

T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History Collection

ABSTRACT

INTERVIEWEE NAME: Joseph Payne

COLLECTION: 4700.2463

IDENTIFICATION: grew up in Mossville, Louisiana

INTERVIEWER: Douglas Mungin

SERIES: Mossville History Project - Oral History Day

INTERVIEW DATES: January 23, 2015

FOCUS DATES: 1960s-1980s; present

ABSTRACT:

Tape 4399

Joseph Eddie Payne born April 6, 1946 in Carencro, Louisiana; father Wilson Payne didn't receive an education, but was a "fine bricklayer"; mother Annalee Bernard Payne worked in restaurants; grandparents George and Josephine Bernard from Lafayette area; grandfather a railroad man, and grandmother "a regular blind lady" who helped raise them; run over by a car when he was five and broke his leg; able to play football and serve in the military despite complications; fourth oldest out of thirteen siblings; made a name for themselves as football players; moved from Lake Charles to Mossville around age seven; family bought land using money from the lawsuit when he was run over; earliest impressions of Mossville; more people moved to the area when the Queensboro neighborhood opened; Paradise club; description of their home on the Old Spanish Trail; memories of the swimming pool; family garden; siblings' names; Mossville High School and the football team; graduated in 1967 and decided to join the air force so he could have some say in his future; served four years as a civil engineer; went to Vietnam; attended heavy equipment school after his time in the military; calls wife Vivian his "souvenir from the military"; changes in the area; mentions local leaders; local businesses; moved to Lake Charles shortly after he left the military; remembers Mossville as "the best neighborhood" and that he's willing to "let it go to progress."

TAPES: 1 (T4399)

TOTAL PLAYING TIME: 28 minutes

#PAGES TRANSCRIPT: 24 pages

PHOTOGRAPHS / PHOTOGRAPHER: Three photographs of Payne taken during the interview. Photographer Kyle Tanglao.

OTHER MATERIALS: Biographical data form; Interview questions (2 pgs); Correspondence

RESTRICTIONS: none