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Title: Tonko Doi Interview  
Narrator: Tonko Doi  
Interviewer: Anna Takada  
Location: Chicago, Illinois  
Date: September 3, 2019  
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<Begin Segment 10>

- AT: 00:45:04 Um, do you know how long you all were living in that hostel in Cincinnati?
- TD: 00:45:09 I would only guess that less than a year.
- AT: 00:45:18 And, and did you move to any other residents before going to Chicago or was your family just in Chicago?
- TD: 00:45:29 710 Ridgeway and um, that's in Cincinnati and that's where all those other Japanese families lived. Uh, we moved to Dayton for a short time, less than less than a year, but my father couldn't make it as a salesman. So that's when my aunt, another sister, the oldest sister who lived in Cin-, Chicago, arranged for my parents to open a cleaners. My mother was a, seem- good seamstress. She learned dressmaking in school. My father learned to be a presser. And uh, so they opened a cleaners through, uh, the Hidaka family. The hidaka family had a plant and they helped JAs open independent cleaners in neighborhoods. But the smart, of course he was doing it because to help us, but also to get the business, the wholesale business. That's what, uh, so we did that for many years.
- AT: 00:46:38 And so about what year was that, would you say that your family came here?
- TD: 00:46:42 1957. I was 16 and I would, it was in August. And in September, I started Lakeview high school as a junior.
- AT: 00:46:57 Um, okay. So, um, so let's see. Your, your brother Tom was born in '44 and um-
- TD: 00:47:12 Laura in '46.
- AT: 00:47:15 Okay, so Laura was born in Cincinnati?

TD: 00:47:17 Yes. Tom also in Cincinnati.

AT: 00:47:21 Okay. And then so they were, um, Laura is about-

TD: 00:47:30 They were, yeah, they were adults, not, they were kids.

AT: 00:47:32 Sure. So you all were kind of, um, you know, around teenage years or,

TD: 00:47:38 Yeah, I was a teenager. I was 16 and they were in grammar school.

AT: 00:47:42 Um, okay. So, um, Lakeview High School then, I'm guessing that your family came to the North Side of Chicago?

TD: 00:47:50 North Side.

AT: 00:47:51 And where, where were you guys living?

TD: 00:47:54 The first place we lived? Huh, well, the first place when my auntie called us from, uh, Ohio. Uh, she found a, an apartment in the, what was the name of that Cortez Hotel? It's on Sheffield. It was like a, not a hotel for anyway, it was like transient people, you know, but we lived there for a couple of weeks and then we found an apartment. Um, my auntie found an apartment near her on Kenmore and Irving Park. Yeah. Coincidentally, SJ, my granddaughter, she lived just down the street from our first apartment.

AT: 00:48:38 Um, okay. So, um, your family went to Kenmore and Irving Park, uh, was your mom then, did she kind of become a homemaker again? Oh no, you said that she was seamstress for business. Okay. And, um, so where was that cleaners located?

TD: 00:48:57 1900 Irving Park.

AT: 00:49:00 So it sounds like between-

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