

William Jefferson Clinton History Project

Interview with

Roy Clinton, Jr.
Springdale, Arkansas
24 August, 2004

Interviewer: Andrew Dowdle

Andrew Dowdle: Hello, this is Andrew Dowdle. I'm with Roy Clinton in Springdale, Arkansas. It is Tuesday, August 24, 2004. My first question, Mr. Clinton, is when and where were you born?

Roy Clinton: I was born in Hot Springs, Arkansas, November 21, 1934.

AD: And who were your parents?

RC: My parents are Roy Clinton, Sr. and Janet Clinton.

AD: And what were their occupations?

RC: My mother worked as a sales clerk early on before I was born and for a period thereafter. My father sold feed for a company, and later went into the feed business for himself. Then mother and he ran an antique shop for about twenty-five years—the tag end of his life—and he died in 1989.

AD: Could you talk a little bit about which schools you went to in Hot Springs?

RC: I went to Jones Grade School through the seventh grade and went to Hot Springs Junior High and Hot Springs Senior High.

AD: Could you tell us a little bit about what Hot Springs schools were like in the 1940s and 1950s?

RC: Segregated. The seventh grade had to be included in the grade school because they didn't have room in the junior high. So my eighth and ninth grade periods

were at the junior high. This was after the war [World War II] and a lot of people were back. The town began to grow again to a degree and there wasn't a lot of money to put into the schools. They served the community pretty well, but it was a segregated atmosphere.

AD: You kind of touched on this, but you can talk about the quality of education—looking back on it—that you received?

RC: I thought it was pretty good. I thought, truly, in comparing it with my college years, we had some really well-trained teachers, certainly both in the sciences and in math. It was there for us, and I think they were pretty well grounded.

AD: Can you talk a little bit about growing up in Hot Springs in terms of how that would probably be different than a typical Arkansas childhood of that time period?

RC: [The difference] would be [from] daylight to dark. It wasn't like any other town that I've seen since then for that era. It was a wide open town. You could go to your little Presbyterian youth fellowship on Sunday night, and you're fourteen—we could all drive at the age of fourteen back then—that was a carry-over from the war. You could go to that and then go up to Whittington Pavilion and buy a beer in a glass for twenty-five cents, which some of them did. [Laughter] And there were slot machines everywhere. It was a playful town. It was from way back at its inception when it was a spa—to kind of get away from it all and kick up your heels, and that was evident to me from a very early age.

AD: You were cognizant that this was not what the rest of the state was like?

RC: There weren't warehouses on every corner in other towns like there were in Hot

Springs, trust me. Nor bars, nor slot machines in bars. Hot Springs was wide open.

AD: Could you talk a little bit about your uncles?

RC: Well—and I had an aunt. An aunt Iarea was the oldest. Next was my uncle Bob who lived in—Bob and Evelyn lived in Texas. He was with Kraft Foods, I think. I'm pretty sure that's right. They had no children. Iarea had two children, one of whom is still alive. Petey was the boy; he's dead. Virginia—a great gal—Virginia Heath is still living in Hot Springs. The President mentions her in his book. Then my uncle—my father was the third child, Roy, and he had four children—my two brothers and sister, and then Raymond. He was the most successful one by far in the family, and had auto dealerships and was an influential politico in Hot Springs and in the state for many years. Roger—Roger Clinton's father and Bill Clinton's step-father, who worked some for Raymond—well, quite a bit for a number of years as parts manager and also the operation in Hope. And that's it. That's the aunt and the four brothers.

AD: Could you talk a little bit about your father's political career and interest, and then a little bit about Raymond's?

RC: My father ran for and was elected to the House of Representatives. Raymond was always in the background. Raymond was—I don't know that he ever ran for political office, but he certainly was involved in a lot of political races. Certainly the [Sidney "Sid" Sanders] McMath [Arkansas Governor from 1949 to 1953] era of politics where the young, and in many cases, the war heroes [were] back. They were quite a distinguished group. My uncle Raymond had a partner in the Buick

business named Earl Ricks. Earl was well-known as a barn-storming pilot and a great person with a great family. He was the man who flew from Manila to Tokyo to pick up the Japanese team to work out the surrender, and flew them back to work out the surrender, and did it in a Swiss plane. He got instant recognition around the world. [He] later became head of the U.S. [United States] Air National Guard, but in the interim Raymond was very much behind these fellows who came back. Raymond could not serve. He had been seriously injured in an auto wreck as a young man. Raymond had Earl Ricks, who—I think Earl became mayor. Sid McMath, prosecuting attorney. I. G. Brown, who became the sheriff. Another Brown became the judge—Clyde Brown became the judge. These are in McMath's books, which are interesting for me to read because I knew all the players. Always Raymond was in the background. I think he orchestrated my father's running for public office, and my father loved it, but he couldn't run his business and be a part-time state representative, so that was over with pretty soon. Roy, my father, was campaign manager for [Orval] Faubus a number of times. Faubus ran a lot, and Raymond was behind a lot of that, too. They had to have people with connections. Having said that, I guess my father was more involved with politics from Raymond's point of view. That was always his viewpoint, too. You know, Raymond was two years younger and he [Roy] literally worshiped his younger brother. They were close in their friendship not just as brothers, but as friends too.

AD: Could you talk a little bit about what Roger Clinton was like? What were your impressions of him as a teenager?

RC: You're talking about my impressions as a teenager of my uncle Roger?

AD: Yes, your uncle Roger.

RC: Well, I didn't see him a lot. He was married to Inamae Murphy, and she had two sons, George and Roy, that I remember from a very early age as prior World War II. Nice guys—they were teenagers growing up then. We were friends and then Roger and Inamae divorced, and I'm not sure where he was for part of that time. He may have been in Hope. I didn't see him as much. Roger was a playboy type and his friends were Hot Springs people. This was what a lot of people in Hot Springs did. They had a good party time. Roger was always loving, great with kids, always giving you money—"Here's a quarter, go get something"—playful, but I don't remember him a lot until he—and by this time he and Virginia were married—came back to Hot Springs in the early 1950s. I went off to school at seventeen [in] 1952. I would just see him sporadically. Unfortunately, I didn't seem him enough over a period of years. I would go back home and Roger and Virginia and my mother and dad were close and did things together—played cards and dominoes and that sort of thing. I wasn't home much after that. I worked all summer and was gone throughout the school year. I was gone by—1955 or 1956 was my last summer at home.

AD: I guess, for the record, I might as well finish some of the biographical elements. You left school and went to college. Where did you go to?

RC: The University . . .

AD: You went to the University of Arkansas [Fayetteville] . . .?

RC: The University in 1952. I left school in January of 1957. I had an ROTC

[Reserve Officers' Training Corps] commitment—took it. It was only for six months—got out and married my wife. I met her up at school in 1954 or 1955. We got married in 1957. I worked through school for a department store in Fayetteville, which is no longer there, and they bought a hard goods operation on the corner, which is where the Bank of Fayetteville is now. And I went to work—they called me and wanted to know if I wanted to come back and run that. That was a recession year and my wife and I had no idea that we would come back to Fayetteville, but there weren't a lot of jobs out there. We liked it. It just never occurred to us that there would be much because this firm had a couple of sons in the business. Anyhow, I came back, and from there—that's the only job I had, with the department store and the hard goods store—until 1980 when I quit working conventionally and we were doing development—commercial real estate development in Rogers in the 1970s. I got more involved with that and decided to devote a lot of time to that and playing golf and having a place on the Buffalo River, so that's what I did. My golf has never gotten any better. [Laughter]

AD: So practice doesn't make perfect.

RC: No, not in my case.

AD: When's the first time you recall meeting Bill Clinton?

RC: Probably earlier than I recall him because I know I did [meet him] in about 1952.

I think I was just getting ready to go off to school, but I'm a little hazy on this.

Maybe 1952 or 1953. Here was this cute little rounded-everywhere happy-faced boy, who did not back away from adults at all. I may have the timing wrong on this, but I remember him most vividly up the house on Park Avenue that Roger

and Virginia moved into. It was a Tudor-style home that had a lot of rooms and there was a lot of froufrou and [it] had a bunch of garages. A detached garage out the back—it ran between two blocks. It is still standing there today. I'm sure it's where it is. I remember him as being extremely outgoing for a child, and he was a child then. That would have been 1956. He would have been no more than eight years old at the time. I commented that he reminded me of David Pryor because I told my father when I was eleven—ten or eleven—I had gone to church camp and I came back and said, "I've met somebody my age that's going to be the governor someday," because I thought that was about as high as anybody could ever get. That was a big deal. I told him who he was and he said, "Why do you say that?" And I said, "Because he can talk to adults." And he could. Bill Clinton at the age of eight—or whatever this was—could talk to adults. He'd shake their hand and all. He was the apple of his mother's eye and she had him rehearsed in the niceties of gentility toward adults, [and] he handled it well.

AD: So there was kind of a general expectation in the family, even at an early age, that this was a special child?

RC: Well, on my part. He didn't duck his head and he would ask people questions, which all kids do, but they would make more sense. He was—I thought he was, yes.

AD: Over about the next ten years or so as he was growing up in Hot Springs, what were the interactions that you had? You said that you had gone off to [the] university and that you were coming back on a kind of more or less regular basis.

RC: In the summer I was coming back, but I was working shift work at the aluminum

plant down there. I didn't get out except at times when young kids should [not] be out. I didn't see him a lot. We probably—we did go by—you know, we would have little family get together or meet some place and he was there. Didn't pay that much attention—in fact, my first impression was the one I felt there at the house, the one I remember most vividly. I do remember after my wife and I were married and we had two children very quickly—so we were tied down at the house—Virginia would bring Bill up to band camp. She called and came by to see us. I didn't see him then. He was already up at camp, and she came by and we had lunch together. I don't imagine I saw him more than four or five times in that period. Really there just wasn't any occasion. We were up here and he was down there. We didn't get back down there much.

AD: I guess kind of fast forward a little bit. When Bill Clinton moved here to teach at the law school, did you have more frequent contact with him then?

RC: Only when he would drop in the store and we would visit a little bit. And I do distinctly remember one situation where Wylie Davis called me—I guess he was dean of the law school—and he said—this was early, he had just come back up here—and he said, “Your cousin has applied for a job”—1972 I'm sure.

AD: That sounds right.

RC: “He's applied for a job at the law school to teach and be on the faculty.” He said, “Do you think he has any political aspirations?” And I said that he had just gotten the heck kicked out of him by McGovern's campaign in Texas, [so] surely he won't go into politics for a while. Shortly thereafter he announced he was running against John Paul [Hammerschmidt], and he darn near beat him. So

that's how much I knew. We had gotten together in the store, or something like that, but that was it. I was amazed he was running. I certainly thought ran an amazing race, and our daughter got very involved in that. She was in junior high. I would see him taking her—she couldn't drive—well, she was fifteen—and she would work [at] his campaign headquarters. I would go in there and there would be this little voice talking very deeply saying, "I'm with Wellington Research Group and we would like to take a poll, who are you voting for for 'X'?" and then slide in the question. She is in communications and [it] has carried her all through. She learned at an early age, and she truly thinks everything of the president, Hillary and Chelsea. I saw him some then. He was on the go quite a bit from then on. Then after losing—I'm not even sure when he left here. Of course, he ran for attorney general—that took him from Fayetteville forever more, except for when he comes back.

AD: When did you first meet Senator [Hillary Rodham] Clinton? Would [that] have been before or after they were married?

RC: It may have been on the day they were married. I think I may have met—but I do remember the reception over at Morriss and Ann Henry's house. I had seen her there and I probably had seen her some, but Fayetteville is still one of those unique places where town and gown don't see each other much, you know. It is just one of those—well, you're over there. You have a cocoon area that you operate in. The town has an area somewhat like that. I saw them a little bit after that, but not a lot, and they were gone to Little Rock from then on.

AD: Did you have any first impressions?

RC: Let me see, well, no. I thought her glasses were very thick. She looked very brainy, which proved to be true. I did not—I don't recall anything. I was just glad to meet her and knew that she was part of the family. That was about it. But, you know, I didn't see Bill very much either.

AD: What were your reactions when you found out he was running for governor the first time?

RC: Well, that was going to be natural. We all expected that. That was supposed to happen and [I] certainly thought he would win, which he did.

AD: Were you surprised when he lost when he ran for reelection?

RC: Yes, and I will tell you in my own personal opinion. There was a gal named Unruh, from Tulsa, and I think this was one of the earliest examples of dirty tricks that the other party....

AD: Could you spell that name?

RC: I think it's U-N-R-U-H. She said—I think this is some twenty odd years ago—twenty five years ago—but the car tag and Cubans and the absolutely falsehoods that were being run, to me, was just a capsule of what's going on today in the national political arena. I think they have become very adept at painting a lot of smearing things and not either backing away from them or just pleading no contest or walking away and never held accountable. I think he was an early victim of that because she was pretty good at it.

AD: After that election, what did you think would become of Bill Clinton?

RC: I didn't think Frank White would hold up two years. I knew Frank. Well, it's how dirty tricks campaigns can work. He was basically a pretty nice guy. In fact,

I talked to him in September before that night, not having any idea that he would win. And I said, “You need to stop throwing out all this crap that you are doing.” He just kind of laughed and said, “It’s kind of out of my hands,” which I knew it probably was. He certainly [wasn’t] dead politically. He was the viable person to come back. Nobody else, I felt, was on the radar screen. There obviously were some people, but not as prominent. It was a shock. He got beat—and yet so many of them do, but he never got beat again.

AD: When did you first really become aware that President Clinton was going to run for president?

RC: It took me completely by surprise, and, frankly, I thought, “He’s got to know a lot,” but I have no idea....He was very prominent in the moderate democratic wing. The governor’s group—I don’t know what they call it—and was getting a lot of headlines, but then so was [California Governor] Jerry Brown, or somebody—West Coast people, East Coast people were getting a lot of headlines. I was flabbergasted that after [President Jimmy] Carter—a southern boy who came up and stubbed his toe—that he would even stand anywhere any chance at all of being elected. I missed it completely.

AD: When did you begin to realize that he was going to have a good chance at winning the democratic nomination and then later on the presidency itself?

RC: Well, my history on that—I’m going to back off. He and I—my uncle Raymond died and the president and I were pall bearers at his funeral and we were riding in the car and he said, “There’s this crazy Cajun that’s called me up and he says he just finished getting a senator elected up in Pennsylvania.” I think it was

Pennsylvania.

AD: Yes, I think that is correct.

RC: And he said [that] the guy was a university professor and he didn't stand a chance, but he came out there and he beat a well-known Republican.

AD: I think that was Harris Wofford, he beat...

RC: I don't know, but it was a big shock. Knocked their pins off. He said, "He's got some damn crazy ideas, but he says he sounds good." It was James Carville. I said, "Are you going to hire him?" And he said, "I think I am." From there just a few little more tidbits and then I went to [Washington] DC. We were going to DC on some hospital stuff. I'm on the board in Fayetteville and we would go to DC every January. It was the talk up there, just absolutely. Gennifer Flowers had just done this [Reference to woman who came forward during Clinton's 1992 presidential campaign and claimed she had had an affair with him], everything was falling apart. New Hampshire was getting all messed up and here he was—he hadn't even gotten off the ground and he was getting crucified all over the place. And I thought, "Well this is over, this is truly over." I have forgotten the sequence of events, but I got mad at just about everybody, the press in particular, for this. Here, again—Hillary's right, there is a vast right-wing conspiracy and they have lots of money and they have no scruples. If Democrats were tough enough, [Al] Gore would have never lost. Well, you know that's a partisan thing. I just thought he was dead, but, Lord, he kept plotting. And, I guess, to say when—I thought by about mid-spring it looked like he was going to get it locked up. I still was not at all confident that he could win by any sense—by any

sense—but I remembered at my first grandson’s Christening—he was governor. He drove out to my brother Bo’s house in Little Rock where they were having a post-Christening party and a lot of the family and other people were gathered. Regina Hopper was there, and he came out and he didn’t have anybody with him. He just came in the car and sat outside for a while because Regina and I were talking. We started talking and—of course, he can dominate any conversation with just his wealth of knowledge. He started talking about the people in New England and how they were having to [work] two and three jobs and they had lost their jobs. He said, “These people are the backbone of the country sitting up there—well-educated and there’s no place for them to go. It’s 1992 [and] they are having to sell their homes and there [are] no jobs for them.” There’s a great discontent and we are going to capitalize on that, and he did.

AD: So it was the economy. . . .

RC: “It’s the economy’s doing,” is what he would say.

AD: If you look at the course of the administration, what do you think are some of the big accomplishments? What are things that you really look at that you feel are big achievements?

RC: I think I’ve heard him say the one big failure was the health care provision and I fault everybody on that, myself included. By that time, I did have some background in problems that we’ve got in insuring and providing health care for our population. He was trying to be too much of something for everybody. That’s not going to be the way it works out—it’s not going to work out like that, but if you go back and look at many of the things that were adopted that Hillary

and whoever else was involved back then were doing, they are adopted today. That was the big failure, but nobody else even had the nerve to attempt it. He got a lot of stuff out on the table. Now it has pretty well foundered since 1994, 1995 when Congress, or control of Congress, began to change. The great accomplishments are: one, he got the nation back to the center. He definitely got the nation back to the center. The great loss is that it's not there anymore. Polarization—although we were polarized on Clinton, himself, it is pretty hard to get polarized on somebody who understood and could verbalize the issues and get people talking and he did. Every time he got pushed, he pushed back stronger and stronger. The economy—that's a no-brainer—that's blatantly obvious he did something that nobody else could do. What he did would have paid off greatly if we hadn't gotten into this foolishness that we are into—not just Iraq but the tax cuts. I mean, things that just go against the basic grain of any economic program. David Stockman was right—it was voodoo economics and [President Ronald] Reagan was wrong and [President George W.] Bush didn't pick up on any of it, which also his daddy [President George H. W. Bush] thought, too. The bankruptcy that we are seeing today could have certainly been avoided—by that, I mean we loaded so much debt onto our kids that it will be hard crawling out of. Bill Clinton as a Democrat . . .

End of Tape 1, Side A

Beginning of Tape 1, Side B

RC: . . . supported NAFTA [North American Free Trade Agreement] and GATT [General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade]. But, just as I said, as [President

Richard M.] Nixon—no Democrat could have gone to China. He would have been a dirty, commie, pinko, this, that and the other, and yet it opened up two great things that have happened here. One is globalization has come about far quicker, plus we can't forget the Internet and all the electronic things that go on today. It's with China. China is becoming the driving force with the world, whether we want to acknowledge it or not. They are now beginning to account for our fuel shortages, our building materials, and they are producing something of good value at a much lesser price. We are all getting the benefit of that. We are getting the benefit in northwest Arkansas of a free run between Central and South America. We see it up here, and it keeps our prices lower—and we are pretty expensive. It is certainly lifting those countries, too. The world is going to globalize, no matter what the xenophobic people want to think. We are all living downstream nowadays. I think Bill Clinton more than any other single individual has had a better grasp of this and has worked toward it. We can hear them all bitch about the UN [United Nations] and the one-world groups and all that and, “Our boys won't wear a UN hat,” and all that—well that's going by the boards over a period of time. I think Bill was a very moderating force. We certainly didn't have any wars. We certainly didn't get a bunch of people killed, injured. We were certainly not killing a bunch of other people in other countries, and we certainly became good stewards of our finances. Those are some things that I couldn't believe could happen in an eight-year period of time—to go from a horrible debt to a balanced budget and [inaudible]. I just didn't think it could happen.

AD: Have you talked to the president much since he has left office?

RC: No. A few times we did see him some when we were in DC. We got to stay at the White House a couple of times. I saw him the other night when he was here for the book signing. I had a nice brief visit. It was a good visit. He wanted to talk and we wanted to talk, too. To me, I always knew it was an imposition. I'm here by virtue of family, certainly not of the great accomplishments that—but I've always felt like I've understood him. I haven't finished reading his book, but what I understood about him is right. He sees a basic goodness in everybody and wants to accommodate that. He wants to promote that. I just think he's so well grounded in so many things. He'll play a major part for the rest of his life. All the world will see him.

AD: Kind of talking again back to the subject of family. What role do you think his uncles had in terms of his political career just in terms—? His personality would have probably driven him to that, from what you are talking about—in terms of an early age, also their political experience?

RC: I think Raymond had a great deal to do with that. Bill was exposed to political people from Raymond in the Hot Springs environment, and, perhaps, even in the state environment. He was a young man by the time—let's see, he was born in 1946—1961 or 1962 Faubus was still around doing things. McMath—I think Sid ran again for office somewhere down in there. I think you couldn't be around Raymond without talking politics—Democratic politics. They, I'm sure, would talk. I don't know what his recollection is of it. It was an influence in my life because when I picked up Roy Reed's book, *Faubus: [The Life and Times of an*

American Prodigal], [I] was just fascinated by it. I couldn't put it down.

McMath's book was kind of hurried, it looked like, but I was fascinated with it.

A lot of it was because Raymond would tell me things. He would tell me how the gambling interests—not my father, but Raymond in Hot Springs—would help elect governors. Anyhow, he had a feel for politics. I think that he imparted a lot of that knowledge. If Bill was around him they would talk politics. I think they probably did.

AD: And while Hot Springs was segregated, how do you think growing up in that type of environment, where there were a lot of different people who were coming in from all different parts of the country, affected President Clinton's views on civil rights? That if you look at what you would think of the stereotypical Arkansas background from the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s and you compare that to President Clinton's views on civil rights and his record, it doesn't seem like there is a straight line there.

RC: That's where Hot Springs is different. I had the benefit because my father was in the legislature to work for a crew on the State Highway Department in 1952. I had just gotten out of high school, [and was] going into college. I had the summer [off] and I traveled all over the state—started in Fayetteville and went to Helena and Mountain Home and all these places. There was no place like Hot Springs, and there was no place as diverse as Hot Springs. Hot Springs is like a big old Catholic church. There is somebody from every place in the world from Estonia to Albania to Malaysia to whatever that come in by—were drawn here because it was a spa. People would come in from everywhere to go take the baths way back

when and a lot of them—the race track—there were many Jewish people who had shops downtown and also did things at the race track. I remember the guy who had the field glass concession was named Sussman. I remember him because he had beautiful daughters. He traveled around. These people would make Hot Springs their home and they would travel all over the country in the thoroughbred [horse] business—doing something that pertains to tracks. All the auction houses were owned by Lebanese, or many of them were. It was a real mixing pot, and you did not find that in any small Arkansas town at all. I mean, they were—these people were not even—when I came to Fayetteville there were two or three Jewish people that I knew up here, and that was about it. Springdale had no black people in it, and neither did many of the other communities, but Hot Springs had a lot. They were there for the service community, and it was probably very easy to find work. We played football with them, or against them, or on sand lots. I think if he was going to have a more diverse education, sociologically, Hot Springs was the place to get it, and I think he capitalized on that.

AD: A lot has been written about the relationship between Roger Clinton and Virginia Clinton. At that time, what did you think about their relationship, and was there anything out of the ordinary that either you had seen or that somebody in your family had talked about?

RC: Roger drank to excess. Virginia drank. They partied a lot. They would have spats. Roger was never going to change. Virginia could not drink to excess. She was a practicing health care—nurse anesthetist—and had to function a lot. He probably partied when he shouldn't have. There were things that they would be

anecdotal and not really pertinent to anything that—I liked them both and I know my parents liked them both. They didn't talk about—but you've got to remember I'm probably the least one there because at seventeen I really was gone most of the time, and that's really when they came back to Hot Springs. Prior to that, I can remember Roger was just a hellion. He drank and he played in a band—played the saxophone like that. I liked him because he gave me money—things that kids remember. He would buy me ice-cream—all that kind of stuff. There would be some anecdotal things that would just happen and most of it was caused by drinking by either one or both of them.

AD: It just seems very interesting in terms of the difference—in terms of your father and his brothers, in terms of their personalities. Again, it's very hard for me to get a completely accurate picture decades later, but it just seems that they were such different, unique people.

RC: My father was pulled out of school in the eighth grade because he had to go to work and help his dad, which was not uncommon at that time. He was born in 1905. There was a big recession in 1919 and, I guess, Daddy was somewhere in that era. He also seemed—he had a lot of innate intelligence. Actually, he did a lot of tax work for people and still did up until over the last—maybe until he died—and he worked with an accounting firm for a while. It was all self-taught. He was not like—and I think part of it was my mother. She had four kids and they were pretty well grounded in the Presbyterian Church. We went to church every Sunday—on Thursday nights a potluck and things like that. Daddy was a treasurer and it was just—they did not drink to excess ever that I can remember.

Being the oldest, I kind of grew up with them, but I knew from early on that Roger was different. When he was around, there were parties, and I think that he would get these parties started, but I really took that as being the norm in Hot Springs. My parents—they were a different group. They were more of the blue collar—didn't have any money to speak of—so they couldn't really do a whole bunch of things. We rented [a house] until 1951. I don't think we ever owned a house until then, and that's when I was getting ready to go off to school. Lacking an education, he suffered more I think than the rest of them, but it didn't bother him—I mean, all of his children got college degrees, which nobody did prior to that. I guess Raymond was a fast trotter. He just did a whole bunch of things—politics and big car deals and big land deals and that sort of thing. Like I said, everybody admired Raymond. He was very successful.

AD: Is there anything else you would like to add? There are a lot of things that we have touched on. Are there any other hidden insights or good stories?

RC: I really don't right off the bat. I'm sure there will be a ton I can think of right after this. I'm glad this is being done. I think the family will look back on a period of years. I don't know a whole lot about this. Being kin to the President of the United States in this manner—it's just one of those flukes that happens—warts and all, that's what the Clinton family is about. It has just been very pleasurable to me to know Bill and Hillary from where we know them. I know what they are and they are good people. The country has been quite fortunate to have them.

AD: I would like to thank you for your time.

RC: I'm glad I got the chance.

[End of Interview]

[Edited by Rebecca Willhite]