

Interview With Jack Byer

By Jackie Byer

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Home Life

- 1. What year was it when you were my age?** "1960."
- 2. Where were you living at that time?** "I was living in a farmhouse four miles south of Cimarron, three and three-fourths west. In fact, that was the farmhouse I was born in, and I lived there until I was 18."
- 3. What did your dad do for a living?** "He was a farmer and rancher."
- 4. What kind of chores did you have around the house/farm?** "I milked four cows everyday, collected eggs from 300 laying hens, and my mother had a large garden."
- 5. What did you do for entertainment at home?** "We played lots of cards and me and my brothers played sports."

School

- 6. What was your method of transportation?** "At that age, we always rode the school bus to school. In fact, when I was a senior, I drove the school bus for Cimarron school district. But to go to any events, we did have an automobile."

7. **What classes did you take in school?** Basics- Math, English, Science, and Biology.
8. **What organizations were you involved in at your school?** C-Club (athletic club), Band and Vocal Music.
9. **Did you play any sports in high school?** Basketball, football, and track.
10. **How many games did you have a week?** Football- Once a week, Basketball- Two times a week

Misc.

11. **Did you have a job? If so, what was it?** "My job in high school was helping out around the farm in the wintertime, like milking the cows and helping my father farm and other odds and ends. Then sometimes in the summer, I'd work for Wiley McFarland on his ranch."
12. **How much were you paid?** \$1.25 an hour
13. **What did kids you at your church do for fun, if anything?** "We had youth group once a week, and always put on Christmas and Easter plays."
14. **What was the clothing style back then?** "Blue jeans, T-shirts, bell bottoms, miniskirts, and one of the main hairstyles was ducktails."

15. What would you and your friends do to cause trouble? "During

Halloween, we'd go up to the Co-op, which was two blocks north of the the stoplight, and we'd roll tires across the street. Then we'd go down to the park and play Ditch Them in the river, in the park. A lot of times, we'd let air out of the night policeman's car tires."

16. If you could give advice to a teenager today, what advice would it

be? "Have fun, but be safe. And take life more serious, because it is."

17. What did you do on a typical Saturday night as a teen? "We had

dances, drag races, and movies."

18. Did the Vietnam War affect your family or families around you?

"It didn't affect my family, but I had several friends go off to war. Some of them were killed. But the news, media, and that sort of thing, they just treated them like dirt when they came back home. Everybody thought it was our fault. There was no respect for the American soldier in those days."

News/Media

19. Who were some famous musicians? "Back then we had Elvis

Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, and a group called The Supremes."

20. What kind of music did you listen to? "Rock and Roll."

21. What were you doing during the Kennedy assassination? "I was

going to the junior college in Dodge City, Kansas."

22. What were some other big news topics? "Oh boy, there was the

Kennedy Assassination, the Cuban Crisis, and the Cold War with

Russia."

Release Form

To be completed by the person interviewed:

I, (print name here) JACK BYER, give permission for the video/audio tape of my interview to be donated to the Cimarron City Library, to be kept on file, and used for purposes of research at a later date.

I agree that persons doing research may use my name and my statements without further approval on my part.

By giving my permission for this, I also understand that I am not giving up any copyright or performance rights that I may hold.

Accepted and agreed:

Signature: Jack Bye Date: 10-17-12
month/day/year
Address: Box 1026
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