Narrator: CHAU MINH QUACH
Interviewer: Cassandra Quach
Date: May 18, 2015
Location: Corona, California
Sub-Collection: Vietnamese American Experience Course, Spring 2015
Length of Interview: 1:35:05

Time Log
00:00:19  Chau Quach talks about her hometown, Gia Dinh.
00:01:49  She talks about attending Catholic school and then transitioning to public school after 1975 when the Communist closed down private and religious schools.
00:08:28  She introduces her parents, siblings, and uncle who was like a second father to her.
00:10:15  Talks about her dad moving the family whenever he was transferred in the military. She also talks about the effects of war in the places she lived.
00:15:35  Explains her childhood and how inventing different games was a necessity and a joy.
00:20:14  Talks about the role of religion in her family and her father’s conversion to Catholicism.
00:21:47  Discusses her father and uncles’ involvement in the war and army as a result of the draft.
00:25:48  Explains the effect of violence the war had on her family and how her extended family left Vietnam.
00:30:24  Talks about her dad being taken to reeducation camp and how her mom had to step up in order to support her husband and children.
00:38:35  Talks about her first time seeing American soldiers right before curfew time and also, about her uncle, an American soldier.
00:40:55  Explains how her father was released from reeducation camp in order to help rebuild the city.
00:42:25  Describes when she witnessed the chaos of people trying to flee during the Fall of Saigon and how no one wanted to live under Communist rule.
00:44:07  Describes the log, difficult process of trying to escape by boat twice and then the actual journey from Vietnam, to Malaysia, and then to Canada.
1:05:12  Talks about the first shocking encounters upon arriving in Canada.
1:07:30  Discusses the changing family dynamic and shifting of roles, responsibilities,
and restrictions in her life.

1:16:00 Explains how she got married and ended up settling in Southern California.

1:21:18 Discusses her decision to pursue cosmetology as a career due to starting a family and how being a nail technician has affected her understanding of the American lifestyle.

1:27:52 Explains what she believes it means to be a Vietnamese-American from her experience.

1:28:45 Discusses how Little Saigon creates a community where Vietnamese people can feel like they belong somewhere in America.

1:29:50 Says that she is most proud of her parents, what they accomplished with their own two hands, and how that has affected her.

1:32:00 Talks about how she wishes to go back to visit Vietnam and her hopes for the country and people there.

1:33:27 Her message to future generations of Vietnamese-Americans.