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Title: Sharon Seeder Interview
Narrator: Sharon Seeder
Interviewer: Anna Takada
Location: Chicago, Illinois
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<Begin Segment 3>

- AT: 00:10:30 Um, before we get a little bit more into kind of life in Chicago with your family, can you tell me a little bit more about, um, where, uh, your parents' families were during the War? And um, what happened when the evacuation orders went out? So before, just life, pre-Chicago?
- Kelly Seeder: 00:10:54 You can talk about MIS.
- SS: 00:11:01 So my second father who my mom married and he adopted us, which I consider my, my dad during most of my years. He was in, um, Awahoo and he was there as a teenager. Of course when Pearl Harbor was bombed. Um, I remember my aunts telling stories about them getting upset because my dad and his brothers actually flocked to that side. I, I guess they drove or whatever so they could see what was going on. It was very exciting to them as teenagers. Of course, very dangerous where everybody uh. And then he joined the services, and was in the Air Force for awhile. Um, he got into trouble because he went AWOL to visit a girlfriend. And somehow or another he got placed into the military intelligence service, MIS and, um, posthumously use, uh, awarded the Congressional Medal of honor for his, his work. He didn't talk about it too much, but I know he did a lot of translations and things, things like that. My first dad, my, my biological dad, he was in the 442. He was, um, his family, I don't know what camp they were relocated to, but my dad joined the service I know pretty quickly along with many of my uncles.
- AT: 00:12:34 So he must have been around 18 at the time?
- SS: 00:12:36 Yeah, he was, he was actually a couple of years younger than my mom. So my mom was born in '25 and he was born in '27. So he, so, yes. And he, uh, he remembers in, during the service, but my dad's family didn't talk about the camps that much. It was my mom's family. My Dad's family stayed in, the two dads, they stayed in Hawai'i, in California, and my mom's family all

migrated to Chicago. Uh, my mom talked a lot about California and her working in the diner quite a bit. I think it was just kind of, uh, you know, it was a difficult life. She didn't complain about it, but I know that they had to do a lot of washing and catering to customers. And I remember her actually having an accident where she fell into a vat of boiling water that they were, um, and she was okay, but you know, there are lots of, probably non OSHA stuff, that happened at the time. Uh, she went to a primarily Caucasian high school and I remember my aunts dating a lot of, um, Caucasian guys. My mom, she didn't talk about dating any of them, but I know she, in her high school yearbook, there are several girlfriends that were not Japanese. And then when she got into camp, you know, that's, um, when she sorta went boy crazy and dated. And then, uh, you know, both of my dads are Japanese. And I know that that was important to her because my, um, the father and my, and my children is Caucasian and that my parents did not like that at all. They did not want me to marry anybody, but another Japanese, Japanese American. They didn't even wanted me to marry any other Asian, uh, uh, nationalities. They had their own line of prejudices.

AT: 00:14:57 Did you have, um, did, were there conversations about that or did they express why or was it just

SS: 00:15:05 They were there probably little nasty conversations of different, um, you know, different things with trust and other very weird things that were in their brains and they really, yeah, they, they really gave my first husband a hard time um

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