

**T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History Collection**

**ABSTRACT**

**INTERVIEWEE NAME:** Rufus Clarence Victorian

**COLLECTION:** 4700.2502

**IDENTIFICATION:** born in Eunice, Louisiana; moved to Mossville when he was around 18;  
a pipefitter by trade

**INTERVIEWER:** Elizabeth Gelvin

**SERIES:** Mossville History Project - Oral History Day

**INTERVIEW DATES:** January 24, 2015

**FOCUS DATES:** 1950s-1970s; present

**ABSTRACT:**

**Tape 4420**

Born in Eunice, Louisiana in St. Landry Parish on January 26, 1949; attended St. Matilda Catholic School in Eunice, and later Charles Drew; memories of Hurricane Audrey; first impressions of Mossville, which was different than land-locked Eunice; trade as a pipefitter, eventually hired at the Olin plant; memories of Pete Moss, who used to ride his mule and buggy through town; other jobs include construction work and employment at BFI Waste Management for five or six years; canteens and the cinema on Highway 90 offered some entertainment for young people; remembers when people realized water wasn't safe for drinking, citing contaminated waste holes a possible reason; BFI never exposed for their role in the waste-dumping; family had a garden and also raised fowl; says everyone in Mossville is like family, and wishes another Mossville could be built.

**TAPES:** 1 (T4420)

**TOTAL PLAYING TIME:** 14 minutes

**#PAGES:** 2 pages index; 21 pages transcript

**PHOTOGRAPHS / PHOTOGRAPHER:** Three photographs taken during interview, including photos with interviewer Gelvin. Photographer Kathleen Donner.

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

**RESTRICTIONS:** none