

Nancy Lawthers 0:06

I need to have you speak because I know that I'm talking.

Lois Guyer 0:11

Well, it gets a little hoarse sometimes.

Nancy Lawthers 0:15

Alright. When and where were you born?

Lois Guyer 0:23

I was born November the 24th 1915 in an old farmhouse two miles east of Englewood, Colorado.

Nancy Lawthers 0:39

And were your parents born here in Colorado too?

Lois Guyer 0:43

my father was, my mother was from Illinois.

Nancy Lawthers 0:47

And where was your father born? Do you know?

Lois Guyer 0:52

He was born in another farmhouse on the same land. Two miles east of Englewood.

Nancy Lawthers 1:06

That's very interesting. And you were educated in Colorado, you went to school here?

Lois Guyer 1:12

Yes. I went to a two room, Country School for eight years. At that time, you had to pass a county examination on all subjects that your school was responsible for. When you left the eighth grade, and if you didn't pass the eighth grade then you were through with the public school system.

Nancy Lawthers 1:40

Oh, really? They didn't just hold you back.

Lois Guyer 1:46

Oh, I think they might have let people have one more year. But I don't remember their doing that

Nancy Lawthers 1:54

and what kinds of items were tested on the examination,

Lois Guyer 2:01

mathematics, reading, spelling, geography, history of the nation and the state?

Nancy Lawthers 2:11

Uh huh. And then what did you do? Did you go to Denver to high school?

Lois Guyer 2:16

No, I went to Englewood High School. For three years, see. I didn't have the junior high. So what it was four years 9, 10, 11, and 12.

Nancy Lawthers 2:30

And then what?

Lois Guyer 2:32

when I went, I won a scholarship, a one year scholarship to Denver University. And I was fortunate enough to go the other three years in graduate.

Nancy Lawthers 2:45

Oh, that was nice. Yes. That was fortunate.

Lois Guyer 2:49

It was, dear. It was very fortunate. Yes.

Nancy Lawthers 2:53

A lot of students didn't get to. Did you? What did you do after that when you graduated?

Lois Guyer 3:00

I started teaching in the eastern part of the state in Agate, Colorado.

Nancy Lawthers 3:09

And what kind of schools did you teach in?

Lois Guyer 3:12

Well, I had a very large school. It's a very small town but had a very large school. And the young people were brought from the local country schools. And to this big school, a country schools in the [unclear].

Nancy Lawthers 3:34

And what did you teach? All subjects?

Lois Guyer 3:37

I taught a lot of different subjects to three grades fourth, fifth, and sixth.

Nancy Lawthers 3:47

What subject did you like to teach to them?

Lois Guyer 3:55

I think I enjoyed the social sciences and art. I had some, amazingly enough, I had one of the best artists I have ever had any experience with.

Nancy Lawthers 4:13

From Agate?

Lois Guyer 4:16

At Christmas time, he drew a picture of the Madonna and Child that was good enough to be a professional film. He was a little Spanish American boy, but I wondered so much about I just wondered if he did go on with his art because he was so gifted. Mm hmm.

Nancy Lawthers 4:40

my goodness. In in your teaching, did you have all three grades together or did you?

Lois Guyer 4:49

I did.

Nancy Lawthers 4:49

You did. And how many students did you have in the class then?

Lois Guyer 4:54

12

Nancy Lawthers 4:55

just 12. But it was grades three,

Lois Guyer 5:01

four through six,

Nancy Lawthers 5:02

four through six. And what did you do if any of the boys became unruly?

Lois Guyer 5:12

Wow, that was pretty tough once in a while. Those country boys got pretty restless being shut up in the classroom all day? Yes, we did have a sort of an honor system. I would draw a mountain on the blackboard and we try to climb that mountain every week. But if, you know, if we got unruly here, quit working, when we slid back so many miles

Nancy Lawthers 5:47

That was unusual. Did you reward them at the end of the week?

Lois Guyer 5:52

Oh their reward was getting to the top of the mountain

Nancy Lawthers 5:55

I see. That's a different way of doing it. Yes, I can imagine some of the farm boys found it difficult.

Lois Guyer 6:10

I had one boy, that was, found math very difficult. He'd run away from school, he ran away three times, because he couldn't learn his multiplication tables. And so the last time I said to him, John, I'm not chasing you out to the highway anymore. You may get hurt and we're not gonna do this anymore. So then he settled down. His father came to his aid too, I think, Oh, goodness.

Nancy Lawthers 6:50

Did you have your class memorize long poems or anything like that? Just stand up and speak.

Lois Guyer 7:01

They did a lot of plays. That's what they like to do, were plays.

Nancy Lawthers 7:07

Oh,

Lois Guyer 7:09

we memorized plays. I'm not one who forces a lot of memorization. I think that's an individual choice. If something appeals to you sufficiently you want to memorize it, great.

Nancy Lawthers 7:29

You said that your artist, artistic boy was Hispanic.

Lois Guyer 7:35

Right? Right.

Nancy Lawthers 7:36

Did you have very many Hispanic in your classes?

Lois Guyer 7:41

No, he was the only one. He had brothers and sisters in school. But not in my class.

Nancy Lawthers 7:49

Uh huh. Right. I don't think I know where Agate is. Can you tell me?

Unknown Speaker 7:56

Yes, I can. Agate is between 80 and 100 miles straight east of Denver.

Nancy Lawthers 8:06

Oh, I see. All right. Out on the plains

Lois Guyer 8:10
Out on the plain.

Nancy Lawthers 8:13
Must have been dusty.

Lois Guyer 8:17
We did have a lot of wind, that's for sure. At times. It was just like the old timers told me. There had been terrible dust storms in years past. They would have to go dampen curtains and dish towels and sheets and hang them everywhere to catch this dust. They still have a lot of dust pneumonia and some people died. That was in the Dust Bowl days if you remember

Nancy Lawthers 8:49
I do. Yes. So when were you at Agate?

Lois Guyer 9:00
The year 1936-37.

Nancy Lawthers 9:05
There was still some dust blowing around in that time. Yes. Did the depression hurt Agate?

Lois Guyer 9:17
I don't think it did particularly. It's not an industrial community. It's an agricultural community. The farmers had their own [unclear]. You see they have milk, gardens. So they pretty well were self sustaining.

Nancy Lawthers 9:38
I see.

Lois Guyer 9:39
And they probably were low on cash.

Nancy Lawthers 9:42
Oh, yes.

Lois Guyer 9:44
But as far as suffering like some people did, you know, from lack of food, things of that nature. No.

Nancy Lawthers 9:53
How did. Where did you live when you teaching there?

Lois Guyer 9:58

I lived in an old hotel. Anybody who knows that part of the country has heard of the Butler family. Mrs. Butler came there in a covered wagon.

Nancy Lawthers 10:12

Oh.

Lois Guyer 10:15

And she had I think she had four or five children. And she, I don't know how she got started with this hotel, but she did. I guess she and her husband started the business. And she was a warm hearted soul, any poor person that was stranded in one of those places could come there at any hour of day and night and they did come at two o'clock in the morning, sometimes. She'd take them in, find them a bed, did best she could with her old cookstove

Nancy Lawthers 10:53

Uh huh.

Lois Guyer 10:54

So I stayed with her. She boarded teachers.

Nancy Lawthers 10:58

I see.

Lois Guyer 10:59

I had a little room with no heat, and no running water. But it was an interesting experience,

Nancy Lawthers 11:09

I should say. And where did you eat?

Lois Guyer 11:12

She fed us. She did. Morning and evening. And then at noon, she would send my tray to the school. Her house was just catty corner from the school.

Nancy Lawthers 11:24

Oh, I see. Uh huh. Well, that worked out for you then.

Lois Guyer 11:29

Oh, it was a very interesting experience.

Nancy Lawthers 11:34

And what did you do after that?

Lois Guyer 11:37

I was married in October 1937. To Brownlee Guyer. And then I substituted. From then on, I did that type of teaching, although I don't really like it.

Nancy Lawthers 11:56

It's hard, isn't it?

Lois Guyer 11:57

Yes, yes. But I couldn't leave my home and family. For a regular job. Teaching jobs are just so demanding.

Nancy Lawthers 12:07

Yes.

Lois Guyer 12:08

But I felt all I could do to keep my family together was to substitute. And I did that. With the Boulder Valley Schools for a long time, off and on. I didn't substitute every year because I got sidetracked with retarded and emotionally ill children.

Nancy Lawthers 12:34

Oh, well tell me about that

Lois Guyer 12:36

I worked. I worked here in our home, with those children. Now I could look after our children. So it worked out beautifully.

Nancy Lawthers 12:45

Oh, yes. Yes. How did you happen to get into that?

Lois Guyer 12:51

That's quite a story. I don't know whether you've ever heard of Mrs. [Gould], Mrs. Jim [Gould].

Nancy Lawthers 12:59

No, I have not.

Lois Guyer 13:00

She was principal Foothills School when Betty was there. So she came over one afternoon and she said Lois I'm going to ask you to go into the tutoring business. And she told me about this little boy that they were thinking of sending to a mental hospital. They thought he was severely retarded. I said, Well, tell me some more. So she said, Oh, he's excellent in math. He gets hundreds in math, but he can't read. And I said, Oh, no, I said, Bernice. That story is not true. That doesn't match? No, because math. It's a study of symbols. And so is reading, if he can get mathematical symbols. He can get reading symbols. But I said I don't have any intention of taking him because I don't know anything about this type of teaching. She she looked at me, she says I'll bring you the books tomorrow morning. He's got quite a pile that he has to read

before he can go into the next grade. So hi. Next morning here came the pile of books. The day after that here came Dicky. But he's now, I'm so proud of him. He's now a part of the. He's one of the man in the parks, the Boulder Parks. A Ranger. Oh, I think he has an administrative position but I'm not sure about that

Nancy Lawthers 14:53
what was his name now.

Lois Guyer 14:54
Dick [Lyman]

Nancy Lawthers 14:56
Dick [Lyman] and what year was this? Was it in the 40s? Or the 50s?

Lois Guyer 15:14
It would have been in the 50s.

Nancy Lawthers 15:15
And from him, then you began getting more students like that, right? How did you manage to teach him to read?

Lois Guyer 15:31
Oh, that that was very difficult. But his problem, as I had guessed, was not a lack of intelligence. He was just terrified of reading. I think he probably had some unfortunate experiences. I don't know what they were. But when he came here to me and saw books, or pens or pencils, anything that reminded him of school he'd climb, climb this couch, and just scream, throw his hands I mean, don't take it away, take it away. And I thought, Oh, my, what are we going to do here? But one day, the only thing I could find that he was not afraid of, was swimming. He loved to swim. And he'd bring his swimming equipment over here. And play around in my tubs of water. So one day he was doing that, and I came upstairs to answer the telephone. And after I finished, the conversation, started back downstairs. I could hear Dick reading the letters on the front of the furnace. And I thought, Aha, he knows the letters of the alphabet. So I said, well Dick, you know, the letters, the alphabet. And of course he got all ready again. And I said, oh, let's put some of those letters under the water and see if you can read them that way. That'd be fun. Maybe I can't. And so we'd do that. We did that for a while, and we made them into words. And I said to him one day, wouldn't it be kind of fun to go upstairs and Brownlee made me a wooden alphabet? Wouldn't it be kind of fun to go upstairs and see if we could put these letters together on a table and make words? Oh, yeah, he thought that was okay. So we did that for a while. And then finally, one day, I saw him pick up a book. And he said to me the same letters are in this book that were on the furnace. I said, Yes, that's right. There's only one alphabet in English. Oh, well he says, maybe I could read a little out of a book. So at first, you know, he'd just pick out a few words, and we'd put them on the table with the wooden alphabet. Then finally, he decided that he could maybe put those together and make a sentence. So we drew trains, we'd draw the engine and all these cars and we put a word on each train car so then he

was reading in sentences and pretty soon in paragraphs, Donna, our youngest daughter was just four years old. So she'd get a stool and sit down at my feet. And whenever Dick made a mistake, she'd read it. She learned to read with him. And he didn't seem to mind her corrections at all. If it came from me he'd get all jiggly. But Donna could talk to him and it was fine. And that's the way he learned.

Nancy Lawthers 19:01
That's marvelous. Really.

Lois Guyer 19:04
Well, I always thought God helped me there because really, I did not. I had never taught children that young and I was not prepared to do it.

Nancy Lawthers 19:16
How old was he.

Lois Guyer 19:19
Let's see, he must have been about seven. And he couldn't go on. They wouldn't let him go on into the third grade. See until he read this pile of books. He finally read them all

Nancy Lawthers 19:34
Oh he did. Yes.

Lois Guyer 19:39
After that it was, it was mostly fear.

Nancy Lawthers 19:44
Yeah. Uh huh.

Lois Guyer 19:46
Although, that it was strange after I had all these children and I went to school and learned what they did for them. I did it backwards. I did learn there that some children there's a covering on the nerves of the body. And some children are, especially boys are slow in getting this myelination of the nerve fibers. And I rather suspect he was one of them.

Nancy Lawthers 20:20
I see. Did you ever have any that you couldn't teach to read?

Lois Guyer 20:27
I had one little girl. It really was so sad. She had, her brain was divided, the hemispheres were divided. So there was too large a gap between them. And it was difficult for the neural impulses to jump that gap. When I saw this little girl for the first time, she was crawling on the floor, just like an animal, eating off the floor. And I thought, Oh, my, what am I going to do with this one. But I did tell the parents that I prayed for the children, with their permission. And she said that

was all right. So Betta came out here. And she was that even toilet trained when she came to me, she was 13 years old. But you know, pretty soon I got the idea that she couldn't see any form or shape. And that's why she couldn't read. She couldn't distinguish the forms. So we went and took her in the car and we go out in the country walk around square field. And then we walk around round places, and so on until she begins to call out to me. Oh, look, there's a round, there's a square. And there's a triangle. And we know now, we didn't know then, or I didn't know then, that new fibers can form if there's enough repetition and enough of the body used. But I didn't know all that, then I just feel that God did guide me. Yes. I didn't have that knowledge.

Nancy Lawthers 22:29

And what happened to her?

Lois Guyer 22:31

Well, she just kept getting better and better. She really had a brilliant mind, a brilliant mind and she got so she could, I did some of the same things Dicky had, you know, with some words and putting the letters together and making the trains. All that. And I saw or I saw gradually that her mother was losing interest in the project because see, his child was no longer dependant on her. Oh, she'd been dependent on her so many years and that, evidently fed something that mother needed. And now that was gone. See this child was going out on her own? And she said to me, Oh, I can't. You're taking too much. It's too hard for her. It's too much of a nerve strain. And it is of course, any kind of rehabilitative work is a strain for the person. And I said, Well, what can we do? Can we make things simpler? Less time? No, she said and they moved away and that really broke my heart.

Nancy Lawthers 23:49

Oh. That is too bad.

Lois Guyer 23:52

I worked two years. The hardest time, believe me. That's hard work.

Nancy Lawthers 23:59

It sounds like it. Yes. Yes.

Lois Guyer 24:04

And it's all for naught. And I've never heard of her since here but I always pray that God sent someone else to help her

Nancy Lawthers 24:12

To help them. Yes. Well, I hope so too. I would pray that she did too. Yes. Well for goodness sake. How long did you do this?

Lois Guyer 24:24

10 years.

Nancy Lawthers 24:25
10 years. You helped a lot of children then

Lois Guyer 24:30
it takes about two years I found after to pull these children out of that.

Nancy Lawthers 24:38
So you took one child at a time.

Lois Guyer 24:42
I usually did, dear. Sometimes I had so many calls and pleas for help. Sometimes I would take several, one at a time but, one in the morning and one in the afternoon perhaps.

Nancy Lawthers 24:57
I see, yes. So they would really get individual.

Lois Guyer 25:02
That's what they need here

Nancy Lawthers 25:03
Right. And were you able to send some back to the public school?

Lois Guyer 25:08
Oh, yes, Dickey went back. And Bill Wilcox was high, junior high student. Bill never left public school. Let me see Betta. The public schools had given up on better that was the one whose mother took her away. See it I had a little boy, his father was a veteran, returned veteran and I can't remember whether he was in the public schools or not

Nancy Lawthers 25:50
what a wonderful work you did.

Lois Guyer 25:52
Oh, it's fascinating to hear about. It takes so much out of you

Nancy Lawthers 25:57
Yes, I can imagine

Lois Guyer 25:59
And stress you know, you just want so hard to help.

Nancy Lawthers 26:05
Well, I'm glad you were able to get a little training.

Lois Guyer 26:08

Oh, well, I finally did. Here I went to CU and, and got the training, but then I've never done the work since. So I think that is so strange.

Nancy Lawthers 26:20

You mean, you got the training and then stopped?

Lois Guyer 26:22

Yes. I went back to substituting again.

Nancy Lawthers 26:26

I see. Yes, they probably wanted that to.

Lois Guyer 26:32

Well, they were short of substitutes for mentally retarded children and problem children. See, that's where I substituted.

Nancy Lawthers 26:44

I see

Lois Guyer 26:44

They needed the help so badly

Nancy Lawthers 26:46

Oh, yes. Yes. That's true. Having been a teacher a little bit. What can you tell me about that, to switch things, about your train trip? Where you, a little bit. Why did you take the train trip?

Lois Guyer 27:09

Well, my brother, and I say this not to be bragging now. But he was the executive secretary for the school food service

Nancy Lawthers 27:20

here?

Lois Guyer 27:22

in the United States.

Nancy Lawthers 27:23

Oh.

Lois Guyer 27:27

And he had been asked to speak in Kansas City, Kansas. And he said, Why don't you and Mother Go with me in the car and I'll take you to Arkansas first. And you can have you and Mother can have a nice little rest in that hotel that will be warm and pleasant. And Brownlee

said, well he thought he can manage here at home. So for me to go. So that's why we took the trip.

Nancy Lawthers 28:04

When was this?

Lois Guyer 28:05

I think, now let me see, I tried to figure it out. I think it was the nearest I can figure that it was 1955, March. Now I think you should be able to find in your library some reference to that storm. So this may not be exactly correct, but I think it's an approximate date.

Nancy Lawthers 28:38

Right. And you set out with no idea there would be a blizzard.

Lois Guyer 28:47

It was snowing. It was snowing, but we didn't have the accurate weather reports that we have now. Right.

Nancy Lawthers 28:55

And you were taking the train from Boulder?

Lois Guyer 28:58

No, my brother picked me up. Brownlee took me down to the house. And he picked me up and he and I and my mother started for Kansas, see, we were to go to Colorado Springs and then drive east, keep on going east to Kansas and then he was going to drop out, leave us off and go back and give his speech in Kansas, see

Nancy Lawthers 29:27

And what happened?

Lois Guyer 29:29

Well, it started snowing. When we got to Colorado Springs. And we went we went on No, it was just an ordinary snowstorm. We went on, of course they can't see the map on the tape but we drove. Oh, well. I think maybe it was about 100 miles. There again see on these details I just don't have an accurate record. But I'd say, I'll guess, it was about 100 miles. And we had crossed the border into the state of Kansas. And there was a large truck in front of us. My brother was following in the path that this ,an made because the snow was really sticking out on the highway. And also on the windshield, it was hard to move it fast enough, that driving was becoming dangerous. My, all of a sudden this big truck stopped. And we stopped behind him because we couldn't drive very fast. He got out, he said to my brother, he said I've been a truck driver for years and been through a lot of these storms. And this one tells me to turn back. He says, I don't think we can make it much further. So we turned around and went back to the nearest town. Unfortunately, I cannot remember the name of the town.

Nancy Lawthers 31:04
Well that's alright

Lois Guyer 31:05

And we found out that there was a train that left this town at eight o'clock at night. So my brother put his car in the garage and decided that the wise thing to do was to get on the train to finish the trip. So at eight o'clock at night, we got on, the train was late by the way, because of the storm.

Nancy Lawthers 31:34
Yes.

Lois Guyer 31:35

So we, we three got on the train when it came, I think it was probably about eight-thirty, a quarter of nine. And I don't think we had gone more than 10 or 12 miles when there was an awful jolt. It just shook all of us in our seats. And that was it. The train stopped and course everybody was asking each other what's happened, what's wrong. So the conductor, that man by the way was an angel. He came back and said that the train had struck a drift and it had mashed the front of the engine so that we were not able to go on, we couldn't get through the drift anyway. And he said now we don't know how long we'll be here. It's going to be cold and I'll do the best I can to give you all the blankets and comfort I have. That when when the train with the drift, it broke the heating pipes

Nancy Lawthers 32:52
Oh dear

Lois Guyer 32:53

so we won't have any heat. And they had intended to be in Kansas City by the next morning so they had very little food. Well, my brother said that can we buy blankets, and I really do admire that man so much. He said there will be nothing here paid for we will divide it equally, because we're all in the same mess. Well, we got into, mother and I got into the upper bunk and John was in the lower. And it really wasn't bad that night. We had bathrobes you know on slippers and wrapped up in what blankets they could give us, it wasn't bad. The next morning now we got up and this little man I'd seen him since early in the morning he'd been reading his Bible, and he said now all we have for you to eat is, we can, I think, give you each a piece of toast. And some pears we have a few pears out there and coffee. So that's what we had and then we we could see out the windows for that time. See the sun was coming up. And to our amazement on let's see, we were traveling east it would have been the north side of the train I think, but my memory is playing tricks on me. On the north side of the train. There was this enormous drift that covered, you know the top of the train and that was the drift was just bent over the tray where the wind had blown it. But later as we walked from car to car trying to get some exercise. We could see that the oth, on the other side, the south side in the train that was nothing at all, that wind blown all the snow on the north side.

Nancy Lawthers 35:16

For goodness sake. Oh, partly buried the train.

Lois Guyer 35:20

Yes, it did bury one other train about five or six miles from us it shut off the oxygen, see it but just completely covered and those people died. Oh, I can't remember whether they were all killed. There were one or two that may have gotten, I just remember that. But the older people weren't so frightened because they had been out of high blood pressure medicine. So we all talk to each other and tried to keep up our spirits. And about noon an engine came in with I think probably one or two cars. To get the race horses there were raised horses on that train. And then people were really discouraged because they took the horses and not the people.

Nancy Lawthers 36:19

Oh, for goodness sake. Yes. Oh, that would be discouraging.

Lois Guyer 36:23

Yes, it was discourage. We had prunes for lunch. And then we had to spend another night on the train. By this time. I don't believe there was a caboose on that train. On this passenger trip part of the train. And our seats were way in the back of the train. The back door had frozen open. A little crack. And we couldn't

Nancy Lawthers 36:54

couldn't get it shut.

Lois Guyer 36:56

We couldn't get the ice, enough of ice away to close the door. So the second night was cold. It was cold. But the second morning. Oh, that was a beautiful day. The sun was out bright. And they said that there were farm wagons out there waiting to take us to the nearest schoolhouse for breakfast. Oh, the wagons took all the luggage first. And then they came back in school buses for oh, I'm gonna sneeze, excuse me. I'm sorry. School the nearest school?

Nancy Lawthers 37:45

Yes.

Lois Guyer 37:45

They gave us a good meal. Oh, it was wonderful.

Nancy Lawthers 37:48

They came in the school buses.

Lois Guyer 37:50

Right? Right.

Nancy Lawthers 37:52

So they must have cleared the roads enough? Yes.

Lois Guyer 37:57

But I can't remember I think maybe it was my brother who call Kansas City, who called the, I think it was the railroad company and they said, you know, for us to stay at the school during the day and at night. That's when they're trains came through. They would pick us up and take us on to Kansas City. Which they did and we didn't have any more difficulty. But when we, I wanted to say, when we were in those buses we could see that there was a radio station oh not more than half a mile from us. And they told us that that station had been watching us, that train, all the time during that awful blizzard, and that that really has been a lesson to me all my life

Nancy Lawthers 38:59

the two were being watched and cared for

Lois Guyer 39:04

and then people were so despairing and most of them thought we would die out there you know but, and all the time we were being watched

Nancy Lawthers 39:15

Well that is a wonderful lesson. Yeah. Oh my goodness. And so that was an adventure that ended all right.

Lois Guyer 39:26

That was an adventure that ended alright for us but sadly for the other train

Nancy Lawthers 39:34

Goodness well after you got back here to Colorado, when did you get your place in Nederland?

Lois Guyer 39:47

Oh, we had had that. already. We had already had that. You had see in the summer time Mr. Guyer was a conservation officer and he had to spend a lot, most of his time in the mountains with the fisherman in the summer. That left me down here with the two girls trying to carry on. And I got pretty tired one summer and he said, I think that we will have to get some kind of a house up here so that I can look after things with you. So that's when we bought this place.

Nancy Lawthers 40:34

Do you know when you did that? What year? Was it in the 50s? Or in the 40s?

Lois Guyer 40:51

I think in the 50s.

Nancy Lawthers 40:56

And what was Nederland like then?.

Lois Guyer 41:01

Oh, just a little rural community. Now of course it's building up.

Nancy Lawthers 41:12

Oh yes. But it had a grocery store and the marshal's office.

Lois Guyer 41:22

Oh, yes. It was a nice little town, girls have a good time up there in the summer. They had an old donkey. First, they rode her hound dog. Then they had a horse.

Nancy Lawthers 41:41

Oh. So you had enough space for that.

Lois Guyer 41:45

They could go into the woods and ride and be gone for hours. And we didn't worry about them. But now that wouldn't be possible

Nancy Lawthers 42:00

so the you had enough space for for the horse and the donkeys or did you use a livery stable?

Lois Guyer 42:08

No, there was a wonderful gentleman who'd been in the service that lived around the corner from us. And he had a lot of, or I shouldn't say a lot. He had several lots with his house. That and the grass just grew way up. So he offered to pasture the donkey and then he pastured the horse.

Nancy Lawthers 42:34

Oh, well, that was nice.

Lois Guyer 42:35

Mr. Quinlan was his name

Nancy Lawthers 42:37

Mr. Quinlan. And I assume that he's not living any longer.

Lois Guyer 42:43

No. He's not living, dear. No.

Nancy Lawthers 42:46

And then you started going to the Community Church. Was it a Presbyterian church then?

Lois Guyer 42:52

It was then and it is now, dear

Nancy Lawthers 42:56

Yeah. And that other troops that's up the road from it is the church

Lois Guyer 43:03

Pardon me?

Nancy Lawthers 43:03

the other church? That's right up the road from it.

Lois Guyer 43:07

Yes. That's the Bible Church, the Bible. Evangelical.

Nancy Lawthers 43:15

I see. Uh huh.

Lois Guyer 43:19

And then there's a Catholic Church in that.

Nancy Lawthers 43:22

Yes. Right.

Lois Guyer 43:25

Calvary Bible, I think is what is the official name of that Evangelical?

Nancy Lawthers 43:29

Oh, I think you're right. Yes.

Lois Guyer 43:33

That's right. St. Regis is the Catholic

Nancy Lawthers 43:36

is the Catholic Church. What was it like in Nederland in the summertime?

Lois Guyer 43:44

Oh, beautiful, dear. Just beautiful. There were so many wildflowers. And, you know, all kinds of natural beauty. Was very quiet in those days. There were tourists of course who came in the summer but nothing fine. Come now.

Nancy Lawthers 44:10

Well, I realize that. When did Eldora start, do you know? The ski area?

Lois Guyer 44:20

I really don't know the date. I really don't. But it hasn't been there too long

Nancy Lawthers 44:30

But then when you came back, you would go back down to Boulder and do the substitute teaching?

Lois Guyer 44:36

Yes. You see the girls were still in school. And at that time, we didn't have the Boulder Valley system. No, Nederland had their own schools, Boulder had their own schools. They were not consolidated them. And we wanted them, Netherlands school was it was alright but we wanted the girls have the best education we could give them. So we came down we had to counter anyway. So we came home in the fall so the girls could attend Boulder school.

Nancy Lawthers 45:14

Where was the Nederland school? It's not the new one now.

Lois Guyer 45:18

No, no, no. The Nederland school was up the hill from the Presbyterian Church. You've probably heard people talk about the old school.

Nancy Lawthers 45:33

Yes, but I didn't know where it was.

Lois Guyer 45:37

Well you, if you want to go there, by road instead of walking, why. You go to the main highway and it's just like about a block up the highway.

Nancy Lawthers 45:49

I think I have seen it. Yes. But then as Nederland grew, they had to build a new school.

Lois Guyer 45:58

They did, dear, and that school is old. And it's worn. But that is another long story. That school was given to the town of Nederland with the understanding that they could keep it until it was no longer used as a school.

Nancy Lawthers 46:25

Oh, and then what?

Lois Guyer 46:27

Well, then I was I don't I'm not sure of the original contract, but I presume the mine would take it back. No, I really don't know that. But you see the miners and the men who owned them, those mines, all dead now so there's no way that the school board

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