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### Gaylon Maddox, Oral History Index

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# Interview with Gaylon Maddox conducted by Louise Skinner

January 31, 2020

## Index

00:00:01	Introductions and general information
00:00:46	Born in this house near Enloe, TX, September 25, 1955. Consolidation of local schools into Cooper ISD had already occurred before he started school - never went to Enloe schools.
00:01:46	Memories of early childhood friends and neighbors – from Ben Franklin to here – Dovie and Howard Garner, J. V. Flowers, Ed Earl, Myrtle and Paul Hanna, [Ollie] Bea and [John] Harold West, the Grants, [Kenyon] Cortez and Verda Carrington, Thelma Watson, Rayford Wicks, Avis and C. E. Whitlock, Cleo and [A. D.] Dewey Brannon
00:03:00	Memory of being 3-4 years old and watching Christmas parade from Adair's Grocery.
00:04:00	Memory of being about 5 years old – playing with John West [Harold's son] while sister Phyllis West was playing the piano – he was fascinated – began his interest in playing the piano – parents bought him a small piano keyboard from Gibson's.
00:06:50	Relationships with friends has always been important. As a child, went to Enloe Baptist Church – memories of people there – Haskell and Pauline Patterson, Dale and Gladys Stockton, Norma Stockton,
00:07:45	Memories of Crossroads Community Center and the people there – Garland and Ruby Cregg, Murray and Eugenia Carrington
00:08:12	Started 1 <sup>st</sup> grade in Cooper in 1963. First grade teacher was Miss Ethridge. Other teachers – Ida Mae Cregg, Ita Price, Mrs. Curtis [Jewell] Pardue, Ms. Imogene Polk, Goebel Templeton, Nelda Skinner, Ms. Henderson, Eddie Trapp, Thomas Skinner, Charles Wright, Lucille Bledsoe, Ms. [Ellene] Oliver
00:09:00	Memory of getting 3 whippings in one day in junior high
00:10:10	Memory of getting blamed for something he didn't do in school
00:11:00	1974 – accepted into Nursing program at Paris Junior College. Graduated with RN in 1976. Received Bachelor's degree in 1985 from UT Arlington – received Master's degree in 1989
00:11:40	Has worked as a Registered Nurse for 43 years – advice to those just starting out – decide early in life what you want to do and carry it on through. Praised Cooper schools in preparation for future life.
00:13:20	Memories of what all has impacted his career and his music – story about Neta Cregg, and memories of his piano teachers – Ms. Patterson, Ms. Talley, Ms. Kermit Carrington, and Guylah Burns
00:16:05	Music career – played for the Sunlight Quartet, with Dave Rogers, Hamburger Hineman, Sonny Daughtery, Danny Moody. They played some with the Stamps Quartet
00:16:50	Married in 1977 or 1979 and had 2 girls, both in the medical field, raised them in the church with the same values he was taught
00:18:23	Moved to Paris, TX when he was 19 – worked in both hospitals; when Birchwood Manor opened in Cooper 3 years earlier, he helped get the beds ready.
00:19:29	How Delta County people have impacted his life; believes the forecast for Delta County is good, in spite of changes in politics, demographics, etc.
00:25:00	Memories of the Delta County Centennial when he was in the 9 <sup>th</sup> grade; put on a fiddle contest – story about [John P] "Jake" Mayes, a fiddler in Delta County
00:26:50	Memory of desegregation of schools in Delta County when he was in the 4 <sup>th</sup> grade in Mrs. Curtis [Jewell] Pardue's class. Different treatment of white and black students before that.
00:29:30	Ms. Jewell Pardue was the teacher who made the most impact on his life.

00:30:50	Memory of first color TV he saw – at Verda and Cortez Carrington’s house
00:31:30	Remembers the walk on the moon
00:31:40	Remembers when the space shuttle (Columbia) exploded
00:33:45	Advice to future generations – develop your goals and keep working on them; let people know – they will help you