Vietnamese American Oral History Project, UC Irvine

Narrator: PHUOC DUC NGUYEN
Interviewer: Theresa Van Ngoc Do
Date: February 13, 2019
Location: Westminster, California
Length of interview: 01:08:39

Narrator Life Map

1969  Born in Sài Gòn
1974  Attended private school in Sài Gòn
1979  Tried to escape Vietnam and made it to Gulf of Thailand
      - Boat broke down and boat carried back to Vietnam
1981  Left Vietnam again by boat and arrived in refugee camp in Thailand
      - Stayed at camp for less than 6 months
      - Took 8 tries to escape
      - Arrived in San Diego, CA
1986  Moved to Orange County
1989  Finished high school and enlisted into U.S. Navy
      - Traveled to Japan, Korea, Hawaii, Philippines, Thailand
1991  Went to school for navy electricians in Chicago, IL
      - Stayed for 6 months
1993  Finished military service and gained U.S. citizenship
      - Worked as electrician for few years
1994  Became part-time student at San Diego State University (SDSU)
1996  Became full-time student at San Diego State University
1999  Obtained Bachelor’s Degree in Engineering at San Diego State University