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Title: Ryoko Kobayashi Interview  
Narrator: Ryoko Kobayashi  
Interviewer: Anna Takada  
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<Begin Segment 8>

- AT: 00:41:05 And to go back to, um, uh, those earlier days when you first moved here, um, what were, so you, you went from a move from the south side to the north side. Can you tell me a little bit about, um, what was different in your experiences, either part of town?
- RK: 00:41:34 What a, when I move up closer to the north side, it was close to that, uh, Wilson Avenue L, I heard it was dangerous. In that, there's a lot of American Indians living along the, and uh, so it was a different atmosphere. And then, uh, I was walking, you said that uh, I heard two girls talking and then, they were talking about their lives. And I said, you know, they had been abused too, you know, the Indians, so I guess their life was, uh, well, I don't know, just, just as worse as mine. Well, the atmosphere was so different because when I was on the south side, I will end a day, they give you all the warmth, you know, and I come up there, it's cold. And in the, in the, even though building that I'm living in on the third floor, it was cold because, not, not that the water don't come up, but the, the people there, you know, they just walk on by you, you know, and I said, gee. And um, they had terrible fights in that building, you know. Then all of a sudden I see cockroaches and I said, oh my gosh, I told, I said, Terumi, actually, her name is Dorothy. I said we got the, I got to get outta here. I can't take it anymore. So, in fact, my place was robbed too, somebody then, uh, uh, I have bet then, uh the private detective came, he said as an inside job now, who would take my movie camera? Just my movie camera and that's it. I've got to get outta here. So we, um, I said, I tell you what, Dorothy, let's you and I, we share rent. We could find a place, we'll go have, you know, two, three bedroom or something. And then, um, you could practice all you want and then, so I was looking at the paper, and then I found a coach house, so we went down there and he said, yeah, he'll rent to us. So I said good.
- AT: 00:43:57 Where was that?

RK: 00:43:57 Huh?

AT: 00:44:00 Where was that?

RK: 00:44:01 Uh, let's see, 642 Schubert avenue, right next to Clark Street, almost.

AT: 00:44:10 And um, on the north side, around that time, do you remember any, uh, Japanese American owned businesses or a markets or anything like that?

RK: 00:44:23 Yes, I remember on division street, uh, the jewelry store was owned by Japanese and uh, there was a Toguri gift store. They moved to Belmont after awhile and a, the gift store, I mean, the jewelry store moved to, um hm. I think it was Clark Street. Yeah. Narrow above uh, Diversity. And then, I remembered going to the Japanese restaurant and they had a horse shoe shape, uh, you know, tables and, her name was Kio, she came from Japan as a war bride. I think, and uh, so we got to know each other, well bless you.

AT: 00:45:17 Thank you.

RK: 00:45:18 We got to know each other and then she stopped going to open a restaurant so it was, um, she opened it, I think it was near Division, oh, near Diversity and Clark called Kio restaurant and it was beautiful restaurant and they had a sliding doors where you could have a boot, a little room, they have a hole in the floor, so you could put your leg down and they had a table and then, the waitress come with a Japanese Kimono and then, you know, bow traditional Japanese style. So we order our food and a, a cup of, a few, see it. Four of us from the place where I work, uh, we went there. One was Polish, one was Jewish and no, two were Jewish and one was Dorothy and myself. So we all went in that room and we really had a nice time. We order Sake and thing we pretended like we were drunken, but the, that was a nice place. Then one day she said, I lost my shop. And I said, what happened? She said, uh, the kids took over. They did just put me in, then the chef. Chef ended up in a nursing home and I said, oh my gosh, what happened? You know, a lively woman then, down in a nursing home. So I went to see her and she was just, oh, very depressed. Next time, maybe she'll go back to Japan where she came from. I didn't say anything, but that's how she ended up and I felt so bad. But um, the other restaurants there, I don't know. Oh well I'm living now, there was a Ito Sushi and that's gone. She's, he said after 35 years, I don't want to do anymore. So that was my favorite restaurant

Ito Sushi because like almost like home cooking to me, but the other restaurant. Um.

AT: 00:47:37 And um, how long were you on Schubert?

RK: 00:47:41 Oh, which, uh, 642? Oh, let's see, 19, 1977. Uh, we went through 1138 Schubert. She bought the home there? Yes.

AT: 00:47:58 And um, so that's farther west?

RK: 00:48:01 Yes. It's between Lincoln and Racine, and between Schubert and Diversity, it's, it's in the right hood, um, neighborhood

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