

Delbert Richmond (1907-1985) (son of James T. Richmond and Nancy Artavia Riley)
Tape 31 side 1 (Track 1) (part 2 of Interview) (see Track 6 for part 1)
Interviewed by JC Porter June 1979
(Transcribed by Anita Bloomfield & JC Porter Dec., 2018)

JC: Is that right?

Delbert: Ya, that was me, **Stant (Richmond)**, and **Jack (Richmond)**.

JC: Hum.

Delbert: There would be some song, they'd take...

JC: You say your Grandma (**Nancy Riley Richmond**) wouldn't let them square dance, anything like that?

Delbert: No, like they do now you know...they played, "Shoot the Buffalo," they called it, and "Old Down and Out," an old man they said _____. I can't remember what they was going after. They had what they was going after you know.

JC: Ya

Delbert: Then they would waltz back and forth across the floor, hand in hand swing with one and other. Just something to pass off the time you know.

JC: Huh

Delbert: They had a big time out of it.

JC: Did everyone work pretty hard back then?

Delbert: Ya they worked hard. Ya, they had to work hard to live. They had to raise what they eat, you know.

JC: Couldn't buy much food then?

Delbert: All they bought was a bunch of flour and coffee and stuff like that. But they just made cross ties and things like that. People that were able to hire them, they would go out and work and pay them by the day you know.

JC: Ya

Delbert: (1:10) _____ Herbal Corsin Ryder? did. I worked at Halderman, Ky, for about 30 cents an hour.

JC: Is that right?

Delbert: Ya, I worked 10 hours a day and maybe I would go back that night. I had to wheel the coal, it

took so much coal, where the tar, water and the rye and everything would come keep em long enough to hold them over til daylight we'd have to go back to work for a flow in the night getting up. Run till we got back 6:00 o'clock the next morning. We wasn't on The Old Standard Time at that day and time. That was 1923.

JC: Old Standard Time?

Delbert: Ya, 1923 Daylight Savings Time. That is two hours later than Eastern Daylight.

JC: Oh, So, you mean right now it would be 5 in stead of 3?

Delbert: Ya, I've got 16 minutes to 5. So, it would have been 16 minutes...This is Daylight Savings Time. See, it would be 2 hours, We are having all kinds of insects this year. It wouldn't be 5, it would be 3 you see?

JC: Oh I See. So, you got up before daylight? Got out of bed before daylight?

Delbert: Ya, my brothers worked, they had to get up...They lived back on the ridge..._____where your grandpa (**Tom Richmond**) was at. Tom, they walked from there and worked.

JC: They did?

Delbert: They walked back before daylight and come back after dark. (2:40)

JC: Is that right?

Delbert: Ya, leave a whistling and come back a whistling. People would be dragging both feet this day and time if they done that, wouldn't they?

JC: Sure would of. They wouldn't get back until after dark?

Delbert: No, in the night, in the night, Just happy as Coons.

JC: Where did they work over there, Clay Pits? (2:59)

Delbert: Right straight across from where your grandma (**Ida Duncan Richmond**) lives now. Them old mines over there.

JC: Clay mines right?

Delbert: Ya, up in the holler. That's where my brother rode mules along there, Your Grandpa **Tom (Richmond)**.

JC: Ya. Huh.

Delbert: That mine goes plum through the hill and out on the other side. I got in on one side and went out on the other side. Got in a clay cart you know, rode _____.

JC: Ya.

Delbert: Went plum through. There was stripping clay on the outside, that goes deep underground. They called that stripping it you know.

JC: Ya.

Delbert: Have to go out there and get in.

JC: I'll be darn. You don't know any old interesting stories about the Richmond's?

Delbert: No

JC: Ever hear old stories about them in Virginia? (3:48)

Delbert: No, See it's been so long since my parents died. I remember... I've had different people ask me where this race sprung from, and I told them it was either Virginia or West Virginia. I didn't know which, I had forgot. But I thought it was Virginia at one time, some said it was.

JC: Yeah. Well if anyone asks you again, tell them **Scott County, Virginia**.

Delbert: ____ In that day in time like they do now they kept up with things like that. Nobody ever comes around and asks anything like that. About all you done was pay your taxes. The sheriff would come to the stores and post offices around the county, collect the taxes when it would be time to pay their taxes.

JC: Ya.

Josie (Richmond): (Delbert's wife) (5:00) Have you see your grandma? (**Ida Duncan Richmond**)

JC: Have I seen her?

Josie: Since you have been down?

JC: Ya, I was over there....

Delbert: She is 80 years old, ain't she?

JC: Ya, she is going on 83.

Delbert: 83? Something wrong on the tombstone then.

JC: 1897, is that what it says? I haven't looked at it.

Delbert: 1897...

JC: This is (19)79. I guess she is 82 now, going on 83.

Josie: _____ your grandpa. (**Tom Richmond**)

JC: He was born in 92.

Josie: how old would he be in 92?

Delbert: Tom?

JC: Ya.

Delbert: He died in 1960 didn't he, or 62?

JC: 60.

Delbert: He was 67 when he died, wasn't he?

JC: I don't know. Let's see he was born June 1892 and he died September 1960. He would have just been 68 when he died.

Delbert: Well I was pretty close.

JC: So he would be, how old would he be now? He would be 89 now. No, he would be 88 or 87. Yeah about 88 probably.

JC: (6:55) Do you think Elvie's (**Elvie Richmond**) wife might have some old pictures of the Richmonds? Who do you think might be most likely to have some old pictures?

Delbert: I doubt it very much. Tell, you the truth, I've got _____.

JC: **Marie (Gillum)**, daughter of James T. Richmond, said something about a big box of old picture's somebody had at one time, years ago.

Delbert: When they divided up the stuff, no telling who got them. I don't know where they went. I was working away from home _____. (7:25)

Josie: Would **Virgil (Richmond)** have some of the old pictures?

Delbert: Who?

Josie: Virgil.

Delbert: I don't know much about that, he may.

Josie: _____ (7:33)

JC: Who is Virgil?

Josie: That is Elvie's boy.

Delbert: That's Bessie's, the one that....

JC: Would it be at the old house where **Bessie (Richmond)**, wife of Elvie) lives?

Josie: _____.

Delbert: Right side. He lives the next house.

JC: Right next door? Which side of the.... There is a store and then Bessie's house? He lives in the next house?

Josie: If you could get hold of **Sammie? Richmond**. Do you know where Sammie lives?

JC: I don't know where anyone lives. They, just told me how to get to her house....

Delbert: You go up there and pass a trailer up there against the hill on the left

JC: Ya.

Delbert: Big gas connection there, where the gas lines are connected up.

JC: Ya.

Delbert: Just go around the bend, and that road turns to the right. Sammie lives up on the bank. Up the lane, turn down, Go on down the lane and see the house

Josie: You can see the house from the road.

JC: You have to take that lane to get to her house?

Delbert: You come to Bessie's house first, then on down to Virgil's.

JC: Then there is a store just on up past there?

Delbert: On up past where you turn off.

JC: Ya. One of them should be home probably. I will go by there to see if they have a picture.

Josie: _____ (8:53)

JC: I will give that a try.

Josie: It would be worth a try ain't it?

JC: Ya

Delbert: In the day in time, every once in a while, somebody would come around maybe taking pictures you know.

JC: Ya.

Delbert: And, it's not like this day and time. All the time now, every time you go anyplace, everybody's got a camera taking it with them, taking pictures of something.

JC: Well, it has been good talking to ya.

Delbert: Don't be in a hurry. I wish I could have helped you out more, but like I told you, they didn't tell me nothing to tell.

JC: I will have something to tell my kid's someday.

Josie: Stop and see Elvie's kids (9:43) cause they might know more.

JC: I might do that. I'll just stop by and talk to them.

Delbert: My brother Elvie? _____

JC: He knew all about it, huh?

Delbert: Ya. He could tell you every guy he ever owed? and every horse trade he ever had.

JC: Is that right? (9:56)

Delbert: Ya. When they put the electric line through here, _____ out in the field working down there working at Lexington, or Ashland....

JC: Ya.

Delbert: ...Tying something up. I did my family page the best I could, I guess I missed some and he said, "Now I want to know the age of your Brothers and sisters." I said, "I can't tell you that."

JC: Who was doing that? Some census guy?

Delbert: No, when they done the electric line.

JC: Why did they want to know all of that? They were just taking a survey? (10:24)

Delbert: Going over and we would all be Heirs _____. I said I've got a brother that lives around here on Grassy. He can tell you.

JC: Ya.

Delbert: I seen him a day or two after that. He said, "I seen you brother and he told me their ages."

JC: He knew all of them, huh?

Delbert: Ya. I used to live back there on the hill, knew all of them, and his girl lives back there yet. She is....I'm just a year or two older than her. She still _____

JC: Is that right.

Josie: ____ and Uncle Elvie

Delbert: She might have _____

Josie: _____

Delbert: She might have It wouldn't hurt to try.

Josie: I'd try her. She might know a whole lot, he told em.

JC: Ya. Well I'll stop by...

Josie: ____ on the way home _____.

JC: Ya.

(11:16) End of tape