Densho Digital Repository Naoko Wake Collection of Oral Histories of US Survivors of the Atomic Bombs Collection Title: Paul Satoh Interview Narrator: Paul Satoh Interviewer: Naoko Wake Location: East Lansing, Michigan Date: August 23, 2015 Densho ID: ddr-densho-1021-9-16

[Mr. Satoh's son Gordon Satoh was present at the interview, and when he speaks, he is denoted as GS]

<Begin Segment 16>

NW: What about the relationship between men and women? I think in Japanese society, there are certain kinds of gender expectation that affects relationship between men and women. Especially, let's say, take an example of a wife and a husband.

PS: Yeah, wife has to do certain du—wifely duties.

NW: Right.

PS: Well, I tell you that, for survivor, I don't think that you can really demand my wife to stay home and do what he-she did actually. Um . . . but we-we actually share most of the household chores together. And then we decide—decision making wise—we decide together, so that uh, we don't really have a who is going to make the final say about yes or no. So, usually we have pretty much a kind of equal right to that. And uh, I don't think ... I didn't really have much of an expectation otherwise. The kind of interesting thing happened when we married. Uh, the church was a very racially oriented church. So her church, Catholic church, um . . . the uh, guardian angel, Church of Guardian Angel in Detroit, he refused to marry her-marry us. And so I kind of turned to my campus chaplain and I said, how about on the campus we have the uh, already the holy rosary on Woodward and Expressway. So, they wanted to talk to her. So, the father survived, who came from Malta, Maltese. This is ... Why, you want to marry her? I don't think you can do it anyhow. I talked to my brother-in-law-to-be about this. Oh, you know Father Servites? Well he's a pastor there. Oh, I know him well. He came from Malta and he embezzled lots of money from Malta. So I can go there. And the he went to see the Father Servites a second time. And he said, Father Servites, he saw me-he saw the, John, my brother-in-law, and he turned blue—perfectly turned color. And there's no problem. As a penance, he had a 40 minutes uh, of the sermon on race relationships that everybody had to listen to. And so, that's what happened. But this John—John McAuliffe, my brother-in-law, passed away this March—March 26th. He was the uh, um . . . maintenance crew of Enola Gay.

NW: Oh, he was?

PS: And he even, at the . . . close to the—he was a pretty bad Alzheimer by—as of last year, even. He knows—he knew exact protocol of how to disarm the nuclear bomb. One by one. And uh, we used to tell him, you know, you can disarm the atomic bomb, and uh, then yeah he didn't

remember things that happened yesterday. But, uh, he always felt that uh, gee, that's kind of funny because my brother-in-law, was up to, you know, A-bomb—the victims and I'm the one who's fixing the airplane. And um, so that was kind of interesting.

NW: But you were able to talk about that?

PS: Oh yeah, we would talk about that quite a bit-about it. And um, there was . . .

NW: That is interesting.

PS: It was, uh, with this group of people that the bomb—bombing squad called the 449. Um, they used to meet quite often every year. And the group of the bombing squad that—including Enola Gay. And the captain of the Lonely Lady who was uh... Dr. Cartwright, um Tom Cartwright—was um, Professor of Statistics at the Texas A&M. And uh, he um... the uh, he and his group invited me to—the um, group meeting in Detroit one time. They went to the um, Willowland [?] factory sites, where they made their last—uh, B-29. And uh, so, I was really interested to see how that everything reconnected. You know, six degree of the acquaintance. If you know six people, out of all—out of six people, you have some connections, so.

NW: That is. And you never would have imagined even, you know, to have that personal connection within your extended family, right?

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