

## REEL 18

### PRINTED FOR MARK FREEMAN

#### Interview with Tami

**00:00.26:25**

Tami

No, that's my Grandfather, my grandfather, but that's not my father's family, that's my mother's family. Do you still want to talk about that? I'm ....well, I really didn't know I had a grandfather until I was in about the fifth grade, when he was dying and so he went to where he was which was another camp, but he had been one of the first, he was the first Japanese to graduate from USC dental school and my grandmother had sent him to school. But he was from Japan, obviously very smart because he had to go to school in English, take it in English, they didn't do it in any other language and he was a very successful dentist in downtown Japanese town this was way before the war. He and my grandmother divorced. That's why I didn't know I had a grandfather....I always thought he had died. My grandmother was a midwife and she actually had the smarts and the money to put my grandfather through school, they bought a house in my mom's name and the house was like a hospital and they used that hospital, everybody used it because the Japanese doctors could not take a patient into different hospitals at that time and so she had a lot of doctors that worked with her and she actually had a place that was separate from her house where these women came to have their babies.

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It was in Los Angeles, downtown Los Angeles, it was a little house on Crocker Street and she owned actually the three houses on that street she owned them and each of those three houses had houses in the back that she rented. And the front house, the first front house was near ninth street, which is right downtown LA and it was an old house that she had little birthing rooms and like a ward for these women and she originally lived next door so it was easy for her to just - nine houses. Some of them all paid up, most of them not paid up but the renters were actually paying for the mortgage.

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My grandmother helped him I'm sure because my dad didn't have the money to start these restaurants and they were all down on what everybody called "skid row" on main street, there were four restaurants on main street, US Café, number one, two, three and four and he hired many people because one of the restaurants was open 24 hours and it had a bar and truck drivers and people that were coming in and out of LA that needed to eat at all different hours, you could probably get a full meal for about 25 cents and I supposed the bar was also about that same price, I've seen pictures when I was a baby they had menus in the window of the US Café and you could get a full meal for 15 cents to 25 cents including coffee, tea and dessert. Just before the war it was getting very difficult for my dad cause he had hired so many people, I mean he had, because the restaurant was open 24 hours, and so he had decided that he was going to pull out and sell insurance and he had just started the agency but he was still pretty much running the restaurant but he had so much family, his brothers and brothers-in-law and sisters that were working in the restaurant that he thought if he could pull himself out of it and turn it over to his next brother that it would probably be a good thing, which is what he tried to do.

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Yes, he was at the time of the war he had already been president of different chapters of the Japanese American Citizens League and was serving as the district chairman of the JCL which included Washington, Oregon, California Nevada, and Hawaii so he was a leader and he was also at that time president of the Restaurant Association group and he was, taken Dale Carnegie's speech class and was a very good speaker both in Japanese and English so he was visible, very visible just before the war in many organizations, you just couldn't keep - he was a real believer in returning back to the community but he liked it, he loved all that community service in fact we used to kid him that he probably spent more time doing that - which was a good thing when he decided he was gonna do an agency in insurance because he'd already built up quite a reputation and he had originally been a sewing machine salesman after he graduated from college...

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At the time of the war I was ten years old, I thought we were rich and part of it was because I was an only child and whatever I wanted everybody got for me, and I really didn't realize our economic situation, we had a car and we had a house and my dad was playing golf and he was a leader so I thought we were quite wealthy, I was raised to think that we were wealthy but it's kind of a rude awakening to find out we really weren't rich in money, but never was I ever without anything. We had a good life at the time of the war, very comfortable, lived in a real nice area, not downtown Los Angeles but the southwest of LA which was kind of just starting to be integrated. Where we lived, what had been all white, but was starting to become Asians and a few blacks and right next door to us was the minister, the black minister, the largest black church in LA, the Baptist church, and he had a house twice as big as ours and across the.....just prior to being told that we had to leave, my dad was having all these secret meetings at night, in fact we were really afraid because we'd already gotten these notices that Japanese were not to be out on the streets after dark and these white people that I didn't even know, but later I found out they were military people would pick my dad up at night and take him somewhere. And it wasn't like they were arresting him or anything, they were actually his friends and they were taking him somewhere and that's what those meetings I guess about what they were going to do with Japanese Americans after December 7<sup>th</sup>, or all the Japanese, we weren't really surprised because we knew it was coming and that's one of the things people have always been split about, because Japanese American Citizen League felt very strongly that we should do what the government wanted us to do and quietly leave. So we were like the first family to leave LA and we were called, at that time, volunteers. Because my dad stayed until all the Japanese were moved out of the west coast and because he was going to stay until the end, he thought it was very necessary that all of us and his family go into camp first. So we left in April of '42, which was very soon after Pearl Harbor and the camps weren't even really ready yet.

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When we got there there was no classes, when we got to camp, there was no classes, nothing yet, I don't remember during the April May going to school, it wasn't until September until the schools were ready, but then I went to elementary school, but we weren't there very long because there was a riot in camp in December of the anniversary of Pearl Harbor and it was that time that my dad was attacked and my family was moved out of ?

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and sent to Death Valley. Protective camp was what they called it, which was, we had a lot more freedom in Death Valley but it wasn't a camp that was built for people, it was an abandoned CCC camp. So we had to go in and make the rooms and get everything working and it did have a mess hall and my family was into restaurants so that was very easy but there were 85 of us that were moved out of Mancinar after the riots. We stayed in Death Valley until, I think it was April of that next year because they were trying to find jobs for us all of us to go to so my dad's family all went to Chicago and worked at Club Aluminum and my dad got a job as a teacher at the Navy language school in Boulder, Colorado. Everybody that was the 85, I don't know how many adults and children there were, but there were 85 of us and the adults were all found jobs, the government all found us jobs and we all relocated by, so we had been actually in camp a year, a little older than a year. My first grandmother, the one who was a midwife, died on Armistice day in November in Mancinar and my other grandmother, my Tayama grandmother passed away December 24<sup>th</sup> also in Mancinar. So we had two funerals, my second grandmother's funeral, because we were in Death Valley, they brought her body to Death Valley but we unlike a lot of the families that did bury their people there, we had them cremated and buried much later.

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Well my grandmother that passed away in November, she had diabetes when we went to camp and they didn't have a kidney machine at the hospital and they said if they had a kidney machine or could've taken her to where there was, but even in Lone Pine there was not a kidney machine at that time so she died of kidney failure so and she was only 59. So yeah, I think if we had been in LA where there was a hospital, it would've been a different thing. My other grandmother, however, she had kidney cancer so I don't think she would have....she was also 59. When we came back after the war, he thought all the time that he was going to be hired by the navy and get a commission and go back. We had one house left, during the whole time there were, they'd call and they'd want a water heater, or something when we think about it was not very expensive but we never had the money so we'd sell one of the houses and by the time we can back we still had one house which he still owed on the loan, but at least we had a house. And our house for the first year was like a hostel. Everybody came, I mean, I remember we had a breakfast nook and that was my bedroom because people were sleeping everywhere but they didn't have

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anyplace...cause as soon as camps closed, they said you can go back now but nobody had any money and I'm not real sure, Joe keeps telling me they gave us \$50 which seemed like a lot to get out of camp, but we weren't in camp so we didn't get the \$50 but the people that were in camp, like Joe's parents were given \$50 to go home but they needed that money to rent a place and of course we had our house but it was a total disaster and my dad spent all summer I remember all summer painting and redoing the house I mean everything was a total disaster when we got back, I mean the house was old but nobody took care of it.

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At first my dad worked as a fry cook at a restaurant because that was one of the things he knew how to do and one of our, his really good friends who was also prominent in the JACL, was managing a gardenia place and he said to my dad, you know we're getting to the point where the florists don't want gardenias unless they're tailored meaning fixed up, partially made into corsages, if you want to take over the business, you can try that. And that's how we got into the flower business, he started tailoring gardenias and kept that up for must have been '46, '47, '48 and then it got that the gardenia people knew that they couldn't actually, we were doing more than they were doing, the growers, so they took back that portion of the business and my dad's friend, Georgina Gaki who had started this said, you know I'm going to have to take this back because our company needs to do that part of it so my dad went to Hawaii and was the first person to start shipping tropical flowers from Hawaii which was in '48. And we had already established selling the flower market so it was just kind of an added thing. The gardenias we got to keep from the grower who didn't want, if he wanted to leave things at the market, then he let us sell it so we still had that portion and then my dad went into tropical and then into orchids. One day this man, and that's a kind of interesting story because this man was a major stock holder in union oil, his name was JW Ernstram and he was a grandson of the man who started JW Robinson department store and he had this orchid collection and I used to call him Mr. Tennis Shoes because he always had tennis shoes and this dirty scroungey dog that later we found out that he was a pure bred.....this huge orchid business that this man, he grew them in Southgate in Pasadena he had greenhouses and at that time he was single but he got married and passed away very young and his widow came to my dad and said I don't know what to do with these plants. It was all in that process of buying those plants from Mrs. Ernstram that we ultimately came

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down to Encinitas and that too was because of his relationship with Paul Ecke, Sr. Who wanted my dad to come down here and gave him a deal that we couldn't pass up. He said I'll go with you to get a loan, I'll let you carry the deed so that you can borrow the money to build greenhouses, so we bought the Ernstram collection and he brought it down here and even then it was in '60 and it was at that time in 1960 that my father finally paid off his debt that he owed for payroll withholdings during the war that the man who managed his restaurant didn't do and the interest was so much that it took him until 1960 to pay that off so that he could borrow money to build the greenhouses.

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Actually, the restaurants were kind of abandoned because the man who was running it, we never did find him. He never paid the payroll taxes and of course we never got any money so when he came back he couldn't start the restaurant because he would be starting way in debt so he started the flower business in my mother's name. And even in those days there were people to advise you how to do things, really what we would say now is illegally but there was no other way to make any money so my mom owned the business until 1960 when my father finally paid it off. I don't know how much it was but it was in the thousands, they did after we got back stop the interest but he was always paying on that. It was always a weight over his shoulder and he was so happy when we came down to Encinitas because now the business was in his name, too..... Well, grandpa had moved down here sometime before that and he had visions of having Encinitas be the flower capital of the world and he had a lot of carnation growers and he wanted to have every kind of flower and when my dad was thinking about buying the orchid collection, he really wanted an orchid grower down here so even the property that we were on was the property that the Ecke's owned and he just wanted my dad and he liked my dad and my dad liked him and he trusted him and he just wanted to start this ball rolling of having Encinitas be the flower capital of the world.

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Well, they owned all that property, the Ecke's owned all of this property and my dad, there was no I5 and at that time grandpa Ecke said to my dad, I5 is going to come right through this property and if you want to be right there by I5 I'll find you a piece and he had all the property from Camp

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Pendelton down to Manchester, in fact I don't know how much they still own but for years Grandpa Ecke had that spot at that restaurant on Encinitas Blvd. And there still is that plaque on this one booth that says if he ever comes into the restaurant that this booth is his and he ate there every day till he couldn't go to the restaurant anymore and it was always that he owned that property in fact he had a big packing shed right there on Encinitas Blvd. And it's that packing shed that he stored many of the Japanese farmer's things there during the war. So he owned a lot of property and purchased all of that just coming down here.

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Well, see when the Japanese had to leave this area we weren't here then so I don't know that for sure but I know that everyone always said that the big packing shed on Encinitas blvd. He stored all the farmers things, not all their things but if they had a piano, or something that the one thing they didn't want to sell or get rid of, he stored for them in this packing shed. And he always had this wonderful relationship with all the Japanese people partly because he got to know them because the flower market in Los Angeles was a split market the one side street was what they called the white market and the other side of the street was the Japanese American market where the Japanese couldn't get into the white market which was grandpa Paul owned most of it and it was during those times I think when they saw how hard working they were and their relationship was strong just before the war and of course continued after and the two markets are still separate but they work together pretty much because they're on the same street.

Well see originally the only way you could get in to sell anything in the Japanese market was that you had to be a stockholder so we bought stocks in it and we still own shares in the flower market and it's only been the last few years where it has paid a dividend so it's finally paying off but yes we still own we have a place on wall street, we've been there since 47, 46 or 47. Now we have a place in Paul's building in Carlsbad at the San Diego floral center but that one is strictly rental, we just rent it.

I guess I would have to say probably in the late 60's and beginning 70s, we had every kind of flower grower I mean chrysanthemums, roses, carnations all the specialty flowers and it was the boom, and there are only two flower markets in the United States and one of them is in Los Angeles and the

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other one is in San Francisco, so it was always kind of a dream to have one down here in San Diego which finally the Ecke's did build the floral center in Carlsbad but now most of the flower grower's properties have become homes and there are very few flower growers left. Partly, well, a lot of it has to do with the fact that the growers were getting older, none of their children wanted to be in it, they could see there were other easier ways to make a living, it's hard work growing flowers or growing anything. so now I think, I don't know how many, but associations very small, it was a huge association at one time but now it's very small and most of them are green plants.

**00:28.36:24**

When we first came to Encinitas, it was a part of a county, we weren't a city, it was rural, beachy rural which was wonderful raising children, raising flowers, now we're a city, very much a city, I think maybe there were about 4 or 5 thousand people and now we're like 60,000 at the last count. It's just changed drastically. But it was a change that I think we knew was coming I mean we live in such a wonderful place that it's great for growing flowers that people want to be there so I think we all knew that we didn't have that much of a future, but I don't know if we thought it was going to happen in my lifetime, my dad always said it was going to happen but it didn't happen in his but I didn't think it was going to change so drastically in our lifetime. Now it's like a day to day wondering how long we can stay where we're at. All the other flower growers around us have sold, there's only one small greenhouse still up there besides ours and all the houses that they're building around us, they're all going for a million dollars so when you try to figure out how many orchids you have to sell to equate that, you don't know how long you can stay here and the only reason I think we've been able to stay here is that we paid for the property years ago and we don't owe anybody for it which is kind of nice.

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Michael started college, and before going to college, he really didn't want any part of the greenhouse. He took his senior year he was entrepreneur business school and he had to turn in a project to get his degree and his project, I'm not really positive of the name, I think it was the orchid farm, and he had, he drew up a plan of having a place similar to the places in Honolulu or Hilo where tour buses would come and you would be open to



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sell plants and things and he drew it all up and in that, he got interested in the business and for a while there he wanted to be a musician and he tried that, he went to Hawaii to play in a band and hated it and when he came back he had said you know I think I would really like to work in Los Angeles at the whole sale flower market and I said if you are really thinking about it then I think you need to find another job so you can tell your Dad what your salary is because I don't know if we could afford that or if he would even want to so he did go look around and made a presentation and of course he came in slowly, Joe had many workers that had been working for him for over twenty years and all of them actually were very helpful for Michael but they were all there for so long that trying to make any changes was very difficult but he stayed with it but of course he's computerized and changed everything and I think everything for the best and he was in it when the business was very good so that helped and now it's harder, much harder, but in some ways it's much more of a challenge for him, he seems to thrive under the circumstances which is very good because I think Joe and I did everything by the seat of our pants, I mean, business was there, and we always thought it was going to be there and we never even thought about when it wasn't or what we needed to do to change it so he came in at a very critical time and of course everybody's that we have has retired so he has a whole new crew and he's worked very well with them.

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You know when Joe was working with my Dad, he never had any chance to give any decisions, it was always my father, and because that, I think from the time Michael started, Joe was very conscious of the fact that he needed to let him kind of go with it and yet there were always strings attached I think, but both Joanne and I we don't think we did, but I'm sure there must have been these strings attached where he was allowed to do these things but not totally. I think most of it all happened because our two son in laws came into the business and both of them came into the business not really because they wanted to but at the time there were just looking for a job and they needed something to tide them over until what else was gonna come up and then both of them liked what they were doing and I don't know if it was a total like but you kind of get sucked into the routine and now with two son in law in the business it was even harder I think because they came in after and that helped that Michael had already been in the business for some time and they also had Craig who had been in the business longer than the other two son in laws so it just kind of worked out that Michael started

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having these meetings and I was never invited so it was always male thing which was fine because at that time I had my flower shop and I really didn't have the time for that anyway, so they would have these meetings all the time where more and more Joe just took the back seat and now he likes just having people think that he just works there part time and he really doesn't want anybody to know who he is, he likes that's the position he takes, and of course he doesn't go to the flower market for years now and that used to be the central center of things, but even that's changed where the business is spread out now where Carlsbad has just as much volume as downtown LA which we never thought would happen, but it has and there's a lot of routes that we deal with that we didn't before so that's changed -

Joe was working in the post office when we met and I already had a job teaching in San Francisco, the two of us were going to live there but being an only child and my father being as bossy as he was, he offered Joe a job and he wanted him to try it before we got married, I don't know, he might of even thought we would break up in that six months, I'm not really sure, since my dad is not here to defend himself or my mother either but I think that's what they were hoping, but we stuck it out, I taught here in LA instead of San Francisco in the beginning and Joe worked at the flower market until my dad was able to purchase Ernstram's collection and at that time my dad didn't have enough money to do this so Joe's parents got involved because they put in the money and because of that we moved down here and my dad was operating LA and we were learning how to run the greenhouses down here, and originally we had a grower from one of the ranges in Malibu who would come on his day off every Saturday and kind of outline what we were supposed to be doing for a week and he was a gambler and like to go to Tijuana to the races so it was every Saturday on the way to the races he would stop in at the greenhouse, check out the place as quickly as he could check it out and give us the next week's business. But at that time too we also had the UC system which was very helpful and very active then, I don't think there's anybody full time with the farm bureau at UC, and they would come in the middle of the week, and we had an entomologist and also the San Diego -

Joe's family went to Topaz, Utah and they were there the whole time, from the beginning of camp until the end of camp except Joe left a little bit before the end because he got drafted, and I don't know how exactly how it was, but they knew they were going to get drafted so he went to Detroit so that he got a place, a set place to report to I guess and so he was in Detroit,

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Michigan for a little bit before he went into the service, but after the service, the war ended so he came back to San Francisco with his parents, he came out of camp and he went to airplane mechanic school here in San Diego and the only job he could get was in San Diego and his mother and father, he was an only child and they really didn't want him to do that so he worked at the post office and that's when I met him when he was working at the post office and I was a student at San Francisco State college get my teaching credentials.

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Joe's class, the class of '45, Topaz class of '45 was a pretty unique class because they went all the way from 10<sup>th</sup> through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade in camp so it's a pretty special group that stuck together all during camp but even after camp they all kept having these reunions and after their 50<sup>th</sup> reunion they decided they couldn't just not do it so they actually had a reunion every year and so during this time which is over a 50 year period, it's a class that has really bonded and the girls are more like sisters, all with big brothers and we meet all the time, different places and since they don't have a high school like other people to go back to they just pick a place have reunions and this particular past year they had a reunion here in Cardiff, and at that time they decided that they wanted to apply for a grant to write about this group, not so much their experiences at camp, but how maybe these experiences in camp influenced what they did when they came out of camp and so now they're busy working on their writing which the group is very strong and they're all 75 years old so this is the year they've got to do it so they're busy working on it.

**00:43.08:27**

A few years back, well, it's actually been about more than 10 years ago, this teacher from Mira Costa kept coming over to the flower shop and he found out that I had been in Mancinar and that my father actually had a page titled to him in one of the books for Mancinar and asked me to speak and I didn't want to I hadn't even ever been back to Mancinar and I had always been sort of a secret person at the Topaz reunions, I had been back to Topaz for the reunions, but never to Mancinar and finally one day I was shamed into speaking because one of my girlfriend husbands in central California speaks all the time at his high schools and junior colleges and he said I can't understand why you don't do this, it's not in the books, you

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know we need to do this and he had sort of a speech impediment and I thought if he could do it with a speech impediment I could certainly do it. So I called, I bumped into Dave at Kinko's one day in Mira Costa and I said if you really want me to speak, I will, so I think this is my fourth year that I've been speaking and in between I went to speak at my granddaughter's high school, I really was nervous then, I wasn't nervous at Mira Costa but I was nervous at the high school, because I remembered how I used to be kind of ashamed of my grandmother coming to pick me up from school and so I had visions of that but it worked out very well and I'm also going to speak at a church next month so Dave's been teasing me about being on the speaking circuit for Mira Costa, I don't think so.

**00:45.22:06**

Yes, my aunt and I went back, about three years ago and she said well this is ridiculous, you've got to get over this you've gotta go to Mancinar so on the way home from one of our trips we stopped in and they're trying to make it a state park but all the money for state parks is gone right now so they started it but I don't know if they'll ever be able to finish it, I mean certainly, nothing for people to go to see there, I mean the weather is terrible, it's not like you want to go to some resort or something, it's still not a very livable area, so I don't know if they will get it done, but they have been working on it and it has been declared a state park.

I think it was helpful for me when I went back to Mancinar that I was with my aunt, she's in her 80s and she had been there once before and she kind of walked through it, and it brought back a lot of memories, not all of it bad, but I think it's very important that we keep up whatever we do so this won't happen to anybody ever again, and now after September 11<sup>th</sup>, I've talked to people with Arabic names who were worried at the time and I said oh I don't think this will ever happen again I think this is such a big mistake they made before that I don't think our government would ever do this again or I don't think that they would be allowed to do it again. so I think that's very important because like in the mid west, I did go speak one time when I went to go visit a friend in Manchester, Iowa because her church women didn't really believe that it happened and I said oh sure, I'll be happy to and when I went to visit her, I took pictures and things, and books and most of the people there had never even heard of it and that was in the 70s, its true that it's not a big part of history and it certainly should be.

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I don't even know about the future, I don't even know about it. I know that there's these groups of really big floral business people, Paul's one of them, that get together all the time and I don't even know if they know or if they are trying to direct things to go a certain way but I think with the economy and flowers being not a necessity, you know like in Europe, they say 10% of people's salary go to flowers. And I mean, we don't even get a .00 whatever percent of people's into flowers I mean it's like when you get married, when you die, maybe those are the two times, a prom, you know and that's very spread out, so I don't know, I think it's gonna come back when the economy comes back, it's definitely going to come back because it's a good thing, it's a wonderful thing, even at funerals it's about the only part of the funeral that's nice and I think it's ultimately I think the industry is too fragmented right now, especially right now, there's the retailers and the wholesalers and the growers and it's not ever been one unit. And I was on the board of Promo Floor which what I thought was going to be the answer for all of this but even that was a government thing where they only took the percentage of the monies from the wholesale florist and when they took it to a vote, the wholesalers voted it down because -

I don't know, I think for as long as our children want to stay in the business, we're definitely not going to sell, but every time we see another million dollar house go up above us, I think if I were living in that house, I wouldn't want to look down on old greenhouses and how long, I can even remember back when we lived in Los Angeles, where we lived there was a horse stable and people started to complain about the horse stable, flies in the summer and all these kinds of things and they finally had to move out. I read this all the time, strawberry growers in Anaheim, mushroom growers all over, so it's kind of like a losing battle I suppose but I don't know. I'm hoping because it's a great way to raise kids.

**00:51.24:26**

I think originally the part about this business was that it was small business and that it was all families, even the retail florists, it was families, and I think the most fun thing that we ever had through the whole thing was our conventions, our conferences, I mean it wasn't like big businesses, like general foods or like that, it was always family businesses and now that's

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changing too with mergers and all the families are out of it. Even when we originally belonged to like Orchids, Inc. they were just small families all over the world growing orchids and now it's not like that at all, in fact there's no really orchid conferences or orchid groups, local hobbyists type things but nothing for the business, that's totally changed, we used to have a lot of big Roses, Inc. all these different organizations but now society of American florists is the only one left, California state florists is struggling. I hope it comes back. I don't know, the land is almost too valuable I think, ultimately.

Well, originally when we came down here, like I said the business was in Los Angeles so he grew the flowers here but they had to be sold in Los Angeles, so every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, which actually was from the night before because the flower market opens at midnight, so he would leave on Sunday and then not get back until noon on or in the afternoon on Mondays and the same thing he would leave Tuesday night and get back late Wednesday and then Thursday was the biggest flower market day, Friday, so he would go back again and originally when we moved down here there was no I5, so he would have to go not on the freeway which was on 101 was into Los Angeles which took him 2 \_ to 3 hours, because he was driving a big size truck to take the flowers in, and then coming home he just couldn't make it so he learned every rest stop, every fast food restaurant, that he could park his truck and take a nap and he spent the better part of his life going up and down I5, well before I5 was built and then when I5 was built then he was on I5.

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We first came down here, we had to go to Los Angeles so Joe would drive into Los Angeles three times a week, the flower market would open at midnight so therefore he would leave here about 10 o'clock at night, leave Encinitas at 10, and be there by 12 or 12:15 12:30 and he did this for more than 20 years, maybe it's 30 years actually, now we have a driver that only just does that, go up and back 3 times a week and in between he had to come back and then do whatever he needed to do at the greenhouses and pack our flowers and get it ready for the next market so he was kind of on the road all those years and once the freeway was built it was a little easier. And I remember some nights it was so foggy, I don't even know how he drove it without getting into bad accidents or anything. He was lucky. Very lucky.