



Oral History and Folklife Research, Inc.

AN INTERVIEW WITH RICHARD RAYMOND

INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY

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TRANSCRIBER: KEITH LUDDEN

**FINAL**

Keith Ludden: Do you mind if I ask when you were born?

Richard Raymond: January 7, 1947.

KJL: And where was that?

RR: Oh, some country or other, I didn't get a chance on that one, my family what country we were living in. Everything all began, started out with Mom and me and my family, when we were there. We had no food, no nothing to eat. The only thing that my mom had to eat was dandelion greens. Way back in those days there was no food, no restaurants, so in the meantime a few days after that, Mom was crying, I was wondering why she was crying and she said my baby brother died, passed away. Went through that, and the next thing was that they found out about what happened there and they were trying to—they were checking the baby out to find out what happened and they [were] checking it over to find out what happened there, but (inaudible) just died and whatever the reason is, who knows? Anyway, it was just another such a thing happened. So another day came and I went outside and then by the barn started swinging, you know, on a swing, I kept swinging and swinging until I got out of there that day, and the next day came and I looked out the window, it was so quiet, no wind blowing or anything. All of a sudden the whole barn came crashing right down. Nothing standing up. That happened and before that happened, I was by the barn door and all of the sudden out of nowhere (inaudible) the hinge, there, just let loose off the pulley, came right down on my back and I landed (inaudible) I quickly went down on the ground before it hit me. It went—landed on my back, but didn't hurt me or anything and (inaudible). When time went by, I figured out what made the barn go down, the barn was sinking, because it didn't have no foundation and the whole ground was soft, out in the country. Anyway, my sisters came home and they went to look and (inaudible) the barn and they came right over (inaudible), they said the whole barn's flat and on the ground. My mother found out some way

that—my mom there one day decided to go upstairs and my dad built the floor with one layer of board up there and Mom was walking over it and I was looking up and (inaudible) told me to stand back and all of the sudden, crash! She went down—the floor was about as high as that ceiling and I (inaudible) by the frame of the door. She came crashing down, but she was hanging there like this and the beams, the cross beams must have supported her. She made a (inaudible). And my sister got a ladder and got her down. She was okay, but the only problem is the doors don't open. So she was (inaudible) that and when I was little I looked up there and I knew that Mom was going to go right down through. I could see the boards (inaudible) told me to stand back and I did and all the sudden, crash!

KJL: So she was kind of hanging by her elbows.

RR: So anyway, Mom was okay. So another day came on, whatever day it was. My dad came in and took out one board there, one stair board on the stairs, so I wouldn't climb upstairs. That was a mistake he made there, so the next thing you know I climb up and I miss a step and I went down. I had no control at all, I was going over. I landed right down on a tin can that was sharp. The tin can, the cover was up like this, got me right here, on the side. I had to be taken to the hospital. I wasn't alive then, I was dead. Evidently the doctor saved my life. Must be in those days, they had a doctor that knew what he was doing. They didn't have many doctors like him that saved my life. So I had to have (inaudible) stitches put on there, and I was lucky to be alive when I came out of there and came home. In the meantime nighttime came and I wasn't there, I went to my uncle, Uncle Evan and family, the other family there to be taken care of so I can have food to eat, so I had to stay there with him and get food to eat. So after that, nighttime came and my family went upstairs and started to go to bed. When they did, all the sudden, Fluffy came upstairs, the cat, you know and tried to warn them that something was wrong and there was a fire. Fluffy went upstairs there and got their attention and they smelled smoke and they quickly ran downstairs and out the door. They were lucky, though, to get out the door. It was a corner door. The house was built with a door right on the corner. They came out and all they could do

in those days—they didn't have—they couldn't get ahold of the fire department or anything. They had no phone, you know, and no light. Anyway, so all they could do is stand there and watch the house burn down flat. It went flat. I wasn't there when that happened, I was with my uncle. He told me about it. At first I didn't believe him and then I—by the time he got me there and I looked (inaudible). There was nothing left. All there was, was nothing but clean ashes out of the bottom of the foundation. The foundation was all that was left there.

KJL: There was a fire in the house?

RR: It destroyed the whole house, I mean it was gone completely. So in the meantime I stayed with Uncle Evan and (inaudible). And time went by and then the social worker came and took me to a foster home and the people there that I was living with wasn't good at all. There was this woman there, you know, she wasn't very good with people, with me, I mean and (inaudible) the old man and they [abused] me and abused the baby, too, for no reason at all and because Ruth made a mess in the crib and she ended up spanking the baby. She didn't understand (inaudible) anyway, those people in (inaudible) didn't understand why all they do these things, you know, that happened. But anyway, so from there on when the social worker found out what happened there they had to take me away and found out that I wasn't able to get food and found out about the other family, too and got ahold of them and transferred them to different places. One transfer was Pineland.

KJL: How old were you then?

RR: I'd been there about thirteen years.

KJL: How old were you when you went to Pineland?

RR: Oh, geez, I don't know on that one. I have no idea on that one. I was little at the time (inaudible). But anyway after that I was transferred—when I was transferred to Pineland, the first thing they did, they brought me to the hospital, because I was sick. So they kept me there for a while and then they brought me into a (inaudible) building there, you know and I stayed in there and we went to the dining room to go to eat and come back. And when night time comes, you know, one of the worst things that happened was that superintendent was leaving the building, you know, and leaving the kids all unattended and they had big guys up there, coming down, beating us up, you know. We were being abused (inaudible) and at that farm and all that had been going on, yeah. Not only just them [the] superintendent, too, were hitting people, too, and punching them and so and so on, for no reason at all. I went to another building and there were a couple of superintendents there and there was a kid standing by me, you know. Guess he was mentally retarded, but he wasn't doing wrong at all and those guys went and punched him right in the stomach and hurt that poor kid and started laughing, you know, the two guys were standing there, two superintendents. For no reason, punching him in the stomach. They had all this abusing going on there and also they had another superintendent in the building, we had no idea about this guy and he was so angry and he ended up grabbing me, you know and threatened me with a knife. He wanted to kill me. It happened because he was so—he was angry! What he had to be angry about [I] don't know. Of course he was new there, and I don't know what his problem was. I think he looked like to me a Chinaman. Whether he was China or [Japanese], I don't know. Whatever he was, I had no idea beyond that. I almost got murdered by him.

KJL: He had a knife?

RR: Yes, he had a knife right over my throat. He put me right down on the floor, you know. That's about it. Finally he [let me up] I don't know, he said, "Do you want me to (inaudible). He said, "Do you want me to put a knife on you?" you know, and for whatever reason he just grabbed me like that and threatened me, and I said, "No," and he just let me go. Right in front of all those kids this all happened. Then another thing happened was I can remember or recall that

there was a superintendent that brought a kid in (inaudible) the clothes room and he must have did something wrong with that kid and then walked out and locked the door, and he locked him right in there, he—what he did before he came out; he lit up the clothes and burned the clothes and trying to kill the kid [because] he didn't want them to know what he did. So he turned around and took off and never came back I don't even know if they ever caught up with him. He set that fire and the other kids saw what happened in that clothes (inaudible) and the other kids were trying to tell the nurse there to open up that door, the living room door. I mean the clothes room. Yeah, the clothes room, sorry about that. Yeah, the clothes room. She did, she got that kid out of there, said that kid was in there, and she got him out alive. He was very lucky to be alive. They probably had to bring him in the hospital. I don't know if he got burned or not.

KJL: Somebody lit someone's clothes on fire?

RR: That happened years ago. It happened years ago, in Ward 2, Ward 2

KJL: In World War II?

RR: Yeah, it happened in Ward 2, when they had that fire, and they finally got that fire out. It was a terrible thing that he did to that kid. But anyway, in the meantime, time went by and all this incidents that was going on, the superintendents were leaving the building, leaving us unattended and people got to walk up and down there and beat everyone up, beating up the kids, picking on them. So that was that on that one. Before they closed Pineland we had a little kid was murdered. They found him at the Royal River it took them weeks—oh, I don't know how many weeks; must have been two weeks or whatever anyway, to find this kid and they found out (inaudible) was murdered.

KJL: Where did they find him?

RR: Royal River, yeah. Royal River.

KJL: Oh, the Royal River, Okay.

RR: That's up by—They call it the Gray Road, is it? So anyway, that was that, so they were investigating that, trying to find out who did this, you know and all of the sudden one of the Superintendents was trying to leave—leave Pineland and they grabbed ahold of him. They suspected he was the one who did it. It was a little kid, he was little.

KJL: Can you tell me about the day you arrived at Pineland?

RR: Arrived in Pineland?

KJL: Yeah, what was that day like?

RR: They probably had all the record, but all the records were probably all destroyed. They probably destroyed all the records there, the [history] record, as far as I believe, you know.

KJL: What was the place like?

RR: Huh?

KJL: What was the place like when you arrived?

RR: Oh, they first thing (inaudible) hospital. It was a hospital where they take care of me, yeah. And after I got out of that hospital, they brought me, they brought me in the Pownal Building, to stay there, you know, downstairs, and there were bigger kids upstairs. They had a lot of things that happened out there, but some of them were [horrible], I'll tell you. It was no fun at all. We went through terrible things that happened there. One of the kids also—a big guy, up in—I can remember, recall, he grabbed his kid down and banged his head on the floor. I thought he wasn't going to live. He hit him real hard on the floor. That was that. He was okay, but it was terrible. They had no—the superintendents were gone. They left [us unattended]. They went home and they came back there, you know...

KJL: What was your day like at Pineland? What did you do during the day?

RR: What did I do during the day?

KJL: (Affirmative).

RR: Well, we'd go outside and play in the playground. We played in the playground, we had a good time up there. (Inaudible), you know. There were some kids getting into a fight, you know, and all that, you know. That kind of thing, you know. Of course they had the superintendent there then, watching, you know.

KJL: Did you have a favorite thing to do?

RR: Well, I did have some good times in there. There were some good times and bad times. I can remember Friday nights there. I used to go to the dance on Friday nights, yeah—every Fri-

day night with my girlfriend and singing the oldies songs. I had some of those oldies songs (inaudible) record. Songs that I used to dance with with my girlfriend, Alicia.

KJL: You had a girlfriend.

RR: Yeah, way back then, yeah.

KJL: Tell me about her.

RR: Oh, she was very nice. I'll tell you she was very pretty. We had a good time together. It was a good time, especially when I was with the Boy Scouts (inaudible). [They] used to take us out a lot, you know, on the bus, you know and every time when the bus comes up the hill and the bus slows down, I'd say, "Who's dragging their feet back there?" (laughs). He was a real good Scoutmaster and a wonderful guy. (Inaudible) it was a hot day. And I had the dog on his lap, you know, a German shepherd and we were walking through the trail up there until we got way up to the top of the mountain there was a tall, tall ranger tower up there and so he asked me, "Would you like to climb up there?" and we said, "No," it was way too high. Of course there were ladders, you know, narrow ladders. You try walking on that [you can hurt] your feet, so we didn't have (inaudible) and get up there, and here he is going right up there, climbing up there, no problem at all. Open up the door, you know, and that's where the ranger stays up there for a while and then comes down. We stood there and waited for him to come down.

KJL: Did you stay in a dorm there at Pineland?

RR: What?

KJL: Did you stay in a dorm? Were there a lot of people sleeping in the same room?

RR: Yeah, they called it wards. Ward three, you know. Ward one, ward two, ward three. Actually they used it for actually something like a playroom. Anyway, that's about it, there.

KJL: What were the other kids like?

RR: What [were they] like?

KJL: What were the other kids like, the other residents?

RR: Oh, they were little kids, you know, and they were nice kids. I can't explain much more of this whole thing, anything else that I can remember, can recall. Anyway, I can't explain anything on that one. But anyway, we had a good time (inaudible). [They] took us to Lewiston Armory way back in the Lewiston Armory. You ever been there before?

KJL: Where is that?

RR: Lewiston Armory

KJL: Oh, yeah.

RR: And we had a good time there. First thing that started out was we were waiting to get inside and there was this big guy, you know. I'd never seen anybody so big, I mean his belly was way over (inaudible). I mean he was trying to squeeze himself through the door and he couldn't get

in. There was a man that had a key, he said, "Come on (inaudible) open the big door for you." Opened up the big door and let him in and while we were going in that door. And in the meantime (inaudible) was showing me a little tinker toy, has a sled on it; a sled on a little string there, And he made the pulleys on it, made the pulley, too and he took a record player and made —used that s a motor to pull the sled up, hook the sled on the little string and then pulling the sled up. In the meantime down by his foot he looked and he sees a skunk there right by him and it was fixed right away and he knew and he just knew and he just picked that skunk right up. There was no problem at all with that skunk. I mean that skunk was as big as this. I couldn't believe it. I don't know I can't say for sure if it was pregnant or not, but anyway he (inaudible) and skunks lie to be pet on the back, but don't like to be pet on the head.

KJL: Was this a dog or a cat?

RR: A skunk

KJL: What?

RR: A skunk.

KJL: Oh, a skunk!

RR: Yeah. It was fixed. What surprised me most, everybody walked in like everything was just natural and they see the skunk there (inaudible). They come in thinking nothing, you know, going to have a good time.

KJL: Did the skunk spray?

RR: Oh, no! the skunk was fixed.

KJL: Oh, it was fixed.

RR: Yeah. It's amazing how they do that, though, something like that. Yeah, it was fixed. It was a pet skunk. I don't know where the skunk ever came from, but somebody brought it in and left it in there. I can't explain that, but anyway, there were some fun times we had there. Especially the circus. They had a circus there in Lewiston years ago. There must have been over a thousand, almost like a million people were there all when the (inaudible) came in. Everybody's waiting to get inside and watch the excitement that was going on and (inaudible) the circus. They had elephants there and gorillas and they had, oh you wouldn't believe what they had there. I had a good time watching that. In the meantime they opened up the big doors, you know on the corner side, there was a UFO coming right in, right slowly, slowly, slowly and stopped and the lights were blinking, you know and after a while two men came out of there, you know. Everyone was just (inaudible), you know. It was really something.

KJL: That sounds like fun.

RR: Oh, it was fun, yeah. Watching people on the high wire going across, you know, crossing that high wire and swinging, you know. The most fun part, [another] fun part was the gorilla. That gorilla was tall, real tall, big and strong. So the gorilla got loose there and just went over to the people there, standing on people's head without even losing his balance. He was standing on peoples' heads (inaudible) standing right on them. I couldn't believe that when I looked. And they guy took a pistol there, and firing at him. There wasn't no real bullets, but there was something that, kind of, get him down, you know. So the gorilla came down and then there was this lady who started walking off there and the gorilla came up behind and you know what I mean?

And she ran. She ran off, you know, and then you had no, no (inaudible) on (laughs). I had a good time on that, watching that, everybody laughing, you know. Oh, there were good times. We had good times and bad times. When we was with our scoutmaster we went to a picnic and I—we had pancakes. So I went and got my pan, you know. I was so hungry, you know, I poured the whole pancake right in the pan and my scoutmaster looked and his eyes wide open and he yelled at me “I thought (inaudible)” I made that pancake and I managed to flip it over without it falling [in the fire], and I got done and I took that pancake right off the pan without even any damage (inaudible) and ate the whole thing (laughs).

KJL: That must have been a pretty big pancake.

RR: It was a large sized pan about this wide. We had a good time.

KJL: About two feet wide?

RR: Well, yeah. it was a big pan, a great big wide one. And we also went to a ski (inaudible) and at Pineland there's a downhill in Pineland there and we used to slide down on the sled there. And (inaudible). They put some pulley things in the ground and they put a rope over the pulley and used a tractor—took the wheel off of the tractor and put the rope around that and put it on slow speed and we went down the hill with the rope pulling us right up of the hill, you know. We had a good time with that. That was really something.

KJL: When you were at Pineland, could you choose your own clothes?

RR: What?

KJL: When you were in Pineland, could you choose your own clothes? Could you choose what you were going to wear that day?

RR: Oh, the clothes?

KJL: (Affirmative)

RR: Oh, in those days, we didn't have any privacy at all. So anyway, I don't know what else to say right now, but I guess that's all I can think of saying,

KJL: Did somebody else choose your clothes for you or did you choose them?

RR: Well, we put our own clothes on, yeah, but I can't think of anything else. Before I left Pineland I was way back, I was in a new building, transferred to a new building and (inaudible) they did a nice job on it. They called it West Hall, and they did a wonderful job. They put new bedrooms in there and they (inaudible) the whole building right up inside there. I stayed there not very, very long. It must have been a week or two or something like that. One day (inaudible) I was sitting down in the dining room and an incident happened and I was sitting with my girlfriend and so the next thing you know she—her eyes went rolling right up in her head there and I knew something was wrong. I got right up and grabbed the silverware and put it in her mouth to keep her from swallowing. So I treated her and the superintendent saw what was going on and came over to help out there, you know. And (inaudible) found out what happened then and so I wasn't expecting anything. It was my girlfriend, another girlfriend I had. So the next thing you know the superintendent told the secretary what happened and she was in the bedroom and had the (inaudible) sheet on and she was okay for a time. So the next thing you know, the next day came, I wasn't expecting anything. Well, they called my name, they called my name

and they let me up and took me out to Lewiston and I stayed out there and I was free. I got my discharge there from Pineland and then I was free. They let me go free because I saved her life.

KJL: Tell me about that.

RR: Anyway, this was an unexpected thing that happened and I never got to say goodbye to her. Her name was Connie and she was a real nice girl. It's too bad that she didn't know—didn't let me to let her know. She probably wondered what happened to me, you know. That was the last time I saw her and then I left Pineland and that was that. So they knew I could take care of myself, so I did. I was on my own.

KJL: Did somebody come and get you?

RR: How do you mean by “come and get me?” You mean come and get me and bring me back? No.

KJL: I mean when you left Pineland.

RR: When I left Pineland I stayed in Lewiston for a while. I went to find my lost brother in New Jersey. I (inaudible) on the bus, there and after that another friend (inaudible). We was on the bus, and we was riding along on the bus, all of the sudden, you know, sparks were flying right off the dashboard. The bus driver kept driving and the sparks kept flying right off the dashboard, then he called for another bus, you know, and finally had to stop there. He didn't get (inaudible) or anything. It looked like fire was coming right out of the dashboard. I think we got off the bus there and we went (inaudible) the other busses. The bus driver went to grab the suit-

case and his head hit the bar, and the sparks came out of that, too and he said, “(Inaudible) this old bus (inaudible)” and it was sparking off.

KJL: So they just released you on your own.

RR: I was on my own, so from there I ended up in Port Authority police station and stayed there and wait for my brother and sister in law to come. I had the police call my brother and told him you brother’s here at Port Authority police station. And they came all of the sudden I was laying on the couch there, watching TV and I looked over by the door where they came in, my sister in law, she was pregnant and she was [expecting] and I said, “Oh, no (inaudible) maybe I want to go home” (laughs). I mean she was due. She had only three days left. (Inaudible) when she got that baby. It was a baby boy. They had two boys and one girl.

KJL: How did you get on the bus to Port Authority?

RR: Oh, I took the Lewiston bus and then we went miles and mile out there and went through the Lincoln Tunnel at sixty miles per hour, you know. We were moving right along. Boy, that was really some experience there, going through there, you know.

KJL: Did somebody buy you a ticket?

RR: Huh?

KJL: Did somebody buy you a ticket to get on the bus?

RR: I bought the ticket myself and I went from there. It was quite an experience there, going down there. I finally got home and (inaudible) came and my sister in law went in the hospital and had a baby. We looked at the baby, you know, the baby boy. The weirdest thing we saw was when the baby was born it had whiskers on his face. The whole face was—yeah, had whiskers on his face. That was kind of odd to see that, you know. So that was that, you know.

KJL: When you were at Pineland, did you work while you were at Pineland?

RR: I worked there at Pineland, yeah. I also used to go out and go to work on the outside. I worked at the farm, you know.

KJL: What did you do there at Pineland? What kind of work did you do?

RR: I used to be downstairs in the (inaudible) Building here, worked in there as a carpenter. We'd do carpenter work there, making (inaudible) and things like that. We did all that, you know. That kind of work.

KJL: What kind of work did you do on the farm?

RR: On the farm? Oh, you're talking about Pineland Farm. Well, they call it Pineland Farm now. It used to be Pineland Hospital. (Inaudible) Actually, they called it Pineland. Right now they call it Pineland Farm. You already know about that. I've been there and what a change they have there. They made quite a change there. And I was allowed to tour the building that I used to be in and I looked it over and I see the change in there and "Oh, Wow!" They upgraded that whole building. They put a sprinkler system in, never had one in there before, and new lights up there in the ceiling. And when I first came in the door (inaudible). They took down the old

clock that used to be on the wall and I was kind of disappointed to see no clock there. I have an old clock here, I had one. That one there I got from Windham Goodwill store. That's an oldie, a crank one, they used to crank them. (Inaudible) Before time went by, it was working fine, it was working fine and as time went by, finally (inaudible) and I finally decided to hang it up, put in (inaudible) for now. And I worked on it again to see if I could get it going again, you know, to get going. I found the problem with it. [There was a] tension spring inside, and there was a problem with that and I figured it out and I put that tension sprig in and it was too stretched out and wouldn't hit that thing that makes it go back and forth, so that there, the tension of it was off. And that clock kept right on a ticking, no problem at all.

KJL: It looks like you do a lot of fixing things

RR: Oh, I do electronic stuff there, electronics, and I put them together and get them working and power supply and (inaudible) reminded me way back ago when I was in Dover Foxcroft and a gentleman whose name was "radio doctor" and he was on TV, the radios and stuff and TV. They called him "radio doctor." Anyway, I was building a power supply, a power supply and (inaudible) looked like that (inaudible). Anyway, I built a power supply and I told him that I needed a transformer. So he gave me a transformer and I put it in and I got it all together and got it working. It had eight power transistors on it, on the side of it. I put that all in and I was building what you call a power inverter. So by the time I got it done I hooked it up on a twelve volt battery, and I fired it up and all of the sudden (inaudible) lightning (inaudible) lightning, and I said, "Goodness, what's going on here?" so I (inaudible) come to figure out it was over a thousand volts. It came out with a thousand volts (inaudible) or whatever, you know. It turned out to be a thousand. I took a strobe light, with a strobe bulb and I hooked that up into the outlet and it was firing up kind of like a plasma light (inaudible). And that told me that it was a thousand volts or more. I was really surprised. I told (inaudible) about it and he was surprised, "I didn't expect that." I said, "(Inaudible) enough power to supply the whole city," you know.

KJL: How did you learn to do the kind of stuff?

RR: Oh, I learned it myself, you know, of course I could read, you know and I learned it (inaudible) from there. What happened was years ago I used to have a radio and I used to keep that going. I finally got tired of that and I decided to (inaudible) the old radios. I worked on the old time radios and to do some repairing on it, and I used to get them going on it. These are the floor model radios. These are the floor model radios. I worked on those, too. I'd get those going, I'd put some tubes in. In fact, I've got a radio in the bedroom for a radio (inaudible). It's a brown cased one. When I first got it it wasn't working, so I went up to Scarborough, there to get a tube. I didn't have any tube. They used to have a whole box full of tubes. Anyway, so I ended up with a tube for the radio and the man put the tube—there was one tube that was out and he tested that, and that one tube, there and (inaudible) because of that one tube. So he put that in and it was working then, and it still works today. The tube was an old timer. I like old time radios. Years ago when I was in Pineland I used to stand by the floor model radio and listen to the songs; *Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow*. I bet you're familiar with that (sings) "Will you still love me tomorrow." I loved that song. Yeah, and I had other (inaudible) songs and I'll never part with them, I'll tell you. Never forget it .

KJL: Did you watch TV there at Pineland sometimes?

RR: TV

KJL: (Affirmative)

RR: Oh, yeah.

KJL: Did you get to decide what to watch?

RR: I remember *Lassie*. I watched that. *Rin Tin Tin* and *My Favorite Martian*. (Vocal noise) and he'd disappear (laughs). Oh, yeah, all that, you know—and *Sky King*. You're familiar with all that. I know you are. You must have watched all that.

KJL: Did you get to decide what you watched?

RR: Huh?

KJL: Did you get to decide what you watched, or did somebody else decide?

RR: I'm not getting that.

KJL: I'm sorry. Did you get to choose what you wanted to watch?

RR: Oh, no, we had someone there that turned the TV on, and then changed the station. We used to watch *Lassie* at night time. It was some program like that, yeah. I can remember being in the dining room, you know and we used to get a cereal box, and it had *Rin Tin Tin* inside the cereal box, and they had a card we used to pull right out of the and that was on a cardboard. Can't get them anymore, but they must have them somewhere in a museum, so they've got to be worth something (inaudible). Well, I guess that's it.

KJL: Well, I do want to ask is there anything you wish had changed? Is there anything you wish had been different, had turned out differently?

RR: Well, I'm having difficulty with this hearing aid.

KJL: I'm sorry.

RR: I wish I had my other—no, I mean my other hearing aid. They wouldn't let me have it, because I could understand every word people were saying, and they wouldn't let me have it because it costs more, and on the insurance, my insurance ran out, too at that time and so (inaudible) I still can't get it and I want it so bad, you know, and I have difficulties. I'm sorry about that. (Inaudible) with this hearing aid. When I tried that first one, there, I mean that one, there, I mean I'm telling you I could understand everything they're saying. I told my family about it, but they told me I just don't have enough money to get that.

KJL: I hope you've enjoyed this conversation.

RR: There's got to be a way I can get that hearing aid, some kind of insurance (inaudible). It's really hard for me, that I can't get the money I need. I wish there was some way I could have some help on that, if I could. I don't know if there's anything that could be done at all, you know, like a fundraising, you know, to get that hearing aid. If I could have that, it would help an awful lot. It means a lot to me, you know, to be able to communicate with people. I'm sorry I'm having a hard time.

KJL: No, I apologize, but I hope you've enjoyed the conversation.

RR: Oh yeah, yeah.

KJL: I'll let you get back to fixing things, alright?

RR: Nice meeting you, too. Nice to get to know you.

END OF INTERVIEW