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Title: Gary Yamagiwa Interview  
Narrator: Gary Yamagiwa  
Interviewer: Anna Takada  
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**<Begin Segment 5>**

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| AT: | <u>13:30</u> | Okay, and then as far as schools, can you tell me where you went to elementary school?   |
| GY: | <u>13:40</u> | I went to elementary school at Stewart School, which is on Wilson and Kenmore. Um, I went there first through seven and a half, seventh grade. Always had a Japanese kids in my class as my classmates. There were a lot of Japanese to live there. And then we went to Stockton School, which is ah Montrose and Clark and we've made a lot more Japanese kids. And then went to Kane Tech. Lot of Japanese guys there.   |
| AT: | <u>14:26</u> | So it was still all boys?  |
| GY: | <u>14:28</u> | It was all boys, but you know, we, we knew each other from the neighborhood. So, um, we hung, hung around together. Japanese Americans.  |
| AT: | <u>14:44</u> | As far as your own social circle were mostly Japanese American growing up?   |
| GY: | <u>14:51</u> | Well, it depended on the day of the week. On the weekends, you know, there was family gatherings, you know, with all the kids. I always had a lot of cousins, so we spent a lot of time around the family. And also on the weekends we went to Church, was Christ Church of Chicago, which is a Japanese American congregation. So, um, all the people we were around, were Japanese American. We were part of the Japanese American community Christian community. And then during the week, and you come across everyone else. |
| AT: | <u>15:43</u> | So how were you going to try TRI-C since you can remember?   |
| GY: | <u>15:47</u> | Yes.   |

AT: 15:49 And where, where was it located?

GY: 15:51 Ah 701 Buckingham, which is right around Halsted, just north of Belmont. That's Buckingham. There was a big building, so there were a lot of activities, a Scout's youth group activities. That's where I really got to gain, a feel of being Japanese American because they were, we always were always around other families, JA families. The men there are, you know, they're the role models and the women. So it was a strong influence for me.

AT: 16:51 When you say that, are there any people are names in particular that stick out to you?

GY: 16:57 Sure. I could go on and on. Would you like me to know there was, uh, one of my good friends was Yosakai. He was a judo instructor, a cook and you know, he kinda took me under his wing and really taught me so much about how to live life. There was people like Mr. Katahiro, Ken Katahiro the funniest, funniest guy. Had a hilarious dry sense of humor.

AT: 17:40 They were leaders in the church?

GY: 17:41 Yes.

AT: 17:46 And um, can you tell me more about the family gatherings? What would you do?

GY: 17:58 We would gather at people's houses and we would eat and then the kids would go outside, you know, to the yards and play at that point in my life, I'm not sure what the adults were doing. It might have a been about conversation and beer. But you know, that's....There were always a lot of kids. We played tag, we played a guns. Hide and seek. Yeah.

AT: 18:40 Was that something you looked forward to?

GY: 18:41 Oh, sure. Oh, it was great. Great fun. Well, you know, these are people you grow up with, you know. Know, you're comfortable around them. People are nice. They're supportive.

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