away in 1981. But you had 35 years together. Here's a good shot of a B25...

[0:35:00]

...in the process of being constructed. You worked on the nose.

Hazel: No. I worked on small parts.

Gary: Oh. Small parts. That's right. Manufacturing small parts. And I believe it was in August of 1944, you were making 13 planes a day, average, B25, out of the North American Aviation Plant.

[0:35:30]

Lots of people doing lots of work. And here's a great shot of the B25 in flight. Lots of hard work by a lot of dedicated people. Helped make this plane a real workhorse for the air force, air corps, at that time. And here's a shot of one that for sure was made in Kansas City called the Killer from Kansas City. Here are your three children.

[0:36:02]

Help me out. Who are they, starting on the left?

Hazel: Danny is on the left. Charles Junior is in the middle. And Amy Sue is on the right.

Gary: They've grown up a little since then. Let's see how they look today, or more recently than this. And here is a picture of the Thomas family taken about 1975. Charles and Hazel.

[0:36:35]

Hazel: Danny, Amy, and Charles Junior.

Gary: Oh, what a beautiful family. So now let's look at five of the six grandchildren. We've got the six picture. Who's that in the back?

Hazel: Steven.

Gary: Steven. And then we've got...

Hazel: You want on the right?

[0:37:01]

Brian and Stacia.

Gary: And then down on the bottom.

Hazel: Bobby and Jennifer.

Gary: Oh. How about that sixth grandchild? And here's number six, Chloe. What a beautiful child. What beautiful grandchildren you have. Hazel has pictures of three of her great-grandchildren. Who are these beauties? I understand it's a recent picture you just got.

[0:37:31]

Hazel: Yes. Just got it. (Breanna), Andrew, and Alissa.

Gary: Oh. What beautiful children. You're a proud great-grandmother to these children aren't you?

Hazel: Yes. They're nice.

Gary: Who do we have here?

Hazel: We have Hazel and my brother, (Roy Lee Wright).

Gary: When you were a little gal, when both of you were small.

[0:38:05]

Hazel had four living brothers and sisters in addition to herself. And they're all still living today except Roy who passed away last year. Who are they left to right here, Hazel?

Hazel: Robert, Hazel, Roy, Helen, and Lloyd.

[0:38:31]

Gary: And do they all live pretty close to Kansas City?

Hazel: Yeah. Robert and Helen live Northwest Missouri by Maryville.

Gary: Hazel, I've got one last question. You served your country very well during World War II and, of course, since then.

[0:38:58]

But I wanted to ask you, how do you feel today about what you did back then, a woman doing what was considered a man's job at that time?

Hazel: I was extremely proud to have a job and be supporting myself in addition to being a credit to my country. But at the same time, I was just a kid growing up and enjoying life.

[0:39:30]

Gary: Well said. Hazel, I want to thank you very much for this interview. And most of all, I want to thank you for what you did for our country.

Hazel: Thank you.

Gary: You're welcome.