



ORAL HISTORY
OF
JOSEFINA DELGADILLO JAUREGUI
BY
BERTHA ALICIA DELGADILLO

HISTORY OF WYOMING

Josefina Delgadillo was born in Capellania Jalisco , Mexico, on September 9, 1954. She is the fifth child born to Faustino Jauregui and Maria Luisa Mejia. She lived in Capellania until she got married to Julian Delgadillo, at the age of 18. She then moved to a town which was about five miles from her family ranch, called Ostotan Jalisco. She bore~~d~~ seven children, Ruben, Hortensia, Jose Cutberto, David, Bertha Alicia, Luz Miriam, and Julian Jr. She lived in Ostantan from 1954 to 1972. 1972 she moved to a town called Teocaltiche, Jalisco. This town was about thirty miles from her old home with a population of forty thousand people. 1973 she began to file for legal immigration to the United States. And in January of 1974 her approval for admittance to the United States was admitted. April 30, 1974 she left all her family behind and started her trip to the United States, accompanied by her husband and six children. She now lives in Rock Springs, Wyo. and hopes that some day she would be able to return to her old life which she loved in Mexico.

When Josefina was born her mother was all by herself. Midwives were often used to deliver a child. But the day of her birth her father was not home and her mother did not have a chance to call on anybody else. She was named after the Saint Joseph for her mother called on him at the time of her birth. She was raised in a big family. She has eleven brother and sisters, five brother~~s~~ and seven sisters. Raised in an isolated ranch with only five houses, she remember~~s~~

that her father never let them go out and play with the other neighboring children. She went to school in an hacienda, (a home owned by wealthy rancers who employed many ranch hands). Her teacher was her Aunt Teresa Aguirre, the wife of her father's cousin. She only went to school for three years. She was taught in one of the rooms of the house. The children had to take their chairs from home and used a board that was put across two chairs in order to use it as a desk. In this home school she learn^d the basics of education. There were also twelve other children that lived in the ranch that attended the school. The grades were all in the same room.

Her father was a farmer and cattle man, he raised crops, corn and beans, dairy cows, pigs and chickens. The chickens and pigs care were left up to the women. The man plowed the fields with two oxen and one of the children was used to plant the seeds. Since the ranch was quite big, about eight hundred acres, her father would hire extra men to help him plow during the planting season. The season began in May and ended by December of the same year. The girls were usually left at home, ^They were not allowed to go to the fields unless they went in the afternoon to take the lunch to the men. Because Josefina's father was really strict he would not allowed them to cross other private territory.

Her childhood years were very happy to her. She was raised in a big house that had ten rooms. Her house was

surrounded by a wall of adobe and rocks. Entering the first door there was a big patio which they called, la plazita. The plazita has eight mesquite trees inside, where they used them to tie the horses or burros. Reaching the first door of the house there was a porch where her mother has a lot of plants and her father used it to put his working tools and saddles for the horses and burros. After going through the porch there is another patio that is surrounded by the walls of the house. The inside patio had one three inside and plants along the tall walls. The rooms were built separate, none of the rooms were connected to each other. All had doors facing the inside patio. Among the rooms there were two other storage rooms which they were used to put all the harvested crops until they sold them. Where the patio ends there's a corridor where they used to store food and saddles. Further down the corridor there was a door that lead to a small coral that had very tall surrounding walls where they kept their chickens. To the right of the main patio there was a door that also lead to the horse corrals. She said that her father was very fond of good quality horses, which he used for racing.

Her childhood games included playing dolls house with porcelain dolls, rag doll, which they made by themselves and carton dolls (a doll made of paper and paste that looked like a clown.). One of her favorite games was playing tag in the trees. Even though it was quite dangerous they were never afraid of falling. The game was played by trying to

touch one another and the one that touched the floor first lost. She also played jumping rope with her other brother and sisters. Baseball was also played in her house they used to play it in the plazita, the other kids would come over and played with them. This was the only time that they were allowed to play with the other children. Her father would only let them play with the other children if the children were the ones that would come over their house, but they were not allowed to visit them or play over the other children's houses.

At the age of ten she began to help her mother with other house chores. The girls did the house cleaning, brought water from a near by reservoir and help their mother with the younger kids. All they left their mother to do was to cook and clean the Kitchen. The oldest girl, usually helped her mother do the washing, which was done by hand in a reservoir. Her house didn't have electricity, at night they used oil lamps. To iron they used an iron that had an opening where they would put hot coal.

When she became a teenager she became more responsible for the house duties. Practically all the house work was done by the girls. She still remembers that she was fourteen years until she stoped playing with dolls. She said that this made her father very happy becouse most of the other girls were already dating at her age, and he saw that his daughter ^{was still a child} were still children. When she was fifteen she got the chicken pox, which made her very sick, she had to stay

indoors for about three months. The nearby doctor would come and check her once a week. While she had the chicken pox she began to loose her hair, which to her was very sad, because she had hair that came down to her knees. She began to date at the age of sixteen, her father being strict would not let them go out with boys. The only way they could have a boy friend was to sneak out of the house. She used to go and talk to her boyfriend by one of the patio walls. Her way of dating was a very decent one because they did not want to get a bad reputation by the other people who lived in the ranch. Eventhough, her father was very strict he would take them to a neighboring town called Mexticacan, to see the fiestas. One party which was celebrated by the town of Mexticacan was the fifteenth of September. It was the Day of Independence in Mexico. They celebrated with fireworks, like we celebrate the fourth of July in the United States. Another celebration that they attended every year was La Entrada del Corazon de Jesus, (a procession of Jesus image to a temple). The people would gather from many parts of Mexico and they would come walking from their home to see the procession that was made for the saint. Her father also allowed them to visit other relatives in other parts of Mexico. They would usually visit her relatives once a year for two months.

At age eighteen she married Julian Delgadillo, he was born in Teocaltiche, Jalisco on January 1, 1928[?]. They got married in Mexticacan, on April 21, 1954. Julian used to

work in the United States, he went to visit his parents when he met Josefina. They met when Julian went to see her at her father ranch, Julian's brother had told them that Don Faustino had pretty girls. Julian proposed marriage to Josefina, after they had been going out a few months. Then Julian had to send two of his best trusted friends, who was his uncle and a padrino (god father) to ask Josefina's father for her hand in marriage. She was married in the town of Mexticacan on April 21, 1954. She had a catholic church wedding, ^{with} ~~which~~ none of her relatives were present, not even her father or mother. After her wedding she moved to a the small town of Ostotan, with a population of 1,000 people. Five of her children were born in this town Ruben, born January 29, 1955; Hortensia, born April 5, 1957; Jose Cutberto born March 20, 1959; David born september 9, 1961; and Bertha Alicia born Noverber 18, 1964.

She lived in Ostotan for 17 years where she managed a ranch of 100 acres, while her husband worked in the United States. In her ranch she grew corn, and beans. She also had dairy cows, hogs, and chicken. The crop raising was left up to her hired ranch hands. She would hire ~~to~~ men each season. She also had a young girl who helped her take care of the children and cleaned the house. Her husband used to visit her once every year, he would stay with her for 3 to 6 months of the year. In 1972, Josefina decided to move to Teocaltiche, so that her children could get a better education. Her husband bought her a house there, of 13

rooms and 2 patios. While her children went to school she would clean the house and cook. In the evenings she usually went to church and socialized with the neighbors. In 1973 she had her sixth child who was Luz Miriam, born January 11, 1973. She liked ^{Living} leaving in Teocaltiche, because it was a nice community for raising her family. Also in 1973 she began to file for legal immigration to the United States which took her, four months. She did a lot of traveling in order to file for immigration. She had to take several trips back and fourth to Mexico City and Guadalajara, Jalisco filing paper in order to gain admittance in the United States. Finally after she was approved on April 30, 1974 she began a new journey that brought her to the Rock Springs, Wyoming. She had to sell everything she owned except, two houses. She also left all of her relatives behind. She arrived at El Paso Texas, two days later where she was given her green card and admitted to the United States with the company of her six children. Her saddest part of moving was when she was now crossing the border and saw the Mexican flag stay behind. Making a big move to a new country where different language is spoken and a different way of life is lived has been hard for Josefina to adapt.

When she arrived in Wyoming she lived for a year in Superior Wyoming, than she moved to Rock Springs. In Rock Springs her seventh child was born, Julian Jr. on February 19, 1975. Also in 1976 her saddest moment of her life

occurred when her two oldest sons Ruben and Jose Cutberto were killed in a car accident 40 miles south of Rock Springs. To Josefina ^{ThiS} ~~is~~ what has kept her behind from not moving back to her country. The thought of leaving her two sons behind. Josefina has now been leaving in Rock Springs for 10 years ^h were she's a housewife. She takes care of the house while her children go to school and her husband works as a cement mason.

Josefina's dream is to go back to her native country accompanied by her children, and to see her children and grandchildren succeed in life.

NAME: Josefina Delgadillo

PRESENT ADDRESS: 5020 Springs Dr. # 32, Rock Springs, WY 82901

1. -Present profession or occupation: Housewife
2. Occupations followed in the past (give dates):
3. Date of birth: 9-6- Place of birth: Capellania, Jalisco Mex
4. Date of moving to Wyoming: May 2, 1974
5. -Full name of parents (give mother's maiden name)
María Luisa Mejía and Faustino Jauregui
6. Names of brothers and sisters (and to whom married):
~~Married to Julian Delgadillo, Beck~~
~~Sotador Jauregui, David, Eliceo, Cecilio, and Isidro and doña~~
~~María Cruz Jauregui Carmelo~~
7. Schools attended (give dates):
8. Places of residence in Wyoming (give dates):
Superior Wyo - Sep of 1974 - 1975
Rock Springs, 1975 - and -
9. Military service (dates, awards, area served, rank, etc.):
10. Political offices held (give dates):
11. Political affiliation:
12. Religious affiliation: Catholic
13. Marriage (spouse's name, date and place of marriage):
Julian Delgadillo, April 21, 1974
14. Children (names, dates of birth, grandchildren, etc.):
Ruben Delgadillo 1-29-55 died 7-17-76
Jose cutberto 3-20-59 died 7-17-76
David Delgadillo 9-9-61
Hortensia yopez 5-5-57 Beck
15. -List of clubs and societies of which you are a member:
La Guadalupe - R.S.
Moose club - R.S.
Eagles - R.S.

Salvador Jauregui - un married. Agueda Jauregui un married
Margarita Jauregui - un married
Pachita Lopez - Felipe Lopez - husband
Maria Cruz Jauregui - married to Juan Jauregui
Catalina Tapia - widower of Miguel Tapia
Carmela Baltazar - married to Bolmaro Baltazar.
David Jauregui - married to Maria Jauregui
Cecilio Jauregui - married to Imelda Mejia
Eliceo Jauregui - married to Alicia Sandoval
Lorenzo Jauregui - died of the age of 3.

Loz Miriam - 1-11-83

Julian Delgadillo Jr. 2-19-75

Bertha Alicia - 11-18-64

Grand Children

Jose Antonio yepes - 3-20-81

Hortensia Lizeth yepes - 1-21-83