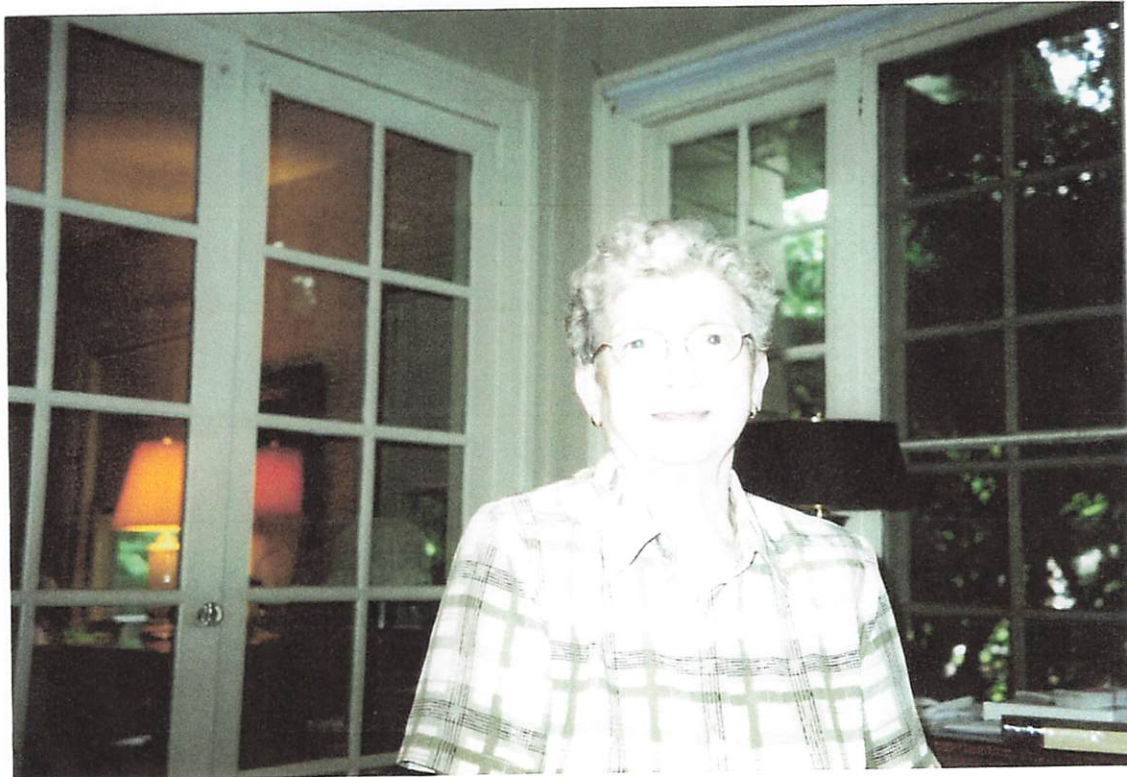


**INTERVIEW WITH
JOSEPHINE RITA (LUCCA) AHEARN**

JUNE 5, 2009

**CONDUCTED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HAMMONTON**



INTERVIEW BY:

ELLEN AIELLO

TRANSCRIBED BY:

CAROL EFFINGER

**INTERVIEW WITH
JOSEPHINE RITA (LUCCA) AHEARN
JUNE 5, 2009**

**CONDUCTED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HAMMONTON**

**INTERVIEW BY:
ELLEN AIELLO**

**TRANSCRIBED BY:
CAROL EFFINGER**

My name is Ellen Aiello. I am here on behalf of the History Society of Hammonton to interview Josephine Lucca Ahearn.

Q. What is your full name?

A. Josephine Rita Lucca Ahearn.

Q. Please state today's date.

A. June 4, 2009.

Q. What is your age?

A. Seventy-seven.

Q. Where were you born?

A. In Hammonton.

Q. Were you born in a hospital?

A. At home.

Q. Did you grow up in the town where you were born?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you and your parents move to different houses, cities or states when you were young?

A. I was born on First Road and then we moved to a larger house that my family had built. This was on First and Tenth Streets. Then after a bit, my father thought he would like not to be doing farm work, and we moved to Peach Street, but that only lasted a year and a half. We loved it there, my sister and I. We moved back to another house on First Road.

Q. When you were a teenager, where did everyone gather for entertainment?

A. Oh, just gathered at peoples' houses and maybe dances once in a while.

- Q. How did teenagers dress when you were a teenager? That would have been considered "wild" clothes or hair in those days?
- A. Actually, when we went out, we wore dresses and skirts. I never wore jeans unless it was Saturday afternoon and you ran to the store to get something, but outlandish would be really bare midriffs. We would consider that really outlandish.
- Q. How about the hair, was it long or short?
- A. You saw either then. Hair was all different lengths then.
- Q. Are you married or have you been married?
- A. I am a widow right now.
- Q. What was your spouse's name?
- A. Joseph Anthony Ahearn.
- Q. Where was he born?
- A. West Chester, Pennsylvania.
- Q. As a couple, what kinds of places did you go for social life?
- A. We mostly went to movies. We did play miniature golf.
- Q. Did you know each other a long time before you got married?
- A. No, just five months.
- Q. How old were you?
- A. Twenty-three.
- Q. How old was he?
- A. Twenty-eight.
- Q. What religion are you?
- A. Catholic.

Q. Have you always followed this religion?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you have any children?

A. Yes. I have five children.

Q. What are their names and birth dates?

A. Mary Kay, born June 21, 1957,
Twin boys, Pat and Mike, born February 1, 1959,
Colleen, born July 16, 1962,
Brendon, born February 16, 1964.

Q. What was your mother's maiden name?

A. Jacobs.

Q. When and where was your mother born?

A. May 3, 1911. She was born in Hammonton at home.

Q. Do you know when and where your mother's mother was born?

A. Well, both sides were from Gesso in Italy.

Q. Do you have a family bible that records this?

A. No, I was trying to do something with my family, but it is not complete.

Q. What was your mother's father's name?

A. Pasquale.

Q. Do you know when and where he was born?

A. Gesso, Italy, as far as I know.

Q. Do you know any stories about your mom's ancestors?

A. My mom's father came over and then contacted his wife (my mother's mother) about coming over. She really didn't want to

come over but then did come over with her own mother. At that time my mother's mother had a baby, so my first uncle on that side of the family was born in Italy.

Q. Did your father have a nickname?

A. Yes, they always called him Bill.

Q. What did he do for a living?

A. He raised chickens and my mother worked in a factory as a presser. We had a little garden with raspberries, mainly.

Q. Do you remember any stories involving your father's ancestors?

A. I remember Christmas Eve. Both parents came from large families. On Christmas Eve, cousins and everyone would get together at my father's parents house. They also lived in Hammonton on Thirteenth Street.

Q. What was your father's father's name?

A. John.

Q. Do you know when and where your father's father was born?

A. Also from Gesso, as far as I know.

Q. Do you remember hearing any stories about why any of your ancestor's came America?

A. I assume they came from Gesso for a better life.

Q. Did they ever tell you how they met and fell in love over in Italy?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever hear them talk of entertainment and social life before marriage? Where did everybody go for entertainment or recreation?

A. I think they made fun wherever they were, playing musical instruments, playing cards.

- Q. Where did your mother grow up?
- A. She grew up in Hammonton.
- Q. Where did your father grow up?
- A. He also grew up in Hammonton.
- Q. Did your mother work before or after marriage?
- A. My mother worked in an office before marriage. She also worked in a factory and in retail.
- Q. What did your mom look like?
- A. She was thin and I always thought she was pretty.
- Q. Describe your father to me.
- A. To us, tall and a little chunky. He was real nice.
- Q. Tell me a story about your mother.
- A. She was a really good cook. She liked to crochet. She could copy a pattern when she saw something. I have afghans and stuff that she made. She made baby booties which you don't see too much of anymore.
- Q. What was your favorite meal?
- A. Spaghetti, meatloaf.
- Q. What was your father's favorite?
- A. Probably the spaghetti too.
- Q. Did your father cook?
- A. He could manage.
- Q. Were either of your parents actively involved in the Community?
- A. Not as we would think of it today.

- Q. Did either belong to clubs or fraternal organizations?
- A. My father belonged to the Holy Name Society which was a men's church group.
- Q. Can you tell me a story about your father?
- A. I just thought that he was wonderful. He liked people. There were times when he drove the school bus and he did very well. Even now, people mention that they had him as their school bus driver.
- Q. Was your father handy with tools?
- A. He was very handy with tools. He built the chicken coops and a garage for her aunt.
- Q. Did he play chess or cards?
- A. He played cards.
- Q. Did he raise a garden or animals?
- A. He had a garden and chickens. Close to Thanksgiving, we had turkeys and we took care of those. I would actually dress them. We had a retail business. My father had an electric machine that took the feathers off. It was a big drum. It looked like rubber fingers. I would hold the chicken on top of it and it would go around.
- Q. What skills or talents did you learn from your mother and father?
- A. I learned to work hard, enjoy what I was doing and do what I was supposed to do.
- Q. Do you ever remember your mother losing her temper?
- A. Yes. I think I may have.
- Q. Did your father ever lose his temper?
- A. Not often.
- Q. Did your mother and father have a good sense of humor?

- A. I think so. They both had a good sense of humor.
- Q. What is the saddest event you can remember?
- A. Probably the war. My father's brother (my uncle) was wounded in the war. Right after that a letter was received which he had not written. They assumed he had trouble with his hands. I don't know why he didn't write it. Someone else write it but his hands were fine. You know how your mind works. You always think the worst.
- Q. Do you feel you inherited more traits from your mother or father?
- A. I think I inherited from both parents.
- Q. Which parent do you resemble the most?
- A. People from Hammonton say that I resemble my mom.
- Q. How was your mother's health?
- A. Her health was fine.
- Q. How was your father's health?
- A. He died at age fifty-eight of a heart attack. The last few years, he had heart trouble and he had been in and out of Kessler Hospital, here in Hammonton.
- Q. What religion was your mother raised in?
- A. My mother was Catholic. When she was growing up it was just St. Joseph's, but then she went to St. Martin's religiously.
- Q. What religion was your father?
- A. He was Catholic too. He attended St. Josephs.
- Q. What do you think your mother or father would think about today's teenagers?

A. I don't think they would even discuss it. It bugs me though. It is not that her parents would not have cared, but what can you do about it.

Q. When did your mother die?

A. She died in 2000. She went in the hospital on May 3rd. She died on Mother's Day that year. She was eighty-nine.

Q. What cemetery is she buried in?

A. She is in Greenmount on First Road.

Q. When did your father die?

A. He died in 1968. He was born in 1908. He is also buried in Greenmount with her mother.

Q. Tell me about your mothers' education. What school did she attend? Did she finish? To what grade? How did she get to school?

A. My mother started out in Magnolia School. At that time she lived on Tenth Street and First Road. She walked to school. Then she went to school right here in Town and had to walk there too. She did very well. She got a typing award. She was so proud of that. It was a little pin, which was quite important to them then. She graduated high school and then a school in Camden, a commercial school, which wanted her to go there for further study. In fact, a fellow came down three times to ask the family for her to go. She had no father and her five brothers did not want her to go. She really wanted to go. They probably had transportation, probably a bus or train. I don't know if that was the problem. She was the youngest of six. She never knew her father. They decided against it. She was really heartbroken. Once in a while she would mention that. The school would have paid for it all.

Q. Was your father in the military?

A. He was not in the military.

Q. Was your father or his father physically strong?

A. You always think your father is strong. He was strong to me.

- Q. How many children did your mother have?
- A. I had one sister.
- Q. What are their names?
- A. Grayce, born August 3, 1938. I, Josephine, am the oldest. Actually, Grace's birth date is one day before my father's. For years when she was young she thought she was one day older than my father.
- Q. Do you look like your sister?
- A. Once in a while when people knew we were sisters, they would say we looked alike. I think Grayce had more of an olive complexion. People said that I more or less look like my mother.
- Q. Is your sibling still alive?
- A. She is deceased. She passed away April 29, 2009.
- Q. Did Grayce have special talents or skills?
- A. Oh yes. As a child she painted and all kinds of things. She had a special talent of getting along very well with people. She knew how to organize and did a lot for the Town. She also owned a business.
- Q. What kind of person was your mother's mother?
- A. She was a congenial, hard working lady. She raised six children without a husband. My mother was the youngest and my mother's father died a month before she was born. He had worked at the brickyard; they said there was one in Winslow at that time. This was like in 1911 when she was born. My grandmother raised all those children and they had a farm. None of those children were ever in trouble with the law.
- Q. How many children did she have?
- A. She had five. Five boys and then she had the girl.

- Q. How many aunts and uncles do you have on your mother's side?
Can you give me their names?
- A. There were five others besides my mother:
- The first one was Michael Solari, he was the only one born in Italy. He's the one that came over with his mother and my grandmother. He married Catherine Lucca.
- Uncle Charlie married Lily Ciliberti
- Uncle Frank married Charlotte Elliott
- Uncle Bill married Millie Cappuccio
- Anthony (Uncle Duke) married Lena Merlino.
- Q. Are any of them still alive?
- A. No, not even the wives.
- Q. Do you think your grandmother had any influence on you?
- A. I (Josephine) was the oldest grandchild. As a child I spoke Italian, which was very helpful. I used to be with my other grandmother sometimes and that is how I learned it.
- Q. Tell me about your father's mother?
- A. She wore these long skirts, I guess they all did, and be barefoot in the summer. Her hands were so rough from all the work she did. I remember when she washed pots, for cleanser she would use dirt even, and rub that. When she would wash clothes, if there were not enough line, she would put things on bushes.
- Q. What did she die of?
- A. I guess she probably died of old age.
- Q. What did your father's father look like?
- A. My grandfather always seemed old to me. They had berries too.
- Q. Did your father have siblings?

- A. None of them are living now either. The first one was my Uncle Al, Uncle Ben, Uncle Joe, her father, the last one, we always called him "T", his name was Anthony. He's the one that was in the service. And then there were girls, four girls, my Aunt Katie, Aunt Susie, Aunt Jennie. Aunt Susie, when they came over from Italy, she had to stay there because she had trouble with her eyes. She came over later. I guess it was really sad to leave a child there.
- Q. Describe your surroundings when you were a child.
- A. Well, I can still remember when we lived on First Road and Tenth Street. When I was in seventh grade, we moved to 206 Peach Street. It was the same block as Carnesales. We were only there a year and a half. I really liked it there because we were close to town and all. Then in September of my freshman year in high school, we moved back to First Road again. Her father thought he could manage without the farm.
- Q. Who was your favorite cousin?
- A. Well, I always liked my cousin Jean. We were close in age. All the cousins were all right. In my family we had eight Josephines and four Johns. You know the large Italian families, how they do. My father's mother was Josephine. I just so happened that one of my uncles married a Josephine, so that bought in another Josephine. My cousin Jean's mother was Josephine. Then the first girl was name Josephine.
- Q. Are you in touch with any of your cousins?
- A. A lot of them live right here. I am sort of friendly with Jean. Actually, there is one aunt that is still living. My youngest Uncle "T's" wife, Aunt Peggy. Actually she is only a year and a half younger than I am, but she is much younger than her husband. She lives in Newfield. In fact, all the cousins are always going to go out to lunch. Every time there is a funeral we say that. This time Jean called. We are really going to do it this time. We made a date and Aunt Peggy is supposed to be coming with us. I'm sort of friendly with Jean.
- Q. Did you have any brothers or sisters that died in childhood?
- A. No.

- Q. Did you ever hear about any in the family, like your mother or father's siblings?
- A. Well, my one aunt had a baby that died at about six months. I think they would have been about my age so I don't really remember.
- Q. What political party did your parents or grandparents belong to?
- A. They voted. Probably Democrats, I'm not sure. I don't know about my grandparents.
- Q. Did your parents or grandparents speak a foreign language?
- A. Yes, definitely. Both of my parents and grandparents spoke Italian. My parents spoke English at home, but they could speak Italian (Sicilian). As a child, I spoke Italian fluently, but then if you don't use it, you lose it.
- Q. Where did you go to school and do you remember the names of some of your teachers?
- A. I started out in Magnolia School, which was a small, three-room schoolhouse on Chew Road in Hammonton. For kindergarten, first and second, I had Miss Santora. Then I went to what we called the "town school" which was the main school. There, in fourth grade I had Miss Rush. I had Miss Santora in fifth grade after she was promoted. So for the first six years, I had three teachers. Sixth grade; Mrs. Lavocian had geography, Miss Moyer had math, which they called arithmetic, Mrs. Maloney had history, Mrs. Doran had art, spelling and health, Miss Hatch had English. Seventh grade I had Miss Wood. I really liked her. She taught English and used to print on the board. She is a sister to the teacher who taught kindergarten. This one is Mildred; I think the other one was Miriam. They were both about the same size. Miss Eddie had geography, Mrs. Mac Dougal had history, Mrs. Strickland had spelling, Mrs. Fischer had math. I had her husband in high school. He had history. In eighth grade, Mrs. Sparks had English, Mrs. Petrecca had geography, Mrs. Fithian had math, Mrs. Volmer had geography, and Miss Walker had literature. In eighth grade, I got the English and history award. In twelfth grade I got the Latin and history award. I went to high school and then I went on to what was then Glassboro State Teachers College. I did some graduate

work, so I have a Master's in Education. I then taught for two years in Mays Landing. I had sixth grade. I thought I wanted departmental work. I taught one year in Burlington City. I taught the eighth grade language arts. My husband taught at the high school and I taught at the junior high. We met and after that first year, we got married and I stayed home for quite a few years. When I went back, there was "Title One", which was a supplemental reading program and then I taught a bit as a reading teacher. I taught English as a second language, which I really liked. It was night school and it was adults, and as foreigners, they like to learn. I really liked that. I also taught English at the college to people who wanted to get their GED's. There are so many who do not even have their high school diplomas, it is surprising. In 1966 they stopped the program because of funds and so I decided "this is it" and I retired. I have a Master's Degree from Rowan in 1955. I graduated high school in 1949, and then got my degree in 1952 because I went summers and after school, I did it in three years, then I got my Masters in 1955 while I was teaching. Mainly I went to school on Saturdays.

Q. What was one of your favorite places in Hammonton that is no longer there?

A. I liked the whole Town, the Five & Ten. You could just mosey in and see all those things. All the things that I thought were important to me are all gone now, it seems. All the dress stores, I think they are gone in all towns now. You don't see many display windows anymore either. They would be ready for school with the fall leaves and all and I would be still going to summer school, it just seemed that way.

Q. Where do you reside now?

A. Oh, I live in Edgewater Park, which takes me just over an hour to get here, actually about an hour and ten minutes.

Q. How long have you lived there?

A. This Thanksgiving, in a couple of months, it's going be fifty years in the one house.

Q. You moved out of Hammonton when you went to college?

A. When I went to college, I dormed, so I was still basically at home, during the summer and all. Then when I went up to Burlington to teach in 1954, I stayed there too. That was the end. I married in 1955. From 1955 to 1959, we lived in Florence Township and commuted to Burlington which is about four miles.

Ellen: Okay Josephine, well thank you for granting us this interview and I hope you have a good day.

Josephine: Thank you, you too.

June 5, 2009

I am here on behalf of the Hammonton Historical Society to interview Josephine Lucca Ahearn

Full name: Josephine Rita Lucca Ahearn

Date: June 4, 2009

Age: 77

DOB: 7-17-1931

Born in Hammonton at home. She grew up in Hammonton. We moved to different houses in Hammonton. I was born on First Rd. and then I moved to a larger house which her family had built. This was on First Rd. and Tenth St. Then after a bit my father thought he would like not to be doing farm work and we moved to Peach St. But that only lasted a year and a half. We loved it there, my sister and I. We moved back to another house on South First Rd.

When she was a teen ager people gathered together at peoples houses and maybe dances once in awhile. Actually when we went out we wore dresses and skirts. I never wore "jeans" unless it was Saturday afternoon and you ran to the store to get something but outlandish would be really bare midriffs. We would consider that really outlandish. Hair was all different lengths then.

I am a widow right now. Spouse's name was Joseph Anthony Ahearn. He was born in West Chester, Pa. Mostly went to movies, played miniature golf for social life.

Then knew each other only 5 months. She was 23, he was 28. Both were Catholic and have always followed this religion.

I have five children;

Mary Kay born 6-21-1957

Twin boys, Pat and Mike born 2-1-1959

Colleen born 7-16-1962

Brendon born 2-16-1964

My mother's maiden name was Jacobs. She was born May 3, 1911. She was born in Hammonton at home. Her mother's mother and both sides were from Gesso in Sicily. There is no family bible with this information. She was trying to do something with her family but it is not completed. Her mother's father's name was Pasquale also from Gesso.

Her father's nickname was Bill. She lived on a poultry farm. He raised chickens and she worked in a factory as a presser. They had a little garden with raspberries mainly.

I remember Christmas Eve. Both parents come from large families. On Christmas Eve cousins and everyone would get together at her father's parents house. They also lived in Hammonton on 13th St.

Her father's father's name was John also from Gesso as far as she knows. She assumes that they came here from Gesso for a better life. Her mother's father came over and then he contacted his wife (my mother's mother) about coming over. She really did not want to come over but then she did come over with her own mother.

At that time my mother's mother had a baby at the time. So my first uncle on that side of the family was born in Italy.

I think they made fun wherever they were, playing musical instruments, playing cards. Both her mother and father grew up in Hammonton. Her mother worked in a office before marriage. She worked in a factory and in retail.

Her mother was thin and I always thought she was pretty. Her father was, to us, tall and a little chunky, he was real nice.

Her mother was a really good cook. She liked to crochet. She could copy a pattern when she saw something. I have afghans and stuff that she made. She made baby booties which you don't see too much of anymore. Her favorite meal that was made by her mother was spaghetti, meat loaf. Probably her father's favorite meal was also spaghetti. Her father could manage to cook. Her father belonged to the Holy Name Society which was a mens church group.

She just thought that her father was wonderful. He liked people. There were times when he drove the school bus and he did very well. Even now people mention that they had him as their school bus driver. He was very handy with tools. He built the chicken coops, a garage for her aunt. He played cards and he had a garden and chickens. Close to Thanksgiving we had turkeys. She would actually dress them. They had a retail business. He had an electric machine that took the feathers off. It was a big drum. It looked like rubber fingers. She would hold the chicken on top of it and it would go around.

She learned to work hard, enjoy what you are doing do what you are supposed to do. She remembers her mother losing her temper. Her father did not lose his temper often. They both had a good sense of humor.

The sad^{est} event she remembers is probably the war. Her uncle (her father's brother) was wounded in the war. A letter was received. He had not written it. Of course it was assumed that he had trouble with his hands. I don't know why he didn't write it. He had someone else write it but his hands were fine. You know how your mind works. You always think of the worse.

She feels that she inherited traits from both parents. People from Hammonton say that she resembles her mom. Her mother's health was fine. Her father died at age 58 from a heart attack. The last few years he had heart trouble and he had been in and out of Kessler Hospital here in Hammonton.

Her mother was Catholic. When she was growing up it was just St. Joseph's but then she went to St. Martin's religiously. Her father attended St. Joseph's

She does not think her parents would have anything to say about teenagers. It bugs her though. It is not that her parents would not have cared but what can you do about it.

Her mother died in 2000. She went in the hospital in May 3rd. She died on mother's day that year. She was 89. She is in Greenmount cemetery on first road. Her father died in 1968. He was born in 1908. He also is buried together with her mother in Greenmount.

Her mother started out in Magnolia school. At that time she went to school on 10th street and 1st rd. She had to walk to school. Then she went to school right here in

town and had to walk there too. She did very well. She got a typing award. She was so proud of that. It was a little pin which was quite important to them then.

She graduated high school and then a school in Camden ,a commercial school, wanted her to go there for further study. In fact a fellow came down three times to ask the family for her to go. She had no father and her five brothers did not want her to go. She really wanted to go.

They probably had transportation, probably a bus or train. I don't know if that was the problem. She was the youngest of six. She never knew her father. They decided against it. She was really heartbroken. Once in a while she would mention that. They were going to pay for it and all.

Her father was not in the military. You always think a father is strong. Her father was strong to her.

She had one sister, Grace birth date 8-3-1938. Josephine is the oldest. Actually Grace's birthdate is one day before my father's . For years when she was young she thought she was one day older than my father.

People say that I more or less look like my mother. Once in a while when people know we are sisters they say you look alike. I think she had more of an olive complexion. People said that I more or less look like my mother.

Her sibling is deceased. She passed away 4-29-2010. As a child she painted, and all kinds of things. She had a special talent of getting along very well with people, she knew how to organize. She did a lot for the town. She owned a business.

Her mother's mother was a congenial hard working lady. She raised 6 children without a husband. Her mother was the youngest and her mother's father died a month before she was born. He worked at the brick yard in Winslow. This was in 1911. Her grandmother raised all the children. They had a farm. None of the children were ever in trouble with the law.

Their names

Michael Solari -- only one born in Italy. He came over with her mother and grandmother. He married Catherine Lucca

Charlie married Lily Ciliberti

Frank married Charlotte Elliott

Bill married Millie Cappuccio

Anthony (uncle Duke) married Lena Merlino

None of these are alive.

Josephine was the oldest grandchild. As a child she spoke Italian which was very helpful. Her grandmother wore long skirts and was barefoot in the summer. Her hands were so rough from all the work she did. I remember when she washed pots, for cleanser she would use dirt even and rub that. When she would wash clothes, if there was not enough line she would put things on bushes. She probably died of old age.

Her father's father always seemed old to her. They had berries also.

Her father's siblings were:

Al, Ben, Joe, her father, Anthony "T" (the one in the service) Katie, Susie, Jennie. Her aunt Susie had to come here from Italy later because she had trouble with her eyes. She came over later.

When she was a child she could remember when they lived on First Rd. and 10th street. Then when she was in 7th grade they moved to 206 Peach Street. She really liked it there. They were close to town and all. We were only there a year and a half. In September of her freshman year is when they moved to First Rd. again. Her father thought he could manage without the farm. She lived in the same block that Carnasale is now.

She always liked her cousin Jean. They were close in age. All of the cousins were nice. There were 8 Josephines and 4 Johns. You know in large Italian families how they do. My grandmother (father's mother) was Josephine. It so happened that one of my uncles married a Josephine. So that brought in another Josephine (my aunt Josephine). My cousin's Jean's mother was Josephine. Then the first girl was named Josephine.

Alot of cousins live right here. I am sort of friendly with Jean. Actually there is one aunt that is still living. My youngest uncle's ("T") wife (Aunt Peggy). Actually she is only a year and a half younger than I am but she is much younger than her husband. She lives in Newfield. In fact all the cousins are always going to go out to lunch. Every time there is a funeral we say that. This time Jean called. We are really going to do it this time. We made a date and aunt Peggy is going to come with us. I'm sort of friendly with Jean.

One aunt had a child that died at about 6 months. It looks like the child was about my age. Parents and grandparents voted. My parents were probably democrat. I am not sure. I don't know about my grandparents.

Both parents and grandparents spoke Italian. Her parents spoke English at the house but they could speak Italian (Sicilian) As a child she spoke Italian fluently but then you sort of lose it if you don't use it.

I started out in Magnolia school which was a small three room school house on Chew Rd. in Hammonton. For kindergarten, first and second, she had Miss Santora. Then we went to what we called the "town school" which was the main school. There in fourth grade I had Miss Rush. Then in fifth grade Miss Santora was promoted and she taught fifth grade. So for the first six years I had three teachers. Sixth grade - Mrs. Lavocian had geography, Miss Moyer had math which they called arithmetic, Mrs. Maloney had history, Mrs. Doran had art, spelling and health, Miss Hatch had English. Seventh grade she had Miss Wood. I really liked her. She taught English. She used to print on the board. She is a sister to the teacher who taught kindergarten. This one is Mildred. (One is Mildred and one is Miriam I think) They were both about the same size. Miss Eddie had geography, Mrs. MacDougle had history, Mrs. Strickland had spelling, Mrs. Fischer had math. I had her husband in high school. He had history. In eighth grade Mrs. Sparks had English, Mrs. Petreca had geography, Mrs. Fithian had math, Mrs. Volmer had geography, Mrs. Walker had literature. In 8th grade I got the English and history award, in 12th I got the Latin and history award. She went to the high school then she went on to what was then Glassboro State Teachers College and she did some graduate work so she has a masters in education. Then she taught for 2 years in Mays Landing. She had 6th grade. She thought she wanted departmental work. She taught one year in Burlington City. She taught 8th grade language arts. Her husband taught at the high school and she taught at junior high. They met and after

that first year they got married and she stayed home for quite a few years. When she went back there was "title one" which was a supplemental reading program and then she ^{TAUGHT} a bit as a reading teacher. She taught English as a second language which she really liked. It was night school and it was adults and as foreigners, they liked to learn. She really liked that. She also taught English at the college to people who wanted to get their GEDs. There are so many who do not have their high school diplomas. It is surprising. In 1996 they stopped the program because of funds and so she decided "this is it" and she retired. She enjoyed. She has a master's degree from Rowan in 1955. She graduated high school in 1949 then she got her degree in 1952 because she went summers and after school (she did it in 3 years), then she got her masters in 1955 and then she was teaching. Mainly she went to school on Saturdays.

She liked the whole town. The 5&10. You could just mosey in and see all those things. All the things that I thought were important to me are all gone now it seems. All dress shops are gone. She thinks they are gone in all the towns now. You don't see many display windows anymore either. They would be ready for school with the fall leaves and all and I would be still going to summer school. I just seemed that way.

She lives in Edgewater Park now which takes her just over an hour to get here (about an hour and 10 minutes). This Thanksgiving it will be 50 years in the one house. When she went to college she dorned so she was still basically at home, during the summer and all. Then when she went to Burlington to teach in 1954 she stayed there also. That was the end. She married in 1955. From 1955 to 1959 she lived in Florence township and commuted to Burlington which is about 4 miles.