

Summary of Oral History Transcript
Student, Citizen, Soldier: Oral History and Student Veterans

Colleen Michelle Nollett

U.S. Navy

Interviewer:

Interview conduct by Christopher Mohn, Salem State University, on 04/11/2016

Summary of transcript:

Colleen Nollet, a native daughter of Salem, MA joined the military in 2001 shortly after graduating from Lynn English High School. Her interest in computers, technology, and in securing funding for a college education led her to the Navy. Nollet's nearly decade's long service in the Navy included a number of roles, including Maintenance Technician, Fire Control System Operator, Support Assignment-Counter Rocket Artillery and Mortar, Multinational Force, and Combat Training. Nollet's Navy service enabled her to travel the world and included one deployment to Balad, Iraq. Nollet explains the challenges of women in the military, particularly those of single mothers raising children. She also discusses an episode of sexual harassment and the effect it had on her military career.

Colleen Nollet

Narrator

Christopher Mohn

Salem State University

Interviewer

April 11, 2016

Salem, MA

Christopher Mohn: Good morning. Today is April 11, 2016. My name is Christopher Mohn, I'm a Senior at Salem State University and I'm a History major. We're, as a part of one of my classes, we're doing an oral history project with veterans. And today I'm joined with Colleen Nollet. She's a Veteran of the United States Navy. Thank you for joining me today Colleen.

Colleen Nollet: Thank you for having me.

CM: So I understand you grew up in Lynn. Can you tell me a little bit about that?

CM: I was born in Lynn went to private school until third grade. Switched over and went to Lynn public schools, Hood, then Marshall, and then followed on to Lynn English. Graduated from there in 2000.

CM: Awesome. And you're the youngest of three?

CM: Yes.

CM: How was it being the, uh, the baby of the family?

CM: My sister and brother beat me up, you know? But they're older than me, three and four years older than me, so it's kind of the. We were close but not as, I mean I was separated so.

CM: Are you guys close at all today?

CM: My brother actually lives downstairs from me right now.

CM: OK.

CM: My sister moved to North Carolina, but, yeah...

CM: OK.

CM: ...we're close. Me and my brother. Me and my sister not so much.

CM: OK, and I understand that both of your grandfathers served in the military?

CM: Yes.

CM: Did that influence you in any way to, to join?

CM: Um, not so much. My dad told me when I was a sophomore in high school that he put himself through college, that we were going to, me, my brother, and sister, were going to pay for, going to put ourselves through college. I can't afford that, so I had a Marine Corp ROTC at my high school. And I actually wanted to be a Marine. And my grandfather, who was a Marine, talked me out of it.

CM: Oh, wow.

CM: To go into the Navy, cause he didn't think a woman should be in the Marines.

CM: So, is that why you chose the Navy? Sort of the conversation you had with your grandfather?

CM: I was more, um, choosing the technical route. Computers and such. And Navy and Air Force were the best programs for going a more technical route, where the Marines had some, but I'd definitely be more infantry based than I would be more technical side, so.

CM: Did you have any inclination that you might be deployed when you first joined?

CM: Oh yeah. I knew I would, I didn't know that a war was going to start in a year.

CM: What was your initial reaction when you first heard that you were deployed, or being deployed?

CM: The first time I was deployed? Um, I had to send my daughter up to my mom's. She was eighteen months. And uh, we went over to the Persian Gulf and floated in the Persian Gulf and launched planes and bombs. Well we floated. I was on an aircraft carrier, so we sat that for six months in the Persian Gulf. It was my job. I mean, that's, I literally worked on missile systems and guns on the ship, so if we weren't out to sea fighting a war I didn't have a job.

CM: Right.

CM: I was a teacher, so.

CM: What were your parents' reaction' to you being shipped out?

CM: Well my mom's, you know "My baby." But my dad "It's like, all right. I'm ready" [laughs]. "I'm ready to go, go ahead."

CM: He kind of had a better grasp of it than your mom?

CM: Well it's not that he had a better grasp. It's just that it's my life. They're not controlling me. I'm not doing anything bad so, I mean what is he going to try and talk me out of it? It doesn't make sense to, for me, I mean.

CM: How bout your daughter, how did she handle it?

CM: Well she was only eighteen months at the time so, she was going to stay with Nana and Papa so it was probably the best year of her life.

CM: Yeah, she was so young she didn't really understand.

CM: Being spoiled by her grandparents for a year! Let's see, seven months is what I actually ended up. We had to work out some stuff like that. So she left in September, and I came back in July of that following year. Which is right after her second birthday.

CM: OK.

CM: So it was seven, eight, nine, whatever. Nine months of what? From between one and two? A little older than two, so?

CM: Yeah. That must have been...

CM: Not that she remembers much.

CM: Must have been harder for you, obviously.

CM: The later times she remembers.

CM: Yeah

CM: The last time I was deployed she was seven? Yeah, she was seven when I went to Iraq. And I actually sat down and had a conversation with her. And, not that she knew what Iraq was, but she'd seen it on the news, you know? Heard what's going on, hear it in school and stuff. And she asked a bunch of questions. Which, surprise for her age, was

just. I mean, I was always honest with her. So anything she asked me I told her. And her and my dad had like a map, that they used to, mama's here.

CM: So she knew where you were.

CM: Mama's here. Like when we were going around South America and we caught on fire after we went through the Straits of Magellan. Uh.

CM: From, from a missile or how did that?

CM: No um, we were doing. People smoking where they shouldn't have been smoking. And we were about to do a fuel transfer with a smaller ship and had a emergency break away. Fire burned for fourteen hours.

CM: Wow.

CM: In the middle of the ocean. So it was kind of, we didn't lose anyone so that was awesome, but they, literally that trip they followed me all around South America. You know, with the updates they're probably two weeks behind, you know? When we pulled into Brazil. And we're two weeks out of Brazil then like, oh "The aircraft carrier George Washington pulled into Brazil," so.

CM: What was some of the questions that your daughter was asking you when you had the second conversation with her when she was a little older?

CM: Um, why I had to go, why they chose me, um, would I come back? Which she, I, I don't promise, I don't make a promise to, like. If I would say I promise, I don't ever not keep it. So she asked me if I could promise that I would come back, and I told her I couldn't.

CM: Oh my God.

CM: And that was the only one like, I was like honey I can't promise you that. And she started crying.

CM: That's really tough.

CM: And I was like [exhales emotionally] that was the worst, because she actually, she knows me. And knowing that, you know, I won't say, make that promise if I can't keep it.

CM: Yeah.

CM: And I told her I couldn't.

CM: That's really tough.

CM: So.

CM: But you can't make it.

CM: It was my job, yeah. It was definitely tough and I definitely bawled my eyes out like, it wasn't easy by any means.

CM: What was life like on the aircraft carrier?

CM: [Laughs]. I was 1 of what, 300 females in a group of 7,000 people?

CM: I was going to ask you, what was the ratio from women to men?

CM: Um on the ship itself, I want to say it was. I want to say. No that's Iraq that was 500 to 1 in Iraq.

CM: Wow.

CM: I mean with 7,000 there was about, 300, 400 of us. So, I mean that's with an air wing on board and a full deployment. Ships company is usually right around 5,000, but there's still a good what, a hundred to one?

CM: Yeah. What were the relationships like?

CM: Like, guys to girls. What do you mean?

CM: Did you a mixed relationship with both men and women? Like...

CM: Um, I had a lot of, a lot of, it sounds horrible but a lot of the women were not in a, they were in a very, desk ridden jobs, I mean yes, they were on the ship, but they were working in admin[istration]. They were doing payroll paperwork. There was girls everywhere but, my rate itself is a fire control technician and we weren't, females, I say we. Weren't allowed to be fire control technicians until the late eighties.

CM: OK.

CM: So I had no senior females where I was. It was all guys. I have to go other places to find senior females. Like its not, it's very, [laughs], lonely place. [Laughs] There was two girls in a division of forty-five. So.

CM: Did you find that you were treated any differently being a woman in the, uh, in the Navy?

CM: All the time.

CM: Yeah?

CM: Yeah, the day I checked in onboard the ship, I walked in to my division officer's office first meeting him. And the first thing he said was when, asked me when I was going to get pregnant.

CM: Wow.

CM: [Laughs], Well, we were going on a cruise so it was a legitimate question and they had just lost, I want to say it was fifty to a hundred females in the year prior to deployment. So they don't have to go out.

CM: Through them getting pregnant?

CM: Thorough them getting pregnant. Cause if you get pregnant you can't be deployed, obviously if your pregnant. Um, and then you have the child and six month after [you have the child] so you're looking at about a year and a half you're guaranteed to be on land. So a lot of girls did that, which I already had a child and I looked at him and I put my hands out and said "Eighteen years, six months. I think I'm going to go for the six months." And he just laughed at me and he's like "all right, we'll see." Cause in my rate, uh ship got commission in ninety-two, I reported in 2003 and not, in my division, not, a female hadn't finished their full sea tour. So you're looking at twenty-one years of history, of him, backing him up. You know, so.

CM: What was like an average day like on the aircraft carrier if you were on duty versus off duty?

CM: Um. We were out to sea. It was twelve on twelve off. I'd spend most of my time in combat staring at a console that linked all the radars and to the missile systems, basically defense of the ship. And then, I mean you ate obviously, three square meals a day at certain times they served, so, I mean it was, you're with these people, people that you don't like. There was a kid in my shop who I couldn't stand, like could not stand him, but we worked in the same five by five shop...

CM: Every day.

CM: I had to talk to him all the time and pass down when something was broke cause I'm a technician as well. So when I wasn't operating the consoles I'm fixing them and showing, you know, electronic signals, radars. You know, this isn't coming here, this isn't going there. And I'm proving, being a technician, basically. So it's very, it's very hectic. But...

CM: Sounds stressful.

CM: It is. But at the same time its, you have something to do constantly, which I like. I don't like being in limbo with nothing to do. It's like, idle hands, like what do I do? I got to do something, you know?

CM: I'm going to ask you about that a little later.

CM: OK.

CM: Um, so off duty, what was off duty like, on the aircraft carrier?

CM: Um, well see the first time right after we came back from the first deployment we were actually in the yards getting fixed, so we had to switch over our weapons systems and stuff like that. So we spent a good year on land. Which, I got to bring my daughter back down to Virginia with me, which was awesome.

CM: So this is, you're in Virginia now?

CM: Yeah, um George Washington was home ported in Norfolk and in 2003, January is when we went to the Persian Gulf and we came back in July 2003. We're in the yards for a year, went around South America, caught on fire [laughs] you know [laughs]. It was fun.

CM: Um, how did you and your um, fellow Navymen cope with the war and being away from home?

CM: I don't, I always took it as it was my job. It [was] something I signed up for. I didn't, yes I didn't have a child prior to, you know, signing this contract but I signed up for six years. So I, this is what I signed up for and I'm not just going to quit, you know? It didn't seem like an option to me. So I might as well do what I have to do and finish, and I obviously ended up reenlisting but, I figured at that point I'm like, I've already like done my sea tour. That's five years at sea I get to actually spend time on land and of course that's when I got my orders to Iraq before I get to spend time on land. Which was due to um, a difference of opinion with one of the guys on the ship.

CM: Can you elaborate on that or?

CM: Yeah, it was my division officer and um, not the first one that I was telling you about. Uh, they switch over about every two years. But he checked on board and it was just very, I'm not going to say flirty but he just said the wrong things all, the like I was doing maintenance check on a battle lantern in his office. It was above his head, I was supposed to hold the button for ten seconds and see if the beam lasts ten feet. So I was doing the battle lantern check and I was on my tippy toes and he was like, "Why do I feel like I should be putting dollar bills in your pants?" and I was just like, OK. Like, and I didn't say anything, I just, why are you saying that to me? You know what I mean?

CM: Yeah.

CM: And then I, at that point I had three girls that worked under me and they had pulled me aside and said that, you know, put them in a headlock in CSMC, which is the main, Combat Systems Maintenance Center. So I went to make a report with, what is it sexual

harassment I guess? Sexual harassment report. And we sat down and we had to pull in one of the senior females, because at that point I was the senior female in the division, so we had to pull another one from the department to be in there to sit in with all the girls and the DIVO [Divisional Officer]. And after everything is said and done and everyone laid out what was said and what he couldn't do, and you know, how inappropriate it was, we walked outside and the female chief looked at me and she was like "you never would have dealt with this in my division," and I was like "OK, you know, like why are you saying that to me?" And he came out after that and he was like, "Now we just can't have fun." At that point, huh, eval time where you get evaluated, so I had prior, you have to take a fitness test. Twice a year? And I had prior failures cause I had to be within weight standards six months after I had my daughter, and I gained sixty-three pounds, so I had a bunch of failures due to not making weight standards. And they were about to drop off, so it was four years, you had this option to if you had any prior failures you can give them an adverse eval and pull their recommendation for retention. And he did that. Took my recommendation a way, took away all my pins, um so I basically went up as, what was a 4-O sailor and he took it all away from me and I had to get that bad eval off of my record before I could actually do any, cause I was secret, secret security clearance. So I couldn't work certain place if I wasn't recommended for retention, so. I spent a year in Iraq waiting for that to drop off.

CM: Was there any way that you could prove that that was a direct result of sort of you filing...

CM: No, because it was...

CM: ...the sexual harassment?

CM: ...an actual instruction he was within his right for doing it. He just didn't have to, do you know what I mean? It was an option and he just took the option. It was like OK, well.

CM: So there's no real way to prove it?

CM: There's no to say that it's a result of...

CM: Right.

CM: ...this. But, he just said well oh how can I screw her, I guess. And then that's the way he did it.

CM: Wow. That's tough.

CM: Eh. That's life.

CM: But you were able to finally get the ill-recommendation or ill...

CM: It still sits in and it's in my record, I still have it at home. In, in the Navy it's part of your advancement as well, so I never advanced after that.

CM: Wow. Um, did you ever find yourself questioning the war, while you were deployed?

CM: Um, try to figure out, yeah see, you got to see, like being over there. Everyone wanted to pull out being at home, and it's just we went in there and stormed the place and then you just want us to walk away? [Sighs]. I was there in the later, on land. I told you I was in, at sea in '03 but I was actually there on land in '08. And just in that six years it's still broken down, I mean we were still getting shot at everyday it wasn't like anything had died down.

CM: You didn't really see any results.

CM: I guess there wasn't as many Americans dying everyday as the numbers that were in the beginning of the 2000's and stuff like that, but, I mean I was there in Iraq for a year and probably shot at like four hundred times. Mortars and rockets, I mean.

CM: So you didn't really see any sort of progression happening?

CM: They, we were moving places but it definitely was not what it was in '03, where everyone was fighting. It was warfare and guns all the time. I mean it was died down to the point where you could drive around and have your M-16 on you and not feel like you have to have it on your shoulder the whole time. But I mean I never left base. I worked on the Gatling gun on base, so my job was to stay there. Why would I go out? But, I mean we drove up armored Humvees on base, you don't drive up armored 9-inch thick windows if, you know, you don't expect to get shot at. So it's not an easy, uh, easy life I guess.

CM: Did you ever question anything you were asked to do?

CM: Well there was some stupid things that I mean, well I mean in any job that you do its like, why do I have to do that?

CM: Right.

CM: it seems so st-, bootcamp. Why do I have to fold my clothes a certain way? "Because of attention to detail. They should be, they only fit a certain way." And it actually, later in life, matters. Like little stupid things. Like doing a report in class the other day, one of my students. Or, not students fellow students. We're in a project together and she, "why are you putting it in PowerPoint format with the Bertolon School of Business?" I said, "Because number one on the assignment said put in PowerPoint on the Bertolon School of Business template." So that's what I did, cause that's the first thing that he asked for. Like, it's explicit instructions. Yeah there's stupid shit in there.

CM: So let me rephrase, was there anything that you disagreed with that you actually spoke out against, or actually voiced your opinion about?

CM: Uh, not really. I didn't speak out against anything. I mean, I didn't keep my mouth shut for the most part.

CM: So there were things that you disagreed with that you sort of just had to bite your tongue about?

CM: Well yeah, I mean all the time. With stupid, idiots telling me they wanted to put dollar bills in my pants, like, yeah I wanted to punch him in his face, but did I? No.

CM: So...

CM: You don't get treated the same as a female in the military. You're... everywhere I went, no matter what command you went to you check in and it's like "Oh, yep. You're useless."

CM: Really?

CM: And that's I, we were moving, when I was. I was working at the Service Warfare Officers School in New Port, Rhode Island, and we had to move computers. So I went down and helped the guys move computers. And they're like, "I've never seen a girl out here doing it." Like, why? Why would I not help you guys? Like yeah, I might not be able to move as many or carry as much as you but that doesn't mean that I should sit in the office while you guys move everything. Like, this is a team effort here.

CM: So you felt that the entire time you were in the, in the service?

CM: I don't know, like one of my last eval debriefings he literally said to me "You'd be my number one sailor but you're a single mom." And I was like, "OK, so what does that have to do anything?" And that's what I said to him. "You can't devote enough time to the Navy."

CM: Cause you had a child?

CM: Cause I had a child and I didn't have her father around. So somehow that made me less of a person, according to him.

CM: Wow. If you had the chance to go back, would you still enlist?

CM: Yeah.

CM: You would?

CM: Mmhmm. I miss it.

CM: Is it, as you said before, sort of the structure and the, the set list of things you have to do and your always busy? That kind of? Is that, kind of, is that what you miss the most?

CM: It yeah yeah, it keeps, well I met a lot of awesome people. And it's just, most of the people shared a sense of what I was saying, where this is my job. It might suck but I have to do it. So we're all hating life together, do you know what I mean? So it's not so bad. And everyone signed up for this, so it's not like one person's getting singled out or screwed in the sense. Its, I don't know. You're all in it together.

CM: It's the camaraderie.

CM: The camaraderie, the stru- like, you have certain things to do, certain times to do it. Yes. Mustering sometimes is the dumbest thing in the world, phone in "Hi, I'm still alive." It, it, there's a reason that it happens.

CM: Right.

CM: And, yeah, I just don't, it doesn't happen in the, from what I've seen in the civilian world. Now granted I just, I went from high school to the military to college so I haven't really had a, I mean I had a civilian job but when I was like sixteen, in high school, so. I'm kind of worried about that.

CM: So what should the general public know about um, those who have served in the military that are coming home?

CM: What is the general? You know like all the time when I hear about Vets it's like, "PTSD, PTSD, PTSD," And it, everything, yeah some Vets have PTSD and, but it seems to just, you know, "Oh, you're a Vet? You must have PTSD."

CM: So the assumption is sort of annoying?

CM: Well, like I go to, I went to an appointment at um, VA hospital in Bedford. Now I told you I have a child I walked in and she comes out and says "Mr. Nollet?" and I'm like "Oh, you mean Ms.?" And she said "Collin Nollet?" and I'm like "No, it's Colleen." And they have me listed as a male in the corner of my medical record. And I'm like, OK. I had a child, so can I have my millions of dollars for, you know, having a child as a male? Cause I want it.

CM: So going off of that, did the military provide you everything that they promised you when you first enlisted? Sort of like healthcare and, um financial aid, medical assistance?

CM: Um, I probably could have got into the financial aid a little more. I only took, I took an English class and a criminal justice class, but they covered all the expenses. And I mean, it was a little bit of paper work. I probably could have had my associates; a lot of

my shipmates did that. But my time at home was spent with my daughter, trying to build that life. Not that, you know school wouldn't have helped that life. But it's just not where my focus was, I guess.

CM: What would you say to your daughter if she wanted to enlist? Would you...

CM: Go ahead.

CM: You'd be for that?

CM: If that's what she wants. It's her life, I mean I had fun, I saw great places, I would do it again. Um, I honestly, it was a big debate getting out. Getting medically separated or reenlisting, like that's if I went down to the medical road where I got my knee replaced and stuff um, I would likely get medically separated. If I didn't go that route, and stayed in and dealt with the pain I could've become a Naval officer and been a nurse, which is what I wanted to do. But, I go that route and then I'm leaving my daughter from when she's ten to fifteen. So that's to me it was like prime, high school girl years. Like ten to fifteen, that's when a girl, I mean grows up and I'm not going to be there for that? And she already doesn't have her dad. Like, it wasn't, it would be selfish of me to, I mean I talked to her about it. I talk to her about everything. And she was "Oh yeah, Mama, whatever you want to do!" But I think in retrospect if she had looked back when she's thirty and go you know, "My mom left me for years on end," So, it's scary.

CM: So how do you feel about being home after having served? Obviously loving being home with your daughter.

CM: Of course, um it's different. It's, the non-structure and I just, attention to detail of people. Not like, I don't understand, especially in college, like you have directions and certain things to do at certain times, like why? Why can't you make...

CM: Why can't they do it?

CM: ...the deadline? Why can't you do them? Why can't you just follow your instructions? That's, this I your whole structure right here, boom.

CM: So do you feel like having served in the military sort of gave you, like a better sense of structure and how to go about doing certain things at certain times and not sort of procrastinating?

CM: Well, I mean procrastinating, but it's just to, you, do you want to better yourself? Or do you not? Like that's...

CM: So the maturity factor?

CM: Yeah, like OK. You're going sit in class and not do your work? Like, why are you here?

CM: Yeah, good point. Have there been any obstacles that you've had to face since you've been back home?

CM: Um. [Laughs]. I'm old and I feel old in class.

CM: Me too.

CM: Um, dealing with kids that are four or five years older than my daughter. Like, it's literally, I don't know. I mean I took Kira to school when she, February vacation, she came to class with me cause I didn't have anywhere else for her to go. So, I mean she's walking around and she's a lit- just slightly shorter than me. So people like listening to her, a fourteen, a fourteen year olds opinion of like what I'm dealing with. It's amazing. It's like yeah, that's what I deal with everyday Kira, she's like "Mom, how do you do it?"

CM: So I'm not sure if you've been following the political race at all, I've sort of been, on and off again. But are there any, um issues regarding Veterans that you'd like to see them talk about or address?

CM: I don't like what they're doing with, I don't know if this military-wide or just Navy but, like um my rate, I'm a Fire Controlman, well they're trying to pull the man out of... like a corpsman? Is a corpsperson, like they're trying to pull the man out of it cause that's'...

CM: Sexist or?

CM: I don't even know, it's just, I think it's stupid. It's been a corpsman and a [unintelligible] mate since, I mean corpsman's one of the first rates, I'm not talking about my, but your going to pull that out? Like, that's taking out of our history and I don't know, I just.

CM: So you're against them changing the name?

CM: Why? Why, what's the point? [Laughs] Yes I don't think they should but I think that might just be me being a, not a service wide.

CM: So, uh let me see.

CM: Buttons.

CM: How can those who have never served show support for the troops?

CM: You know, one of the best things that I, when we were going and coming back from Iraq, now I don't know if it's a group, but we flew from South Carolina up to Maine. And when we got to Maine there was a group that saw us, saw us off, the local veterans organization, but there was a, it was mostly older ladies, but there was probably like fifty

of them. Just waving to us as we're going off, it was the weirdest thing. None of us knew any of them, but they were there when we left to go over to, from Maine to, where did we fly? Ireland and the Kuwait. And then on the way back we flew into Maryland and as we're coming through customs they were waiting right outside customs. Like a, literally a line of fifty plus women, mostly, I mean there were some kids in there, um a couple of guys in there. But just giving us hugs, 'Thank you, thank you. Welcome home.' And that was one of the, awesomest I guess? Displays of...

CM: Support.

CM: Not affection, support, I guess yeah. For a war that defin- was controversial and a lot of people, like regardless. I mean this is a war, this is my job, this is what I have to do. Does it mean, that I'm for or against it? No, but that's my job, so these people that took time out of their days to greet us, I think was...

CM: What about Veterans that aren't that aren't so easily, um, identifiable? Like if you weren't sort of returning home?

CM: Would you pin, would you pinpoint me as a veteran?

CM: That's what I'm saying. I wouldn't necessarily, but how would I, how would someone like me who's never served in the Army show admiration and support for, for the vets that aren't sort of wearing their uniform aren't in uniform and unidentifiable. Just sort of...

CM: I mean on campus, you could, I guess, be part of, there's the vet center but truly in the city? I mean I don't know what you could do.

CM: Like hang a, hang a flag outside of your house, kind of?

CM: I mean, be there for, show pride in your country. I mean that's, yeah. Hang a flag, walk around, say thank, I mean Veterans Day and Memorial Day, for some reason. I haven't figured out why both but, "Thank you for your service, thank you for your service," all the time. And not that I don't appreciate it, but it's, it was something, that would be like "Thank you for going to college, I really appreciate you going to college." I'm like, I chose to do that.

CM: You sort of see it like, like you don't need to thank me.

CM: You know, like I said, you don't need to thank me. It was my choice, I wasn't forced. It wasn't like a draft where you know 'oh crap, I'm eighteen, here I am going into the mil-' like, no I chose to go there. Did shit happen while I was there? Yeah, and you know, it's stuff that will mold the rest of my life, but I don't regret any of it.

CM: OK, is there anything that I didn't touch on that you wanted to talk about?

CM: I don't know what you want to know.

CM: I think I've asked you pretty much everything I had so far. But thank you so much for uh, taking the time to be interviewed.

CM: Um, well I'm glad I could help.

CM: Appreciate it.