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Tidewater Speech Transcript  
Old Dominion University  
Norfolk, Virginia  
For Research Purposes Only

Sex, Ethnicity, Age, City of birth, City of habitation  
Speaker 1: F C 23 Moscow Russia, Chesapeake VA  
Speaker 2: F C 57 Farmville VA, Chesapeake VA

Speaker 2: that's a good idea to keep the baby off the fireplace  
Speaker 1: yes i think so too thanks, ok um alright so please give us your name  
Speaker 2: [WORDS REMOVED].  
Speaker 1: [WORD REMOVED], do you have a daughter  
Speaker 2: no  
Speaker 1: Oh ok cuz i know someone with the last name of [WORD REMOVED] but um  
Speaker 2: that's my married name no I don't  
Speaker 1: oh ok um what's your roundabout age or age, whatever you feel  
Speaker 2: i'm fifty-seven years old  
Speaker 1: ok  
Speaker 2: i'll be fifty-eight in December  
Speaker 1: and where were you born  
Speaker 2: i was born in Farmville, Virginia  
Speaker 1: ok  
Speaker 2: and my parents moved to Norfolk when I was two  
Speaker 1: mhm  
Speaker 2: and they moved to South Norfolk in Chesapeake where I lived for, well they lived there for forty-seven years and then they both passed away, ah I got married in nineteen seventy-seven  
Speaker 1: ok  
Speaker 2: and i live in the house in Deep Creek that i have since nineteen eighty-one so i'm very much a homebody stay in the same routine person  
Speaker 1: that's nice  
Speaker 2: don't like to deviate and change is tough for me  
Speaker 1: so your fav\_ so would you say um your favorite place in Tidewater is your house  
Speaker 2: um well it was my parents' house  
Speaker 1: mhm  
Speaker 2: and even after I was married for I don't know twenty seven years before one of them passed away that was still home  
Speaker 1: mhm  
Speaker 2: because it was where I lived since I was four  
Speaker 1: mhm  
Speaker 2: um my favorite place in Tidewater, i don't know i like to be outside like in the parks  
Speaker 1: mhm

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Speaker 2: my favorite place is in Nags Head, North Carolina we have a house there

Speaker 1: oh really

Speaker 2: mhm

Speaker 1: tell me about it

Speaker 2: it's in a neighborhood called Northridge

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: just a small house not monster house, i don't know anybody i'd want to spend twenty-five people for a week with

Speaker 1: right [LAUGH]

Speaker 2: it's four bedrooms just a small little house um

Speaker 1: four bedrooms is a good size i think [LAUGH]

Speaker 2: my um best friend's father owned it and he wanted to be out from under the maintenance and upkeep of it so he offered to her and her husband and my husband and my myself probably fourteen years ago and at a at a price that was unbelievable that someone would do, just very calming

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: very calm, when you go across that bridge that sound is just like ok bye Virginia you know and

Speaker 1: [LAUGH]

Speaker 2: but i like i like Chesapeake

Speaker 1: right

Speaker 2: but my favorite place to go is Nags Head

Speaker 1: right, can you tell me some of your favorite memories from your parents' house like some traditions you had growing up, maybe like holiday things

Speaker 2: well on every Sunday she would have us over

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: and she always cooked, vegetables were her specialty and one time i went on a vacation to Mexico

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: and when i called when i got back to Miami um she said she had cooked some squash and green beans and potato salad and you know that was gonna be pigs' heaven for me because but having dinner there on Sundays was one of my favorite memories

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: and of course now that they're both gone and the house has been sold you know I think of different things

Speaker 1: yeah

Speaker 2: um you know they didn't have a lot of money but like when i was younger there was only one MacDonald's around here and it was on Virginia Beach Boulevard at Thalia

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: and we would go to Virginia Beach once a summer, that was a nice little family trip, we didn't take vacations, my mother stayed home with us and my father worked, it was me and an older sister at the time she's thirteen months older than me

Speaker 1: mhm

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Speaker 2: and we'd go to Virginia Beach once a summer and that was just we thought were in pigs' heaven and we'd go to MacDonald's and get french fries and a cheeseburger and it we were just happy

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: i mean that was our vacation, going to my grandmother's and staying for two weeks in the summer

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: was one of my favorites and um their house, my parents' house, was just this 3 bedroom little ranch, i have their original deed of sale when they bought it in nineteen fifty-six cuz I was four when they bought it

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: they paid ten thousand dollars for it

Speaker 1: wow

Speaker 2: and i know they thought they had just you know buried themselves

Speaker 1: [yeah well back at](#)

Speaker 2: [at the time](#)

Speaker 1: [yeah](#)

Speaker 2: [because](#) you know the income was not not that high

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: um just just the hominess of it, mama cookin and my father was um he worked for Norfolk and southern

Speaker 1: what what is Norfolk and southern

Speaker 2: well it was Norfolk and western at the time railroad

Speaker 1: [oh ok](#)

Speaker 2: [out of](#) Roanoke

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: but he worked in Norfolk [with it](#).

Speaker 1: [oh ok](#)

(5:00)

Speaker 2: and he ended up being a um, they called him a gang leader [LAUGH] but he was like a troubleshooter [he was a mechanic](#).

Speaker 1: [mhm](#)

Speaker 2: mostly self-taught

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: he quit school is sixth grade to help with the family through the depression time

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: cuz he was one of nine and helping his family with what they could for income and um he was a craftsman he was he was just very good with woodwork and even after I was married anytime something would break you know i'd call daddy

Speaker 1: [mhm](#)

Speaker 2: [my husband](#) would say you know I can fix it and I said but but daddy will do it now [LAUGH] and he would

Speaker 1: I'm the same way with my husband and dad [LAUGH].

Speaker 2: [LAUGH]

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Speaker 1: he'd come right now and he'd fix it so um. having daddy around with hurricane Isabel my husband and i at the time we had a bathroom at the garage level we don't know in our house in [Deep Creek](#)

Speaker 1: [mhm mhm](#)

Speaker 2: but with Isabel it became the septic field backed up [into](#)

Speaker 1: [mhm](#)

Speaker 2: the toilet at the garage level. Isabel was a hurricane that flooded. i don't were you around here [when](#) that hurricane came through

Speaker 1: [um](#) I I was younger, but I think I was

Speaker 2: anyway it was the biggest mess, so we had to leave our house we couldn't stay in it, so we went and stayed at my father's, my mother had passed away at the time and um in the middle of the storm you know when the eye was here so there was a lull my father and i got in the car and drove to our house in Deep Creek to see what damage with trees and all i mean here you know it's a mandatory stay where you are but we're going to house to check it so the trees had fallen on the road and we couldn't get through so we parked the car and we walked and you know it it was funny we just laughed at how stupid we were to go do that [but it](#) was our little adventure

Speaker 1: [\[LAUGH\]](#) um so you would say that Tidewater changed a lot since you were younger, [like now](#)

Speaker 2: [oh yeah](#) my husband and i bought our lot in Deep Creek in nineteen eighty-one

Speaker 1: [mhm](#)

Speaker 2: built a house there were no stoplights in Deep Creek at that time, now there's two but the traffic is horrible i mean when we moved there course it was just this little country rural mercantile [kinda area](#)

Speaker 1: [mhm](#)

Speaker 2: Oh yeah Deep Creek is and i taught elementary school at [\[WORD REMOVED\]](#) Elementary

Speaker 1: [oh](#)

Speaker 2: [for](#) thirty-three years so my drive from deep creek to [\[WORD REMOVED\]](#) elementary you know I saw a lot of change

Speaker 1: [mhm](#)

Speaker 2: especially like down Cedar Road it used to be this little two lane road

Speaker 1: [mhm](#)

Speaker 2: and um trees everywhere and you could you know watch the seasons change and but now of course it's what five or six lanes and stuff everywhere yeah it's changed a lot

Speaker 1: there's always traffic on there too

Speaker 2: oh it's just and getting through Deep Creek is a nightmare, people now cut through on a road that comes by our house because it's just a two lane area and the traffic to get through it's yeah the traffic I hate i hate i hate trying to go anywhere

Speaker 1: yeah i [yeah i can understand that](#)

Speaker 2: [i go the back ways](#) as much as I can

Speaker 1: [mhm](#) um so would you say that you do you go to the beach a lot now like when you were younger do you go during the summers at all

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Speaker 2: when i was younger i would go once or i would go with a church group and i always got sunburned do I go more now, um probably the last three years i haven't gone as often for different reasons with um my husband or his mother

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: but prior to that I would go and stay you know mostly during the week and come home on weekends or stay three or four days and then come home for a week and then go back

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: not so much to work on a tan but just to just be there

Speaker 1: right you know i think i would like the beach if it didn't have fish or jellyfish cause i'm just i'm petrified of jellyfish

Speaker 2: oh well they they didn't really come out much until sometime in August at [Nags Head](#)

Speaker 1: [mhm](#)

Speaker 2: now in Ocean View where my mother in law's house was um the jellyfish were there pretty regularly

Speaker 1: mhm i don't they're just they're just creepy [with their](#) with their little flappy things

Speaker 2: [i know i don't like them](#) no they wash up on the beach and no they just belong there

Speaker 1: i'm more of a pool person unfortunately, um so how old were you when you got married

Speaker 2: i was twenty-four

Speaker 1: twenty-four

Speaker 2: my husband's mother and my mother worked together

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: and i had had a boyfriend off and on from second grade to freshman year in college

Speaker 1: wow

Speaker 2: so i was just you know eaten up with him just goo goo and um what it was more I was the girlfriend than he was the boyfriend because you know he was anyway, um so when we pretty much stopped seeing each other

Speaker 1: mhm

[\(10:00\)](#)

Speaker 2: i didn't want to date anyone or anything you know

Speaker 1: right

Speaker 2: but my mother and his mother worked together

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: and i needed a date to go to a party. I was working at JC Penney's part time when I was going to college at [Old Dominion](#)

Speaker 1: [mhm](#)

Speaker 2: and so his mother and my mother arranged a blind date

Speaker 1: oh

Speaker 2: and um just treated me with the greatest respect and um put me first

Speaker 1: [mhm](#)

Speaker 2: [and you know](#) wanted to be with [me](#)

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Speaker 1: yeah

Speaker 2: and that was just the biggest difference

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: hard for me to understand but the biggest difference

Speaker 1: mhm yeah

Speaker 2: and i had always said I would marry someone taller than me with curly hair and a skinny butt

Speaker 1: [LAUGH]

Speaker 2: and my husband is well now he is probably bout six inches shorter but at the time he was probably two inches shorter than me going bald and not skinny

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: so I mean it was you know your values change from high school to then but we dated for five years before we got married we've been married thirty-three years

Speaker 1: dang for five years that's a long time

Speaker 2: yeah he gave me a ring after two years and i gave it back cuz i wasn't ready to take a diamond

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: and then when we got married he gave me an opal and i said i want a diamond he said i'm sorry you blew it so you know [LAUGH]

Speaker 1: [LAUGH] well I see you have some now

Speaker 2: oh yeah he gave me he gave me another one later

Speaker 1: [LAUGH] that sounds sweet, yeah i told myself i would never marry anyone in the military ever for my whole life and of course i married someone in the military and and now he's gone all the time but I love him so [LAUGH]

Speaker 2: oh yeah oh yeah so where is he now

Speaker 1: well he was in Scotland last week and now he's coming home he'll be home next week so

Speaker 2: oh good

Speaker 1: so he's on his way back so thank God he's not in the Army and doesn't go to like super dangerous places, he's in the Navy but you know I have a toddler so

Speaker 2: where is he

Speaker 1: sleeping so this time would be good for an interview

Speaker 2: oh good good good

Speaker 1: so um I go to Old Dominion too actually

Speaker 1: oh good.

Speaker 2: so tell um about your college life your major

Speaker 1: when I started college I wanted to be a physical therapist

Speaker 2: mhm

Speaker 1: this was still during that other guy transition time um the end of my freshman year

Speaker 2: i had a point nine grade point average because I didn't study or you know i cut class

Speaker 1: right

Speaker 2: in high school I went to Oscar Smith High School graduated in nineteen seventy-one i was a graduating class of less than two hundred i was somebody, i mean I wasn't the it person

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Speaker 1: right

Speaker 2: but the teachers knew me and if i screwed up on something it was let's give [WORD REMOVED] another chance or you know baby [WORD REMOVED] along

Speaker 1: right

Speaker 2: and i was a good student i wasn't my older sister she was number two in her class but i wasn't up like that

Speaker 1: yeah

Speaker 2: because i did i did other things and so the end of my freshman year i had a point nine and my um father who was just the kindest man and um i mean you knew when you disappointed him because he wasn't one that kind of person to be fussy or irritable

Speaker 1: right

Speaker 2: so you knew when you had done something he didn't care for you would know and he said and I was working at JC Penney's part time when I was going to college he said well you've gotta decide If you want to do retail work or you want to go to college cuz there's you know no reason for us to pay for you to go college if this is the kind of thing you're gonna do

Speaker 1: right

Speaker 2: and then the next year was when i met [WORD REMOVED] and i decided you know maybe i should try to do something so i graduated with a three point four

Speaker 1: that's good

Speaker 2: physical therapy was not my thing because i made a D in biology both semesters cuz it was a class over three hundred and we took our exams and tests on computer cards they had these punch cards at the time and it was just so impersonal

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: you know they didn't care if i didn't understand something

Speaker 1: right

Speaker 2: and i didn't care either at the time, so then i just was undecided person and then i started doing things for early childhood education with [WORDS REMOVED] and i liked her so just getting into education so i taught um graduated in seventy-five

Speaker 1: just want to make sure it's working okay

Speaker 2: oh i'd hate for us to have talked this long and

Speaker 1: nope it's recording we're good

Speaker 2: okay graduated in nineteen seventy-five, i think i ended up with a three point two five or something grade point average so I did do better, um taught one year in a private school in Surrey Virginia cuz when i graduated we were told if you get offered a job take

(15:00)

it you know teaching jobs are a dime a dozen hard to get and i was offered a job in July um at this private school in Surrey so i moved to Surrey to this house that was built in the eighteen sixties really a neat old house, the floors were kinda curved and i stayed upstairs, the people who owned the house would stay in Blacksburg part of the year

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: cuz they had a house and they stayed in Surrey so i was like a housekeeper too for them

Speaker 1: mhm



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Speaker 2: and then um it was private school so i didn't make hardly any money you know like forty-one hundred dollars i think for the whole year and I wanted to come home i wanted to teach in Chesapeake and i got called to get a job in Chesapeake but because i had signed a contract with Surrey Chesapeake wouldn't hire me, so I came home um quit my job in Surrey you know after the school year was over moved back home um got a job in Chesapeake at [WORD REMOVED] Elementary taught there for thirty-three years, i started in first um third grade taught third grade for eight years had a two three combination two years and then i went to first for thirteen years and then i was reading resource for thirteen years but in nineteen\_ let's see i graduated in seventy-five and in eighty-two cuz we were building our house in eighty-one in nineteen eighty-two i got my masters degree in reading

Speaker 1: [wow](#)

Speaker 2: [at Old Dominion](#), really liked that i had [WORDS REMOVED], i don't know if he's even still there probably not, he was very good, um [WORDS REMOVED] Dr [WORD REMOVED] who's husband my husband had worked with some through Norfolk stuff um she had been one of my professors in undergraduate and then in graduate school she had me twice, nice nice lady just wonderful and really enjoyed the reading aspect, but reading resource jobs are hard to come by so when you get one you know it's a pretty neat thing

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: seeing the kids get it when they're reading that was fun, uh college life was pretty much nonexistent as far as um how most people have college fun and all because i lived at home

Speaker 1: yeah

Speaker 2: you know went to Old Dominion i was grateful to get to go to college cuz it was me and my sister that was thirteen months older and it was a lot for my parents to do and then i have a sister that's nine and half years younger, so Old Dominion it was just you know go to school come home it wasn't the college life [or any stuff like that](#)

Speaker 1: [mhm right](#) partying, so since you were a teacher for so long you probably have a lot of really good stories about the funny things that kids did

Speaker 2: at different times they'll pop into my head you know course you'll remember some of the rough ones, i kept three notebooks on children that were problems and what i went through when i kept those notebooks cuz you never know what people might do

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: i've since thrown them away but as i taught I kept them, um funny stories, yeah the kids would make me laugh, i had this little girl that was just woo she was hell on wheels

Speaker 1: [\[LAUGH\]](#)

Speaker 2: [and](#) she um i'd have a daily log

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: and one day when we were going to the buses she said did i have a good day i said you had a great day did i have a really good day i said you did. well then why don't you smile about it, and so i didn't know what to say [\[LAUGH\] okay](#)

Speaker 1: [\[LAUGH\]](#)



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Speaker 2: but yeah they were they were fun, um first grade was just so neat, when i changed from third grade to first grade, for the first nine weeks i cried when i'd get home

Speaker 1: why

Speaker 2: you know what have I done, well in third grade they're independent, you know you can give them something to work on and you can sit and do some things or you can call someone over and do something with them or you're not constantly having to show them something.

Speaker 1: right

Speaker 2: when i went to first grade it was showing them how to use the glue bottle teaching them how to use the glue bottle teaching them how they're gonna get their pencil out instead of just grabbing, you know and um it's more physical i mean you're constantly on your feet and it was more physical, and it wasn't the physical aspect of it it was just the modeling and demonstrating how to do everything i wasn't used to that from third grade to first and this teacher who taught next to me who taught for fifty years she said wait till February or March cuz i would tell her you know how is buh atuh gonna get them anywhere and she said they'll get it they'll get it you'll see, and in March February or March when they started to catch on, some of them that were having trouble, it was exciting so there wasn't anything else that i wanted to teach and I liked the singing and (20:00)

the pantomiming different songs or stories with them and yeah they were fun, they were very trusting, most of them liked you if they didn't like you um i should've written some of my kid stories down but i didn't

Speaker 1: did you have any parents that were a problem for you

Speaker 2: sometimes\_ i tend to remember more the ones that liked me

Speaker 1: mhm that's good

Speaker 2: even now i'll get Christmas cards from a couple of them that one girl um gosh she was she was in one of my first first grade classes so that was probably i don't know twenty-seven years maybe no maybe twenty years ago but anyway her parents will send Christmas cards and she got married two summers ago and to be invited to Maryland to the wedding you know that was sweet and here she was this quiet little mousy girl you know in first grade but getting married, she was having cutting a rug she was having a great time, and the principal we had the last seventeen years at [WORD REMOVED] when I was there he um [WORDS REMOVED] was his name and he made going to work fun

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: you know you knew you were appreciated he left us to teach he believed in what we could do. Um and there were guidelines we had to follow you know from the city but he made going to work fun and he was real funny i mean he he talked a lot joked around a lot, his style some people probably wouldn't have liked but

Speaker 1: sounds fun

Speaker 2: it was it was, it made going to school fun

Speaker 1: um did you have any well did you notice that um discipline um like a discipline problem got worse the longer you taught or no or do you think it was the same

Speaker 2: mm I don't think it was the same, i think some of the children expected more to be entertained you know because of the video games

Speaker 1: right

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Speaker 2: and the high activity

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: um simulation, of course smart boards are in now and more you know technology

Speaker 1: what are smart boards

Speaker 2: they're an interactive type of way of learning, a lot of people use those instead of chalkboards now, it's computer linked and you can do streaming and ah computer connections for i didn't wanna know how to use them

Speaker 1: right

Speaker 2: so that's why i can't tell you but so much, that was one factor helping me to retire

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: i didn't wanna mess\_ be bothered with them

Speaker 1: right

Speaker 2: um but they are kids liked them but as far as the children changing only in the respect that you know something is boring, you know because i'm not a video game

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: you know and um no i think the kids i think if you are fair to them even the ones that are more of a problem you know the more they escalate if you just tone it down and and get calmer it helped, not always, i mean you had to find little tricks just like teaching the kids to read, you know it's not one program is better than another or one method is better than another you just gotta find a hook for them to get it and that's the way you go with it, if it's a combination of things or if it's just one style but um the kids they just they just wanted you to they you needed to like them, i mean no one should be a teacher if you don't like them

Speaker 1: right right i agree

Speaker 2: and the parents, you had some looney tunes and you know when they'd leave or move away you'd say shoo but there was always someone else to come and sometimes you know they'd get angry about things but then after they had a chance to settle down and then you could talk about it they

Speaker 1: right, well it's hard when some tells you your child isn't perfect and wonderful one hundred percent of the time [LAUGH]

Speaker 2: [LAUGH] I guess

Speaker 1: [LAUGH] um let's see do you have any other like what would you say was the best time of your life, like **best period**

Speaker 2: **probably going** to my grandmother's to stay, my father's mother, my mother was one of thirteen

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: and that's where we would go when we were younger my older sister and i\_ not my younger sister\_ my younger sister being nine and half or ten years younger and i was (25:00)

thirteen fourteen we didn't go and stay like that, she didn't ever go, i would go but she wouldn't go, my mother's mother was where we would go when we were younger my older sister and i because you know mama's mother

Speaker 1: mhm

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Speaker 2: and my father's mother was taking care of her father who was an older man a man with dementia you know wander off or take clothes off so we didn't go there and stay cuz it was too much for her so after my mother's mother passed away and as we got older i would stay with my father's mother more, they were both in the same little town in the central part of Virginia a very poor county, Lunenburg County, and my father's mother um was always busy always active, my mother's mother liked her stories you could pull up at that driveway and you could hear that tv on

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: Days of Our I mean um As the World Turns and I've Got a Secret you know the

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: stories and the game shows but you could hear it from the highway

Speaker 1: [LAUGH]

Speaker 2: my father's mother watched never sit to watch tv except in the evening she just didn't have time she was always busy she was scrubbing walls or she was doing something um

Speaker 1: [LAUGH]

Speaker 2: they they didn't have much at all, they had a johnny house outhouse

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: which you know when you're a little girl and you're staying there and you wake up in the middle of the night and you have to go to the bathroom and it's like no just stay here, they had you know a bucket we could use up at the house but i think after [WORD REMOVED] and i got married my older sister and her husband and myself and [WORD REMOVED] and my parents we um had a little bathroom put in at my grandmother's house, she um she made think i could cook, when i was about seven or eight years old i helped her um why did i put that in there i think it's just a habit anyway i helped her make the vegetable soup, she gave me some carrots to peel, well i thought i made the soup\_ course then when people were eating it and telling her the soup was good she said that [WORD REMOVED] had helped

Speaker 1: [mhm](#)

Speaker 2: [so I](#) thought that I could cook, well then it became like a hobby for me and i love to cook it's relaxing

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: i have a lot of cookbooks, i try to buy a cookbook when i go somewhere i'll buy a cookbook from that area you know to have some [of the local](#)

Speaker 1: [mhm I do too](#)

Speaker 2: um and I love to cook it's relaxing, so when we built our house my kitchen is thirty-five feet long kitchen dining room

Speaker 1: wow

Speaker 2: and you know I have a lot of cabinets

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: and um um there I go again

Speaker 1: it's alright

Speaker 2: my um [LAUGH] my father i used to cook a lot and give my parents food

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: when i'd over cook because it was it's just hard for me to cook small

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Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: my husband had some issues with his stomach two years ago and he had stomach surgery last year for a blockage so he's not able to eat so i don't cook hardly at all and i just had since i retired um i had the kitchen renovated, new appliances new countertops, it's it's sad i have a double two ovens and i'll probably will use them about twice a year [LAUGH].

Speaker 1: can you tell me I love listening about food can you tell me some of your favorite dishes or recipes

Speaker 2: i love to fix things that have a tomato base

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: [whether](#) it's soup or spaghetti or cacciatore lasagna Mexican [foods](#)

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: um there's a roast beef recipe I found and I love to read recipes in magazines or newspapers and sometimes i'll cut em out

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: i have a carrot cake recipe that came from a newspaper that's just delicious

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: and a coconut cake recipe, baking I used to do a lot of baking but i don't that as much well i don't cook hardly at all now but dinners uh you know i guess with my mother with the vegetables i was more of the meat or the main item and she would do the extra [things](#)

Speaker 1: [right](#)

Speaker 2: cook books i love to read them love to read them and if i try something i like it i'll put a little note or put a star or write on the inside cover what page it was on

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: [so i](#) don't have to go looking again

Speaker 1: i i read cookbooks too\_ my husband thinks it's so weird

Speaker 2: it it's fun.

Speaker 1: it's interesting

Speaker 2: it is\_ another thing I like to do a lot was cross stitch and as I became older of course needing bifocals but i don't need them when i cross stitch, I see better cross stitching

(30:00)

like on linen or the small numbers small fabric, i don't know if you're familiar with it

Speaker 1: kinda

Speaker 2: linen is very fine woven

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: so you have to have like two dots over and two up to make one x, i see better without my glasses or my contacts to get that done but i don't have any wall space and i don't have anyone to give the stuff to so i haven't cross stitched anything but i think i have a new plan\_ been painting the last two weeks so this one room i'm gonna put cross stitch pictures in, o have a lot of Buckley Moss\_ i don't know if you're familiar P.

Buckley Moss, she has a house and a museum in Waynesboro

Speaker 1: i've i've heard the name but i'm i'm not familiar

Speaker 2: her pictures are most of the people have these little skinny legs, just i like her pictures they're different but i like them a lot so i have a lot of hers and i have themes in

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different rooms in the house but i've decided with this painting i'm doing that my cross stitch pictures are gonna go in this one room

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: so i then can work on making these other two Shepard Bush kits that I bought, it has all the little embellishments and [everything](#)

Speaker 1: [Shepard Bush](#)

Speaker 2: that's the name of the manufacturer and [the design](#)

Speaker 1: [Oh okay \[LAUGH\]](#) okay

Speaker 2: it's these people with these heads and like these big round bodies but it's very um intricate, it has a lot of it's just very calming, i like to do that

Speaker 1: you must have you must have a lot of patience

Speaker 2: um most some yeah [sometimes sometimes](#)

Speaker 1: [\[LAUGH\]](#)

Speaker 2: i don't with procrastination

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: my husband and i if ever there were two opposites it's us, he just puts stuff off terrible, i've had to learn to either accept it or just be a constant bitch

Speaker 1: [\[LAUGH\]](#)

Speaker 2: [so I just accept it](#) but yeah procrastination putting things off drives me nuts, it's like let's do it get it done move on but yeah i am patient, especially like doing the sewing or he has a dog.

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: well it's our dog now but we were married\_ i think when we were married for twenty up to twenty five years that's how long it's been, for the first twenty-five years we tried to have children and we went through a lot of stuff it didn't work out so he had we had said if we ever had a child we'd get a dog so they could you know have dog, we didn't have children so after twenty-five years he said i'm getting a dog, i said you can't but he said he was and it's Welsh Terrier, she's so funny I just love her, she's very calming for me

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: she's hilarious she's funny, she just cracks me up the way she acts, oh she's seven and she just [\[WORD REMOVED\]](#) um likes her and we left her to [\[WORD REMOVED\]](#) in our will if something should happen to us before she passes away\_ the dog not [\[WORD REMOVED\]](#) [\[LAUGH\]](#)

Speaker 1: [right right \[LAUGH\]](#)

Speaker 2: but she um she's just hilarious, being patient with her was tough in the beginning you know i was wanting her to go away because i wasn't used to her being around\_ i grew up with dogs in the house and i didn't like it so i didn't want a dog in my house when i was married

Speaker 1: right well i'm glad you like her now

Speaker 2: oh i love her i tell my husband all the time your dog but really she's [our dog](#)

Speaker 1: [\[LAUGH\]](#) what are some of the funny things that she does

Speaker 2: she jumps up on the couch and if the pillows are a certain way she'll nudge em to get em where she wants em

Speaker 1: [\[LAUGH\]](#)

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Speaker 2: she brings us her squeaky toys and waits for us to play, my sister will call my younger sister will call and um say heyaaa and Nellie will start arooo talking back to her on the phone it's funny she's funny

Speaker 1: let me think do you have anything else interesting, tell me more about your husband

Speaker 2: my husband\_ he is very intense right now, he he's just just got this he wants to do, he has when i was started dating him he was working on his master's degree at William and Mary he got his bachelor's degree at Virginia Tech, got um MBA at William and Mary

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: when i first met him he was a um nuclear engineer

Speaker 1: wow

Speaker 2: making good money, we'd go to restaurants and people would meet you at the door you know with the rag on their arm and that, there wasn't a MacDonald's thing or Burger

(35:00)

King like I was used to for college stuff, um then he went to work civil service type things with the city of Norfolk and then with shipyards so he didn't make the same kind of money\_ he's always done okay then he got his doctorate at Old Dominion in computer integrated manufacturing

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: very much a computer geek, little like [WORD REMOVED], you know he and [WORD REMOVED] were very good friends at the shipyard then they worked at this other job together and that's how we\_ that's how I\_ met [WORD REMOVED] and [WORD REMOVED] through [WORD REMOVED] and [WORD REMOVED] working together, he's now a professor at Strayer cuz he um quit this other job before he had another job lined up so for two years right when my father passed away he was unemployed, he and my father were very good friends, my father showed him how to do woodwork how to work on cars

Speaker 1: mhm

Speaker 2: helped [WORD REMOVED] to be more a handyman even though he chooses not to be. ah when I say he's very intense he's had a lot of health issues so I think being in the constant pain he's been in makes it more intense but he loves his dog, he gets on floor and crawls around and plays with her and um he loves me

Speaker 1: that's good

Speaker 2: oh yeah it is, he just he respects me and

Speaker 1: that's a long time to be married

Speaker 2: thirty-three years

Speaker 1: it's it's rare nowadays, it's nice to hear couples

Speaker 2: we don't um we're opposite like i said, he likes to dance i'm very self conscious about it he's content to sit and watch tv for hours on end and until i retired i couldn't hardly stand to sit and watch it\_ now i'll Tivo cuz i don't wanna bother with the commercials you know i'll just move on the through them

Speaker 1: my parents are [like that](#)



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Speaker 2: [LAUGH] he um he likes to read, he just reads science fiction. Things that aren't so technical. But he's very much into the technical stuff. But his mother is 92 and she had a house in Ocean View right on the bay.

Speaker 1: Mhm.

Speaker 2: That after her husband passed away she stayed there for a while. But two years ago she stopped living there. So she lives between my sister-in-law and us. That creates a little bit of tension you know. She's not a difficult person but it's just the constant with me not having any children at home. Someone I constantly have to answer for or help. It it's um stressful when she's there. Not all the time but by the time my three months are up or six months are up I'm ready for her to go to her daughter's for a while. But welcome her back. She loves the dog. She's good to the dog. But that's a pretty longevity at ninety-two and she's going strong. She gets along well and I'm glad she's not in a facility you know that she needs help constantly so.

Speaker 1: Ninety-two is up there.

Speaker 2: He's [laughs] yeah. He's real my husband's real good with her. You know it's it's cute to see him interact with her. It's almost like seeing a little boy.

Speaker 1: Mhm.

Speaker 2: Then he doesn't let that guard down. I mean He's very stoic. And he doesn't let that guard down very much.

Speaker 1: Um wait did your husband have any siblings? Or does he?

Speaker 2: He has a twin sister.

Speaker 1: Oh wow. Do they share like a special twin bond or anything?

Speaker 2: No no. She was more boy crazy.

Speaker 1: Oh.

Speaker 2: And devil may care attitude and [WORD REMOVED] was very studious and you know a straight A kind of student. Very intense then too so you they were different. They were different. So that's all of them. Just those two. She lives in Virginia Beach so she's not that far away. My two sisters one of them lives 2 miles the one that's almost 10 years younger she lives about 2 miles away from me. And the older one lives in Gloucester so I don't see her as often.

Speaker 1: That's a long drive. And you have to pay that toll. That really annoys me that toll [laughs]. Gets me every time.

Speaker 2: [Laughs.]

Speaker 1: Um do you have any do do you like music? Are a music lover? Woop. I saw your foot moving and I thought it was something [laughs].

Speaker 2: [Laughs.] Oh I'm sorry.

Speaker 1: It's ok. I've seen a lizard running through my house before so it scared

Speaker 2: Oh lizards are ok. It's mice I don't care for. Um yeah I like music. I like music. I listen I love going to New York. I wouldn't wanna live there but I love to go for the plays and um I have a friend that we co-own the house in Nags Head with.

Speaker 1: Mhm.

(40:00) Speaker 2: She and I her daughter her youngest daughter was in the Macy's Day Parade for six years.

Speaker 1: Oh wow. What did she do in it?

Speaker 2: A cheerleader. Cheerleading with the Michael's something cheering.

Speaker 1: [Laughs.]



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Speaker 2: And we would go to New York cuz she started going when she was fourteen. And then we would go and love. I mean the excitement of the place is just

Speaker 1: It is it's

Speaker 2: I love it.

Speaker 1: Yeah I I agree that I wouldn't wanna live there. But um um do you go see like Broadway? What what are some of your favorite shows?

Speaker 2: Miss Saigon's probably my favorite. I think I saw that well when it was her in Norfolk I saw it twice. In New York I saw it and then I saw it when it closed we went because we knew it was closing. Uh Phantom of the Opera. Jersey Boys. We saw that two years ago. We had a friend that taught with us. [WORD REMOVED] was her name. She passed away four years ago. I miss her terribly. But she would go with us. She was older. She had retired from teaching. She was the reading teacher. So when she retired that's when I got the job. But she would go with me and [WORD REMOVED] to New York. And she sent us a poem one time about you know traveling with us. How in New York you know we'd walk and wait at the corner for her and she'd catch up with us. But um the wax museum we love. Central Park we did a bike tour one time. We just loved that. But being in the city and just walking around. And we went the last time we went two years ago we went between Christmas and New Years. I would never go again then

Speaker 1: Mhm.

Speaker 2: Because it was just way too crowded.

Speaker 1: Right.

Speaker 2: Just trying to get the sidewalks was a nightmare. Gone there. Been to um I love Charletston, South Carolina.

Speaker 1: Mhm.

Speaker 2: Just love being there. But just not July. It's too hot.

Speaker 1: Have you ever been to Hilton Head? My my parents went last week and they are like obsessed with it now. So um and they went they went to Charleston right afterward so that's why.

Speaker 2: I like Charleston. New Orleans. [WORD REMOVED] and I went for our honeymoon. And I think I was too naïve. As an example he was there for business with the city of Norfolk so I went along because it was convenient and it could be called a honeymoon. And um when were checking into the hotel I didn't want to stand at the counter with him because it was booked for him and there I was and I didn't want them to think I was someone bad.

Speaker 1: Right right.

Speaker 2: So then we went to this restaurant. We saw that BB King was gonna be there. So he booked us you know to come back to see him. And the man said do you want the eight o'clock or eleven o'clock. I said at night? And embarrassed [WORD REMOVED] terrible because I was so naïve.

Speaker 1: [Laughs.]

Speaker 2: You know 24. I I was just a South Norfolk person. You know like I said before a homebody. Um that was the first time I'd flown when we went to New Orleans for then so my mouth just ran the whole time. Look at the cloud. Look at that. Look at that.

Speaker 1: [Laughs.]

Speaker 2: You know.

Speaker 1: Were you scared at all?

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Speaker 2: No I wasn't scared. The only time i've been scared flying is with the air turbulence.

Speaker 1: [Mhm](#).

Speaker 2: [Most of](#) the time when we've come from somewhere. When we went to Houston once it was like ugh. I went to Alaska a couple of I guess it's been let's see [WORD REMOVED]'s four. He was one. So three years ago. Three summers ago I went to Alaska with [WORD REMOVED] and her daughter on a cruise. You know a seven day thing. That was fun. Doing a helicopter tour of the glaciers.

Speaker 1: Wow. You do a lot of cool things.

Speaker 2: That was fun. I um it was like flying in Armageddon. You know flying over those glaciers. And it was just so desolate looking. And the helicopters leave you to go back to get the next little tour group. You're standing there and you think wait. You know it's kinda like Mash. You know where they're flying off. Let's see I haven't traveled a whole lot. D.C. New York. Nags Head.

Speaker 1: Tell me about your daily routine. Your weekly routine.

Speaker 2: Now that I'm retired?

Speaker 1: [Mhm](#).

Speaker 2: [I](#) have to make myself get up because I love to sleep.

Speaker 1: Mhm.

Speaker 2: That's the best thing about being retired. Not getting up with an alarm clock. If I have something I have to do I have to set [the clock](#) to get up.

Speaker 1: [Mhm](#).

Speaker 2: Um enjoying a cup of coffee. Watching some of the morning talk shows. Piddling around the house. I try not to run errands or go off because you know I just spend money I shouldn't spend.

Speaker 1: Mhm.

Speaker 2: Cleaning my parents' house out to sell it made me realize how much stuff you have [that you](#) don't need.

Speaker 1: [yeah](#) mhm

[\(45:00\)](#) Speaker 2: So I really have done better about buying stuff. Of course now being retired and more limited income you know that influences it as well.