

(What happened?)

ACCIDENT - EMPLOYMENT - LEG AMPUTATED

I lost my leg in a car wreck and they had to amputate it eight inches below the knee at Enid, Oklahoma. So, therefore, the word upholstering had come from you, and that is where I got my training. There was a counselor from Muskogee, Oklahoma, George Standifer was the counselor's name. He come up there to my house in Hulbert and ask me if I wanted to go to school, which I was about forty-forty-five years old then. I told him that I was too old and couldn't learn anything and he said not the way you think about school. He said I want you to quit school to learn a trade, that is where I went to learn upholstering. So, I went to Okmulgee Tech at Okmulgee. I took up upholstering there, furniture repair man is what they call it. I took it for twenty solid months and when I finished there, a job was already waiting as I graduated that spring back in 1957. So, I went to Shawnee, Oklahoma and worked there for a big company known as the Terry and McGee furniture company and I stayed over there four years til they closed the shop I come back down here to Hulbert again.

(This is home, so you always come back, is that it?)

Yes, uh-huh.

(And then after you got home here down around Hulbert and Tahlequah, you couldn't find jobs of that nature around, is that the reason you didn't go back into that.)

Well, when I got back from Shawnee back in 1961, I went to work as a furniture upholsterer for a fella in Wagoner. I worked for him off and on for about six months and I--when I quit there for a while I went to work at Pryor, Oklahoma.

HEART ATTACK

Same kind of business as a furniture upholsterer, well, when I got back to Wagoner from Pryor, I went to work as a furniture upholsterer