

GHM-Oral History Project- Interview Answers

Patricia D. Ray (nee **Henderson**)

ID: 8/21-4/22

DOB: 7/17/1941

Kansas City, Kansas

1. Are you a **Gardner native** (born here or in the metro area)? N/A

2. What brought you and/or your family to Gardner?

“My great-great Aunt and Uncle lived on Gardner Lake. I & my sisters visited in summers. My grandparents moved to the lake & 2 cousins and then my parents moved here. I moved here at age 20 when my husband (Air Force) was stationed in Africa

3. When did you move here?

“In 1962. My daughter was delivered by Dr. A.S. Reece.

4. What was your family’s trade/business?

“My Father was a TWA airline mechanic. My husband Gerald Ascue became a psychologist.

5. Tell us about this experience...

“And I became a Santa Fe Railroader. Our 2 daughters graduated from Gardner High School and received their undergraduate degrees from K.U. in Lawrence. My oldest daughter works with children who have various problems, and she is an author. My 2nd daughter graduated from Georgetown with a law degree & is an author. I have an adopted daughter who is a special education teacher and a missionary. I worked 32 years for the AT&SF Railroad and have lived in various places away from Gardner. I have returned to live out my retirement on Gardner Lake. I enjoy the relaxed atmosphere at the lake and the friendliness of its residents. Everything has changed, of course, in Gardner... A quiet town of 1,000 to a bustling city of nearly 30,000. I miss the

coziness of the Gardner that was but appreciate the amenities of the town that it is now Gardner. So glad we still have Blazer Burger. Mrs. Rankin made my daughters brown dresses. Dr Reece took care of our medical needs and the Lehman's were the bankers & Mrs. Perry was a wonderful contributor to my children's love of reading. Mrs. Elrod was a wonderful introduction to learning. This town was a fantastic area in which to raise a family! Patty."

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| 6. If you are not a native, when did you first move to Gardner? | N/A |
| 7. What is your earliest memory of Gardner? | N/A |
| 8. What is your favorite memory of Gardner? | N/A |
| 9. What have you noticed that has changed the most about Gardner during your residency?
Do you perceive this as a good/bad? And why? | N/A |
| 10. Anything else you would like to share? | N/A |