

Hanley Family Reminiscences of Atlantic Mine, Michigan in the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s

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This interview was recorded around 2005 on a road trip up to Atlantic Mine, in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, where my great grandfather, Michael John Hanley (1890-1964) was born. He lived there until about 1920 when he married my great grandmother, Alma Ratz Hanley (1894-1979) and moved to Flint, Michigan.

The interviewer is Michael's grandson, my father, Patrick Hanley. He is speaking mostly with my great aunt Beverly Hanley Mansour (1929-2009). "Bev" is one of Michael's four daughters. Mary Ellen Hanley Topolinksi (1927-2015) is also in the car and participates in the conversation. They are reminiscing about their trips up to Atlantic Mine, from Flint when they were children to visit their father's childhood home.

This is a work in progress and I expect it will be updated in the future. The recording was on an old digital voice recorder and the quality was not great to begin with. In order to transfer it to the computer I first had to use my smartphone to record the audio from the recorder (like when you had to use your tape recorder to record your favorite song when it came on the radio).

I then painstakingly transcribed, as best I could, what I heard. There are no doubt errors, omissions, and mistakes. I considered having a transcriptionist do this but without some specific knowledge about our

family tree and the places and people mentioned, I thought there would be too many mistakes.

Besides, the process of transcribing this interview myself was invaluable. Each time I listen to a section I learn something new. A piece of history becomes clearer. I expect this interview has many more genealogical gems to provide with future listens. And there are several more interviews I haven't even looked at yet!

I occasionally include minute marks so you can more easily follow along with the transcript. Enjoy!

Conversation Begins

Bev When we were little and my father used to get us up, and he wouldn't sleep the night before he'd be so nervous about driving the car up north, because it was a 9 hour ride, by car.

Mary On a good day.

Bev That's Mary Ellen talking, "on a good day." Anyhow, um, he wanted to leave the house by 3 o'clock in the morning so he could hit the ferry at the exact time. They left every other hour or something. And so we were all up. We used to have a trunk in the back seat and my mother packed enough clothes for us to stay up there for ...

Pat For the whole summer?

Bev Yeah, and I don't know still to this day where she ever put her knees because there were 5 of us, 7 of us in the car...

Mary There was a running board too.

Bev Yeah, and there were suitcases along the running board with a grate across it, a gate across it to hold em on. Anyhow, we'd start out a 3 o'clock in the morning...

Pat From Flint?

Bev From Flint.

Mary If we were short on gas would stop in West Branch.

Bev First stop was West Branch. To re-gas. My dad would run in and get a glass of beer and get us all a bottle of pop and wanted us to drink it in a hurry because he had to be on the road. So we got to the straits. And if we happened to miss the ferry that meant we would have to wait until the next one came. And then they would sell, there were seagulls all over the place because the people would feed them while they were waiting to get on the ferry. And they would smoke salmon and smoke this and smoke that they were selling at the car windows. Anyhow, when the ferry came in then it would take an hour to load all the cars on the ferry because....

Pat How big was this ferry?

Bev Well, yeah it was a good size cause they must have had at least...

Mary 150 cars

Bev You think 150 cars? That sounds like a lot but it could have been. Anyhow, by the time they loaded all the cars in they had to direct you in because they had to get them close together. And then, it took one hour to cross the ferry, to cross the water, and then it would take another hour to unload the cars. And, beyond that when we got to the Upper Peninsula the other side of the straits we weren't even half way up to Atlantic Mine.

Pat Atlantic Mine was where the house was?

Bev Yes, Atlantic Mine was the home where my father was raised. And, let's see. In Atlantic Mine there would be Aunt Mayme and Uncle Jack who were the oldest of the Hanley family.

Mary ???

Bev

Of the Hanley family. Grandma Hanley was married to a Mr. Harrington [Grandma Hanley refers to Ellen Sullivan Hanley, 1850-1938. Bev mistakenly said that she was married to a Harrignton. While there were several Harringtons in the family, her first husband was Michael Kelly,1842-1879]. Her maiden name was Kelly [actually, it was Sullivan]. Her name was, what was her name?

Pat Ratz?

Bev

No no, you're talking about Grandma Hanley now. I am talking about Grandma, I am talking about Great Great Grandma Hanley, Your great grandma. Yes. She married a... She came over a Sullivan, what was her first name, I have to think now. Ellen? Ellen Sullivan. And she came over and she married a Mr. Harrington [again, she married a Kelly]. I never knew if she married him before they left Ireland, but I think she was younger. Anyhow. She married Harrington [Kelly] and she had 4 children. And, one was named Con, one was Julia, one was Annie and there was another girl. Con, um, he had some kind of eye problem. I think it was cataract or something. And when they...

Mary ??? He got hit in the

Bev You want to give your version of it or my version?

Pat I want them both.

Bev Anvhow, th

Anyhow, they operated on his eye and the scalpel or whatever they used slipped and he was blind. So, he always, he was there in the house and even though he was blind he would scrub the floors almost every day, chop the wood for the wood stove.

Pat Up there in Atlantic Mine?

Bev In Atlantic Mind, and they had a wood stove. And I think grandma,

Great-Grandma Hanley to YOU people she opened like a little SheBeen which they sell liquor out of the house or drinks out of the house at the

beginning at that parlor. She had the

Pat Is that how the Hanley Bar started?

Bev

Yes. And she would keep her change in little cups. I am not sure how much English she spoke. But she would keep dimes and nickels and pennies. And this continued even after Jack who was part of the Hanley family. Anyhow, we'll get back to the Kellys. And then Aunt Julia was there and she would make the beds and do all that kind of stuff. Well, her eyesight got very bad. And she um was putting stove in the wood, in the wood stove one day and her apron caught fire and she burned to death. On the floor of the kitchen you could see her outline when we came up there. Um, so then, the other Harringtons [Kellys] the other children she had by Harrington [Kelly], Annie was the oldest one and that is where Mary from L'Anse came from. And Jack Harrington, Annie's son, who taught at the college in

Pat (???)

Bev

Cousin. She would be my father's niece? Step-niece. Anyhow, they were very bright, the Harringtons from L'Anse. They were very bright, and they lived up in Iron Mountain I believe. Jack would walk from Atlantic Mine down to Houghton Mine School every day to get his education. And he ended up being head of the math department at Houghton Mining School.

Pat Is that Michigan Tech?

Bev

Now known as Michigan Tech. There was another girl in that family. For some reason she ran away. She was lost. No one knew anything about it. I don't even recall them saying her name. Mary from L'Anse was Jack's sister. She taught school for 40 years in L'Anse, MI. And she never married. She took care of her mother, Annie, and her father. It is strange. Because she married and that is where the Harrington name came in. So then, ?? died first I believe and then Mary, and Frances, they had a big family, Mary and Jack, and Frances, and ??, Annie had a lot of children. Anyhow, one of her children, Frances, he ended up going to West Virginia. He was a mining engineering. He took some of his brothers down there to work for him. And, the day one of them was to retire or go back to L'Anse he went down to say goodbye to his friends and he died. He had a cave in. And he never made it back home again.

Pat ??

Bev Yep, he went down in the mines to say goodbye and....

Mary ??

8:14 Minutes

Bev

That was on my sister Helen's birthday, Mary Ellen says. I was 4. So that was a sad thing. They had a tough time in Iron Mountain. That break in that family because I don't think that Dan Harrington was that reliable of a worker. But, Jack said that ... the professor said well, we may not have money but we all got brains. And it turns out that is exactly what happened. They all did well. So Mary lived in L'Anse and she used to come home from teaching school at lunch time to feed her mother and took care of her. Annie lived a long time. So that is where that came from. To get back to the Harrington [*Kelly*] family, she had these 4 children, Grandma Hanley did. By this time she not only had a little parlor/shebeen, but she also had a lets see, she would take in people all the time.

Pat Renters?

Bev

Yes, boarders, especially people who just arrived from Ireland. And they would stay with her until they got stabilized and a lot of them went to Chicago. And I think that is where the McCarthys or someone, and I can't really remember that. But, I know that was the place to go to when you arrived from Ireland. And probably a lot of them couldn't even speak English. Anyhow, one of her boarders turned out to be Hanley. And, Harrington [*Kelly*] died, and I don't know how. And she was left a widow with 4 children.

Pat Hanley? What Hanley?

Bev

That would be my grandfather, my dad's father. That would be grandpa Hanley's father. So she ended up marrying the boarder and I believe that someone mentioned that he was younger than her.

Pat ??

Bev

No, lets back up. Grandma came over. My grandmother came over. Not your grandma, my grandma. So, anyhow, she was left a widow with the Harrington [*Kelly*] children. And so Hanley was a boarder in the house and she married

him. Now, my understanding is that he was somewhat younger than her. He was very good looking, always dressed. I don't think he was a very hard worker and I think grandma Hanley always ran the show. Let's see with Hanley then, she had, she was almost pregnant every 9 months. She had Jack who was the oldest, then Mayme, and then Pat, my dad Mike, Aunt Margaret and then Tim. So what is that, 7?

Pat More than a handful.

Bev Yeah, right, so anyhow...Plus the four Harrington [*Kelly*] children that she had by the first marriage.

Pat So, the youngest to the oldest between hers and theirs?

Bev Probably not too much, I would think.

Pat What, 10, 15 years?

BEv I wouldn't even think that much. Between Maybe and Jack.... They must have been very little when Harrington [Kelly] died. I don't even know what he died from. Anyhow, so my grandma didn't want anyone... You know they say, they cry when you get married and they celebrate when you die. You know.... And um, so Jack and Mayme and because of the older family and grandma there, neither one of them ever married, Jack and Mayme. And they were the two oldest, and they really raised the rest of the family. Jack, I understand that he really liked a girl in California or somewhere that had left Atlantic Mine, so they bribed him not to go, to stay home and run the business, which he did. The little old Shebeen by then they probably had some kind of bar. Attached to the house to begin with. They added on to the house and had a bar. Um, Jack really liked this girl but it never happened. And then Mayme, someone wanted to marry her, and they promised her all sorts of diamonds and stuff but she wouldn't marry. She took the diamonds. So they were like the head of the house. In fact when I was little I said to my dad how come Aunt Mayme and Uncle Jack don't sleep together.

Pat And what answer did you get?

Bev Because they are brother and sister! And um, so couldn't remember vaguely remember grandma Hanley. She was very old by the time I was little.

Pat Where does your dad come in the birth order?

Okay, so let's repeat that: So there is Jack, and Mayme and Pat and dad and Margaret and Tim, so 6. Dad was about 4th down. ... Anyhow, so as the family grew they had enough money to add a bar onto the house. And above the house, above the bar was the second floor and on the second floor they almost had like cots for beds. Now this is when my dad was, he must have been, not little,... They built it and it was a regular bar. It was the full length of the side downstairs with mirrors. And a regular bar. And they even had a pool table there. Because I remember I used to go tap dance on it when I was a kid. In front of the mirrors behind the bar, by myself (chuckle).

Pat So when did you start going up there?

Well, I don't know, probably when we were all in diapers, I don't know. Anyhow... My mother stayed couple of summers with us, but she didn't like going up there. But she said they were all so negative (?) Anyhow, let's go back to where we were.... They built the bar on, and the guys all worked. When you came home from Ireland your wealth was in your children. They did the work. By the time they built the bar they had these cots on the second floor where the boys slept and anyone she would take in I guess... So my mother used to worry, this must have been at the time my mother knew my dad, because she was always afraid that someone would go into that bar and shoot up through the ceiling and kill someone in the bed.

16:00 minutes

Bev Next Pat was in the service. And he came home. And he died. He never married. Mary Ellen was his favorite. He liked Mary Ellen.

Mary He died of cancer in Mayo.

Bev I think he turned jaundice and Mary Ellen said he died with cancer.

Pat Your mother and dad weren't married yet?

Bev No, No. Well, yeah, he was married by the time Pat died. Yeah...

???

Mary I think uh Mike, your dad, Pat, and grandpa Hanley drove to Mayos when

Uncle Pat was dying.

Bev Oh, Okay. But dad was married at that time, wasn't he?

Mary Oh yeah. Mike was in grade school. The two of them went to Mayos.

Bev I don't remember Uncle Pat very much. In fact they said he was very, the

quietest one of all. But, I don't know who could have been quieter than my

dad was.... So, anyhow, he liked Mary Ellen (chuckles).

Bev Anyhow, so the bar was there. So eventually they must have built the bar

across the street. That was the big family business. And my dad met my mother. My mother lived in Painsdale. Then she lived in South Range.

17:57 Minutes

Mary In Tri Mountain he used to walk

Bev My understanding is that dad lived, my mother lived in South Range which is

down from Atlantic Mine, which is quite a few miles. My dad used to go down and take her to the show and used to leave his snowshoes against the building, or the house, or wherever he was. And they would go to the show and he would snowshoe back home. To Atlantic Mine. And perhaps to the

dances as Mary Ellen said.

Pat How did grandma Hanley, my grandma hanley, your mother, get up there?

18:50 Minutes

Bev My mother, grandma Ratz, my mother's side, her name was Schmidt. And

she had a lot of sisters, and I will get to her part after. But, she married Ratz, and he was really German. They both were, they came over. Both German sides came over. Yeah, they went up north. Yeah, I think because a lot of the, I don't know if it was mining or what brought them up there. But, he was a

butcher. He was very irregular when he worked too.

Pat Schmidt or Ratz?

Bev Ratz was a butcher. Grandma, she had a lot of sisters, but let's go back to the Hanleys. I will catch up with the Ratzes.

Bev So I can remember when upstairs they had, at the Hanley house, they had an attic. Anyhow, all I can remember was they had one room and all these things were hanging on the wall and I came down to my Uncle Jack and said I didn't know you played tennis and they just got hilarious because they were snowshoes. I had never seen snowshoes before. So anyhow, my dad would go over and back and forth. But, grandma Hanley, I remember her. All I remember of her is mainly that she was a little lady at that time. Now her picture shows her to be a big lady. She was a little thing. And She used to wear those tied up shoes. And she had that boot hook that used to pull and get them tight.... Uncle Con would get her up in the morning. And of course, they even had chamber pots. They had indoor plumbing. They were the first ones to have indoor plumbing in Atlantic Mine. I know that. But, Grandma, she still had a chamber point under her bed. Very little old woman.

Pat What is a chamber pot?

Where you go to the bathroom at night, and then you throw it out in the outhouse or. A little pot with the handle on it. Or you flush it down if you have a toilet. She was very little. My uncle Con would spend a LOT of time with her. I mean, he would help her get dressed in the morning. He would put her shoes on. Those were those high things with those, the up high boots.

Mary I used to tell him that I wish he would come to Flint so he could tighten my ice skates.

Bev That's cute (laughter)

Mary Grandma always said the rosary. And she always said it in Gaelic. Because she didn't think god would understand English.

Bev I can remember being in the bedroom next to her room. She had the big master bedroom at the end, and you would hear Con in there every night, and they said the rosary together, as Mary Ellen said, in Gaelic.

Mary She said it at meals too. They always prayed it at every meal.

Bev And when dad was growing up they said a rosary every night. A family rosary every night. The family together.

22:00 Minutes

Bev So, anyhow. That is all I remember. Then they take her down. Aunt Mayme how she ever found time I will never know ... She had a really pretty flower garden. She would have all sorts of flowers in that garden. They had a chair down there. A wicker chair. And they would take grandma Hanley down there and put her in the sun. I remember Con sitting there with her. He just treated her like a doll, that's all I can say.

Pat ??

Bev No this is the blind uncle. That would be the boy from her first marriage.

Mary Uncle Con was blind and Aunt ?? would go to the grocery story and would bring home canned goods. And he would put all the canned goods away. I don't know how he'd do it, but he knew. .. They would send him downstairs for canned goods and he would always come up with the right one.

Pat Blind in one eye?

Bev NO! He was blind. He was even chipping wood when he was blind.

Mary You would ask him anything about the tigers baseball game and he knew everything about baseball.

And of course this was pre TV (?) time and they had a radio in the living room I guess you would call it. And then he would sit in the corner of the dining room which was right around the corner and he would wear a green shade over his eyes. And we have a picture of him in the photograph album. And, he would sit there and listen to the, stuff done, and then listen to Ma Perkins, ... ??? and all those ? And it was like his family and he could hardly wait until the next episode.

24:00 Minutes

Bev Let's see, I think grandma died. She died before,, I can't even remember

when she died. I must have been really little.

Pat Did he go to school up here?

Bev I don't think my dad graduated. I am sure he didn't.

Mary He went to... They had jeffers, he and his wife were the teachers...... Aunt

Mayme and another one, were left handed. And they tied their left hand behind their back to make them write right handed. And they showed

discipline to the kids.

Bev All I know is that when they tied their hands to the sides, I could never read

any of their writing. When they tried to change then from being left handed. And Mary Ellen and I are both left handed. And, uh. It is funny because John and Jennifer and Al and.... and both their kids are both right handed. My dad

was right handed but there were left handed in the family and I am left

handed.

Mary Jack and Paul are left handed.

Bev And Taff But anyhow, After time went on and when I was teaching I would

just tell the left hand kids, when it came to hand writing, I put them in one row and told them to turn their papers the other way. So, I didn't let anyone out of my class that tried to write upside down with their wrist all turned up. Anyhow,

where are we now?

25:40 Minutes

Pat You are growing up and uh?

Bev We were up there in the summer. So.

Mary We would go up in the end...

Pat You started going up there when you were?

Bev Well, I know my mother went up there a couple of times, Because the first

time she wasn't going to go. I hadn't....

Mar I can remember one time. Joyce, it was Joyce's first time to stay up there.

And Joyce had braids. So, my mother taught me how to braid Joyce's hair. It

took a whole month to teach me! (laughter)

Sue Because you're left handed!

Mary Anyway, then I would braid Joyce's hair..???

Bev Mary Ellen, I didn't know that.

Pat So you started your trips. Were there trips before you were born?

Bev All I know is, the only one I ever heard was they tried to go up for

Thanksgiving one time. For Thanksgiving.

Mary They were going to surprise them. I don't know. I forgot now why. But we

were all going up to surprise them. We didn't tell them we were coming. We got to Newberry and it was real icy and my dad slipped off the road. And the mechanic came to the car, anyway he took us back to his house. And we stayed there. I think it was the oil pan or something that was broke. He put that on and we all turned around and came back. I know we stayed overnight

at this mechanic's house.

Bev I don't think I was born ...

27:40 Minutes

Bev Anyhow,

Pat Going up when you were a kid

Bev Where are we now....

Mary I stayed in Atlantic Mine. And I just went out and cut the hay and hauled it in.

... She would go to Hubbel...

BEv So, anyhow they had the bar. And they also had a they had a farm that they

hired people to do hay.

Mary They had cows. They had chickens. They had pigs.

Pat Did your dad stay up there?

????

Bev My dad lived there until he was 28 or 29. And he came down to Flint. And

hired in at Buick. And he married, he and my mother eloped. And they weren't happy about that. Because she was Lutheran and my mother changed to

Catholic at the time.

Pat Your mother and dad got married down here?

Beve They eloped to Wisconsin!

Pat They were living up there still?

Mary Well, grandma Hanley had an aunt or cousin in Duluth or some place.

Anyway, they went there and got married.

Bev That was grandpa Ratz's sister. ???? Oh, my grandpa....

???

Bev Anyhow, I am going to veer a little bit. My mother's father was catholic. And

married my grandma Ratz and she was Lutheran. They were very strong Lutheran and so my mother changed Catholic for my dad. But she became the best Catholic of the family. But there was a real problem on that marriage there. Because grandma Hanley would say rosary every night. And my grandma Ratz, she was a strong Lutheran. And, in fact, she raised my mother and my Aunt Margaret and Kathryn Lutheran and I think there was big trouble. Well my mother was intent on getting her dad back to the church. So, I am skipping again, way ahead. This would be during the depression. She got my grandfather, my grandpa Ratz, back into the church. And his pattern was..., because all of his kids were raised Lutheran... He would walk from Carlton Street to St. Mike's every, I don't know every day for 6 months.... So

that was a big to do when my mother turned Catholic....Anyhow, because there were no other children, no other on my dad's side had kids.

Mary Aunt Margaret got married to Uncle Tim? and my my dad were the only ones

that got married.

Bev right

Pat And the rest never got married?

Bev Aunt Mayme and Jack and Uncle Pat died.

Pat Which one had the car dealership?

Bev Tim.

Mary

Uncle Tim and Aunt Margaret didn't have children. And my dad had five. ...

He was at the bar anymore. He would buy... cookies.... My uncle Jack used to really spoil us. And would go down and buy cookies, about six different kinds. And he would stick the boxes in the bar and you could go have cookies all you want.

31:54 Minutes

Pat Did they stop using the bar?

Bev Well, they built a new one across the street. That was just empty on the house. But, my Aunt Mayme, it was just awful the way she worked. They would bring over the bar towels for her to wash. She would feed the help at lunch time every day, on a wooden stove. They would send the waitresses over. I mean, I come across the street... lunch... I don't know how my Aunt Mayme did it. ...

Mary They used to have a washing machine. They used to have to heat the water to put in the washing machine.

Bev They would have these big copper kettles that Con would fill and they would put them on the stove to boil the towels. Then she had a mangler and she would mangle all the towels and iron them. Iron them! It was awful. I don't

know how she did it. She was up in the morning. And Con would get up to start the stove. He was blind. That was her half brother. Start the fire in the morning. And Maybe would make bread and cook the ... How you do that I don't know.

33:02 Minutes

Bev So, then what happened. So Tim. So, my dad. ... And my brother was the only male in the family to carry on the family name.

Pat ...

Bev I am talking about our family. Him and Joyce.... Your father. I remember going up there during the war and they were just having a fit that Mike was in the war. If something happened to him that would have been the end, right? There were no Hanleys left. Uh, anyhow so when we would go up there when we were young Mike would, he would like mike go over to the bar.

Pat So what years did my dad go up? ...

Bev We are back in high school probably.

Pat Is this like an 8 year window of time when you went up?

Bev I don't think it was that long. I don't really think it was that long. When we all started getting jobs in Flint we quit going up. ... When we were little we all had a dog. They had 5 dogs.

Mary Uncle Tim raised beagles.

Bev Right. Anyhow, so Tim was kind of the He was going with Aunt Rose.

Aunt Rose was a sweetie. She lived in L'Anse. She was a school teacher.

Pat I remember her

Bev Tim got married. Tim married to Rose. But they went together for 16 years.

Mary I don't think he go married until her dad told him to marry her or...

Bev

My dad told my mother that, he went up there and said, Tim is ruining that girl's life. For 16 years. But Tim was having women on the side and everything else. But he couldn't. He didn't have a job for very long. And Rose, she was very staid. Frankly I think the thing the problem about the marriage was he wasn't sitting on a job and she...

Mary He

He didn't want to settle down.

Bev

She, at that time if you got married you couldn't teach school. So, That would have been it. I am sure that is the reason. One of the reasons they didn't. She was living with her mother in L'Anse. At the time I knew Rose her father had died. I kind of remember her mother. So anyhow, Tim, they did get married. And then Tim started getting jobs and living like a bachelor. He was down living with my dad for a while. The reason I know that is because he is my godfather. Tim is my godfather.

36:09 MInutes

Pat Do all of your other brothers and sisters have one of those relatives as a godfather or godmother?

Bev

I have no idea. I know Tim was my godfather and Mr. ??? who lived across the street was my godmother. And, so I know he was around our house for a while.

Mary

Then he went up to Manistee worked for the telephone company and he fell off the telephone pholl and broke his ankle and crushed ankle. And was on crutches.

Bev

Well, I don't know about that.

Pat

Did any of those other your dad come down state and work?

Bev

No. Tim finally. Where did he end up. He had a car dealership in Menominee. And I think Rose's brother. Rose had one brother who lived in Africa who was an engineer mining thing and he spent his whole life in Africa. So they had one daughter and they always had servants and everything. And it was the British. He worked for England. And had a hard time getting his money back when he retired. And I remember meeting him and his daughters and I think

her brother financed that whole Car deal. I remember when Tim came up and showed them Atlantic Mine. John, Margaret got married to John Harrington and they had no children and his mother and dad we both right from Ireland. And they had a cute little farm. He used to get out of work at night and go down and see a picture? and I think they both lived into their 90s.

Pat Up in Atlantic Mine?

Bev No, no this was in Hubbel (MI). Margaret and John got married. He was working for Calumet Hecla. That is the mining. Copper mining. He had a good job I guess ... They didn't have any children. And at night they would come home and he would go down check on his mother and dad in the next town, down in Mason and bring back produce and all that stuff.

Pat He had a car then I assume?

Bev Yea, yea he had a car. And then Margaret and him were driving to Atlantic Mine almost every night and he would eat Mayme's supper. I am talking about 20 or 30 miles. Margaret was, uh, what happened next. They didn't have any children.

Mary And Uncle John would come up on weekends. And would bartend on Friday and Saturday.

Bev And my dad when he went up there he would stay a week or two and he would paint the whole inside of the house. Outside the house. He was forever working when he would get up there. I don't think Jack wanted to touch a brush, or anyone else. Tim sure didn't. So, my dad would really work up there. The whole time.

Pat But he was working down here too, too?

Bev Oh, awful work! ... In fact when dad retired they had two men doing the job dad was doing. I never saw a man work like that. But then my dad would come home, take care of the kids. Fix the outside. Work on the car. Go up north. ... He painted the whole time. He painted that house up in Atlantic Mine. Anyhow, I was telling you that for some reason.

39:44 Minutes

Mary Uncle Jack was a politician. He ran for road commission or ???

Pat Were you on the campaign trail with him were you?

Mary He would go up and down the highway there was every group of men he would stop and talk to. He was a politician... when he told them, he sold coal.

Bev And then the depression hit. Okay. And then, let's see what happen.

Pat You guys were how old in the depression?

Bev I was born, born in July and the depression hit in October of that same year.

1929. ????

Mary I was born in 27.

Bev You were 2 years old and I was just born

Pat Where does my dad fit in?

Up above Mary Ellen. There is 5 years between your dad and me. There is 2 years between Helen and Mike. 3 years between Mike and Mary Ellen. 2 years between Mary Ellen and I. And there is 3 years between Joyce and I.

So, it is 2, 3, 2, 3. So, Tim. Good old Tim. So, in Atlantic Mine you worked. So, Tim was bartending there for a while. So Tim was quite handsome. Tim was a talker. He was a car salesman, he had a car business. Prior to this

time prohibition was on. It was after prohibition

Pat Oh, what happened to the bar?

Bev Yeah, that was a trip. But, as Mary from L'Anse says, "Let me tell you, they

never starved." Up there in Atlantic Mine. They had a farm. They hauled coal. They had an ice house. They made it through the depression in fine shape.

Pat The ice house where they made it or where they harvested it in the lake?

Bev I don't know where they got it hauled in and then they had I remember they had sawdust over it on big pieces of it. I don't know. So, anyway, after prohibition, Tim must have been between jobs. Not married yet am sure. These guys came and it was Sunday and said give us a drink. And good old Tim did, and they were inspectors. And so they closed the bar. Well, you talk about a funeral (laughs), They never got over that one when Tim closed the bar.

Pat The bar never opened up after that?

Bev Oh no, it reopened. I guess they went back to coal, or whatever...

Pat So the government shut them down.

Bev Oh yeah, it was prohibition. Oh no, it wasn't prohibition, it was after hours...

Mary Uncle Tim he used to bartend and those friends would be there and they would drink to 6 o'clock in the morning. And they weren't too happy about that. Our entertainment when we were up there. On friday night we would all sit in the front window and watch the fighting to see who's going to knock...

Pat A bar fight?

Mary Yeah, my dad would pull them out, and hit em, and Uncle John would hit them a couple more times.

Bev They had an outside porch around that house and that time. And they had these big wicker chairs. And you could hear the music from the jukebox across the street. And they had a dance floor. And they had cars all the way up and down both sides of the street. ...

Mary Well, this was during the war and all the people up around there went to Detroit to work. So they would go to Detroit on Monday and all drive back up on Friday night. And then they'd drink. And they'd leave Sunday afternoon to go back. They all wanted to come home for the weekend.

44:30 Minutes

Pat They would come down here to make war weapons?

Bev

Yeah, So then they would all go up there for the weekend and they would all get drunk. And then they'd start fighting.... My dad, when he would up there tend bar at night. And Margaret's husband, John Harrington. There were different Harrington's There were the Harrington's from L'Anse. And Aunt Annie married her family and they were Harringtons. And then there was Uncle John's parents. No relation between those two. They both happen to be Harringtons.

Mary Uncle John Harrington was about 6'3 at least.

Pat ...

Mary No, no.. He was about 6'3 and well over 200, way over 200 pounds. So when you saw him coming, somebody was coming.

Bev (crosstalk) A big man!

Bev So on the weekends my dad would be at the bar. Jack would be at the bar. Uncle John would be there. And so Uncle John and my dad would bounce them out of the bar! And we would sit on the porch and say "oh, no they are going to get hurt…" And Aunt Margaret would go … She didn't have any children… She played the piano. She had a nice voice.

Mary She had a baby grand piano in the living room that she never used. And she just gave it to the school. Well, that was unheard of.

Bev They wanted her to sing in the choir but she wouldn't sing with untrained voices. So, anyhow. Are we there already?

Mary Are we there already? How much longer is it going to be?

Pat Oh, we are almost there. Pit stop. Coffee Break. Smoke break.

Mary Lovely.