

Stella Rives Ancestry History Interview

by Carter Johnston 1980-03

1 CARTER: This is Carter Johnston calling. I'm
2 calling from San Diego, and I work for your nephew Don Moses.

3 STELLA: Uh-huh. Yes.

4 CARTER: You--you talked to Abe about me, then,
5 huh?

6 STELLA: Well, he mentioned you.

7 CARTER: Okay. Well, I--I'm not trying to sell you
8 anything, as you know--

9 STELLA: I know that.

10 CARTER: [laughing]

11 STELLA: I have--I have nothing to sell.

12 CARTER: The reason I'm calling is because, you
13 know, Don's birthday is next Monday.

14 STELLA: Yes, I know.

15 CARTER: And--and I'm trying to put together kind
16 of a--a story of his family, you know, a family history. And
17 I've got an awful lot of dates and--and names, and I think
18 I've probably drained you folks of all the information that
19 you had on--on that sort of thing. But you know it occurs to
20 me that I don't have any personal interest kinda stories.
21 And I--and I understand that there are some just really
22 unique kinds of stories about your family and about your
23 mother and grandmother and--and--and so on up the line. And
24 I was just wondering if you wouldn't mind if I copied down a
25 little bit about some of the things that brought people

1 together and--and were interesting and--to you and the lives
2 of your ancestors.

3 STELLA: Well, that's a tough order right now.

4 CARTER: Uh-huh.

5 STELLA: So much has developed since then. We lost
6 so many of the family.

7 CARTER: Oh, I understand that--

8 STELLA: We used to sit around and--and talk about
9 different things as remembrance or reminiscences, but some of
10 what I remember doesn't seem important anymore.

11 CARTER: Well, I--I understand. I--I understand
12 that--that your mother--let's see if I've got this right now.
13 Your mother is Jennie, right?

14 STELLA: Right.

15 CARTER: Now, was she born in--in Romania? Is she
16 the one that was born in Romania?

17 STELLA: Well, she lived in Romania, but her father
18 was an Austrian.

19 CARTER: Okay, now her father was--

20 STELLA: Was the baron.

21 CARTER: Okay. And--and that's Adolph--

22 STELLA: Yes.

23 CARTER: --Engel. And he's the Baron, okay.

24 STELLA: That's right.

25 CARTER: And he was an Austrian, was he?

1 STELLA: Yes.

2 CARTER: Okay.

3 STELLA: But we don't know--all we knew is that she
4 came from Romania. From Bucharest.

5 CARTER: Okay.

6 STELLA: So--

7 CARTER: Does the name Rimnicu Vilcea mean anything
8 to you?

9 STELLA: Not really.

10 CARTER: Okay.

11 STELLA: Why did you mention that?

12 CARTER: Well on the sheet that Don has, there's
13 the name Rimnicu Vilcea. And it says that's where our--our
14 parents came from.

15 STELLA: Well, he might've gotten that from my
16 sister Henrietta.

17 CARTER: Well, I think this is written--well, I--
18 it's hard to say, because, see, the newest names on it are--
19 are your generation.

20 STELLA: Oh.

21 CARTER: And that none of the children of any of
22 your sisters or brothers are--are listed on it. So I assumed
23 that it was that it was written by some--it's written in
24 Romanian.

25 STELLA: Oh.

1 CARTER: So I assumed it was maybe written by maybe
2 your mother or something like that.

3 STELLA: You got me, because all I know is that Abe
4 was telling me that--that's Donnie's father--

5 CARTER: Uh-huh.

6 STELLA: --was telling me that he has a letter that
7 my father received. They wanted him to go to Texas because
8 of the Mexican language down--the Spanish language that they
9 needed an interpreter for. And Donnie had Abe to try and see
10 if it would be possible for me to see that letter. I never
11 saw it, you know. In all my years, I never saw it.

12 CARTER: Is that right?

13 STELLA: So, I really don't know, you know, the
14 origin of it.

15 CARTER: Okay. Well I'm tryin' to--yeah, I'm
16 tryin' to see if I can get him to get you one, too, 'cause
17 I'm still in contact with him on that. He has a picture--

18 STELLA: Well, he's in Florida.

19 CARTER: Yes, I know, and I got him just before--
20 well he talked to you and then he gave me the information
21 that you had given him, and I really appreciate that. And
22 then he went down to Florida, so I--I know I can't reach him
23 right now. But now, do you know anything about your
24 grandmother? That would be Caroline--Carolina, is that how
25 it's pronounced?

1 STELLA: Caroline.

2 CARTER: Caroline?

3 STELLA: Yeah.

4 CARTER: Where did she die, do you know?

5 STELLA: We--we have very little background on
6 that.

7 CARTER: Okay.

8 STELLA: We never had too much on it. The only
9 thing we knew was that my mother, being in that household,
10 never washed a dish, never washed a floor, never dusted
11 furniture because they had so many maids around, servants.

12 CARTER: I see.

13 STELLA: And when she came to America it was
14 awfully hard for her to adjust, to take care of herself.

15 CARTER: Oh.

16 STELLA: When she was living in Romania, she was
17 taught by--knitting, crocheting, fine needlework. And the
18 first--the first job she got in America was in a sweat shop
19 sewing men's shirts, which had to have tucks in 'em. You
20 know, I think today they're more of a formal type of shirt.
21 And she made a commitment that if she ever had children she
22 would never teach them to sew.

23 CARTER: Uh-huh.

24 STELLA: And--or to do anything like that because
25 that would reduce them. So if they had no other job or no

1 other talents, she didn't want them to be working in sweat
2 shops. And outside of my sister Esther--let her memory rest
3 in peace--she is the only one--Esther is the only one that
4 had all of those talents. None of us had any.

5 CARTER: Oh, is that right?

6 STELLA: I mean it--I don't know if that--if it
7 adds anything--

8 CARTER: Oh yes, it is.

9 STELLA: I mean, Esther could do anything.
10 Anything from painting, cooking, baking, needle work,
11 crocheting, embroidery, dress-making; she did everything.

12 CARTER: But she didn't learn that from her mother.

13 STELLA: No. No.

14 CARTER: Okay.

15 STELLA: Just--my mother was ambidextrous. She
16 would do one thing with her left hand and another thing with
17 her right hand. When she would knit, it would be in her left
18 hand, so she could never show me how to do it.

19 CARTER: Uh-huh.

20 STELLA: But Esther was--could use both hands, too.
21 So she picked up some of that talent.

22 CARTER: Now you're talking about the one that
23 became Esther Kampner.

24 STELLA: Right.

25 CARTER: Okay.

1 STELLA: And out of seven children, she was the
2 only one who actually was the genius--that I would call a
3 genius.

4 CARTER: I see.

5 STELLA: But we are all just normal, everyday
6 people.

7 CARTER: Oh, I'm sure that--that--I'm sure that
8 there's a lot of that. I understand that Caroline had--or
9 your mother had a half-sister whose name was--

10 STELLA: Rebecca.

11 CARTER: Okay. Yes, Rebecca. That's right.

12 STELLA: Yes.

13 CARTER: And--and Abe tells me that she was the
14 first female attorney in New York.

15 STELLA: No, we made a mistake on that. That was
16 my father's sister--

17 CARTER: Oh.

18 STELLA: --that was the first female attorney. And
19 her name was Rosemary. I made a mistake on that.

20 CARTER: Oh, okay. Yes, I--I have it down as
21 Rosemary--

22 STELLA: [talking over] Rosenberg.

23 CARTER: Now, was her name Rebecca as well?

24 STELLA: No. No, Rose.

25 CARTER: Rose Rosenberg?

1 STELLA: Yeah.

2 CARTER: Okay.

3 STELLA: That's her--

4 CARTER: So that's her married name, then, huh?

5 STELLA: Yeah, uh-huh.

6 CARTER: So she was a--

7 STELLA: Well, you know, I think Abe told you that

8 the Greenberg family had to change their name because all the

9 first-born males did not have to go into the Army. And--so

10 they say--they take children out with different names, be the

11 different all--in your family to be your first son.

12 CARTER: Oh.

13 STELLA: It was crazy at that time.

14 CARTER: All right. Now let me see--

15 STELLA: Although my father served in the Army and

16 the Navy in New York.

17 CARTER: Tell me where they were living then.

18 STELLA: Where?

19 CARTER: I mean, when--at what point did--

20 STELLA: Well, they were all in Bucharest.

21 CARTER: In--okay. And so the Greenbergs were in

22 the Bucharest.

23 STELLA: Yeah.

1 CARTER: And the reason that they changed the names
2 of the children was to--to prove that each one was a first-
3 born son?

4 STELLA: Yes.

5 CARTER: Oh, now see, now that's neat. [laughing]
6 I'm glad you told me that.

7 STELLA: Well that's what I thought my sister
8 Henrietta told you.

9 CARTER: No, I hadn't heard--

10 STELLA: Oh, 'cause I understand you called her.

11 CARTER: I did call Henrietta and she told me
12 some--some things. And I--I didn't write them down properly
13 and I--and my memory is fading so quickly--

14 STELLA: Oh, come on.

15 CARTER: --that I thought, well, I wanna get these
16 right when I give 'em to Don.

17 STELLA: Uh-huh.

18 CARTER: And--and she didn't mention that, although
19 I'm sure that there's--

20 STELLA: Well--

21 CARTER: --lots of things she didn't mention.

22 STELLA: Now, some were called Greenberg. Some
23 were called Gruneberg. Some were Rosenberg. By the time--

24 CARTER: I see.

1 STELLA: --and some of 'em were [inaudible] changed
2 their name to be the first born, they didn't [inaudible] by
3 the time they came to my father, he was compelled to go. And
4 I--I used to--I don't know where it's at now--have a picture
5 of my father in the Army. He was a great father [inaudible]

6 CARTER: So he was in the Romanian Army.

7 STELLA: Yes.

8 CARTER: Do you know what years that was?

9 STELLA: Well, I imagine he was about 18 or 19
10 years old. We never did get their chronological age proper.

11 CARTER: Okay.

12 STELLA: We just knew that he was so much when he--
13 so many--so old when they got married, my mother didn't even
14 have his date.

15 CARTER: Uh-huh.

16 STELLA: We had to backtrack to try to figure out
17 their--their birth dates. But as a matter of fact my father
18 went [inaudible] birthday in nine months.

19 CARTER: Oh, I see. Now, your sister Henrietta
20 tells me that--that--let's see if I've got this right. That
21 Carolina--okay. That--that Jena--that's right--that--that
22 Jennie came over to the United States and lived with her
23 brother Avrom.

24 STELLA: Yeah.

1 CARTER: Okay. And that Avrom refused to allow her
2 to marry a Russian Jew. Is that--and--and introduced her to
3 Mr. Greenberg. You know anything about that story?

4 STELLA: Well, you know, it's the--the retelling of
5 it from what I understood. My mother was--used to have
6 Saturday night dances from the sweat shop. You know, they're
7 at an age that people from Europe came to the same group that
8 was part of that--they used to call it landsman. They all
9 came from Romania.

10 CARTER: Uh-huh. They called it what?

11 STELLA: Landsman, landsman. You know--

12 CARTER: Can you spell it?

13 STELLA: --countrymen.

14 CARTER: Countrymen?

15 STELLA: Yeah.

16 CARTER: And what is the word?

17 STELLA: Landsman, L-A-N-D-S-M-A-N.

18 CARTER: Oh, okay, that--

19 STELLA: But it's pronounced like a L-A-N, like an
20 L-O-N--Lon--

21 CARTER: Lonsman, okay. And is--that's not a
22 Romanian word, though, is it?

23 STELLA: No, it's a Jewish word.

24 CARTER: Oh, a Jewish word. Okay.

25 STELLA: Yeah.

1 CARTER: Okay.

2 STELLA: In other words, they came from the same
3 country. They came together--

4 CARTER: Like a Piasano.

5 STELLA: Yeah, something like that.

6 CARTER: Okay.

7 STELLA: And so in that group or community, my
8 mother met my father at a dance. Now that is the story I
9 heard. Now, you know, people like to make a romantic thing
10 out of it.

11 CARTER: Yeah.

12 STELLA: He was a dashing man. He was a womanizer.
13 And of course my mother had beautifully auburn hair, and she
14 was quite a lady because of her upbringing.

15 CARTER: Uh-huh.

16 STELLA: And she kept herself erect, had--she--he
17 was makin' love, and he would always have wom--all the women
18 around him. And she was a little jealous and wanted to get
19 him. So, that's the story I heard.

20 CARTER: Okay.

21 STELLA: [laughing] You see, I don't know, you
22 know, fact from fiction anymore.

23 CARTER: Oh, that's fine. That--that's what makes
24 it fun.

25 STELLA: Yeah.

1 CARTER: Now he was born in Romania as well?

2 STELLA: Yes.

3 CARTER: But they met in New York?

4 STELLA: In New York.

5 CARTER: I see. Now I understand that from looking
6 at one of the sheets that Abe sent me, that Greenberg--the
7 name Greenberg, when it goes back and becomes multeverde.

8 STELLA: Well that's what my sister Henrietta said.
9 And I--I--I'm the youngest of the girls--

10 CARTER: Uh-huh.

11 STELLA: --and some of this stuff is--I have no--
12 I'm not sure what they're talking about multeverde--

13 CARTER: Okay.

14 STELLA: But--

15 CARTER: Well that makes sense because that
16 translates to Greenberg--

17 STELLA: Oh yeah, green mountain.

18 CARTER: Yeah.

19 STELLA: Greenberg.

20 CARTER: Yeah.

21 STELLA: Yeah, but where--where the truth came
22 from, I don't know.

23 CARTER: Oh, okay.

24 STELLA: But you do know that they are--my father
25 was a Sephardic Jew and was part of the Spanish Inquisition.

1 CARTER: Okay. Tell--

2 STELLA: The Jews that were in Spain at the time,
3 and if [inaudible]

4 CARTER: Uh-huh.

5 STELLA: And so it's not like it went back to 1492.

6 CARTER: Right.

7 STELLA: But it's strange--

8 CARTER: Uh-huh.

9 STELLA: --that they continued to talk the way they
10 did, you know, and--and pass it on to their children through
11 the generations.

12 CARTER: Now, were you taught Spanish in your home?

13 STELLA: We didn't--we didn't have to teach it. My
14 mother had Spanish help. Mexican help.

15 CARTER: I see.

16 STELLA: They don't speak English, so you had to
17 learn how to talk their language.

18 CARTER: Okay.

19 STELLA: And then to say to them. So that--

20 CARTER: So were they Mexican or were like--

21 STELLA: Well--

22 CARTER: --Puerto Rican?

23 STELLA: They were Mexican. They're the poorer
24 grade of Mexican. You know, they're the--they're the
25 [inaudible] Mexican. They're [inaudible]

1 CARTER: Uh-huh.

2 STELLA: --real, more like Indian-type.

3 CARTER: Oh, I see.

4 STELLA: [inaudible] last year. But I'll tell you
5 one thing, they used to play their guitar their--their
6 guitar, and sing beautiful songs. Of course that was the
7 days before television and radio and a lot of other things
8 that the future [inaudible]

9 CARTER: Uh-huh.

10 STELLA: And of course we always had a piano.
11 Which that was [inaudible] piano and enjoyed playin' it.

12 CARTER: Uh-huh.

13 STELLA: And [inaudible] dogs come over but we
14 could never compete with [inaudible]

15 CARTER: [laughing]

16 STELLA: I mean, I--every time I hear the song, I
17 think--

18 CARTER: Oh, yeah.

19 STELLA: That was for the family. We'd all gather
20 around and my sister would play.

21 CARTER: I mean, that's right, you--

22 STELLA: La Cucaracha, that's a cockroach.

23 CARTER: Yeah.

24 STELLA: It had such a lilt to it.

1 CARTER: You want me to tell you what the words
2 mean in English? I--have you ever listen--

3 STELLA: I'd love to hear 'em.

4 CARTER: It's la cucaracha la cucaracha No men
5 prarie camina [speaking Spanish]

6 STELLA: Where'd you know that [inaudible]

7 CARTER: Yeah, and then the last words are
8 [speaking Spanish] marijuana [speaking Spanish]

9 STELLA: I know, that's the many one of 'em.

10 CARTER: [laughing] But I love the song.

11 STELLA: Oh, I love it. I--you know, I--well,
12 anyhow, that was my memory. But [inaudible] what you hear
13 [inaudible]

14 CARTER: Right.

15 STELLA: But like I said, my mother, she raised a--
16 before she was a good cook--

17 CARTER: Mmm hmm.

18 STELLA: She had a baker, had a housekeeper, get
19 it--

20 CARTER: [laughing]

21 STELLA: It was [inaudible]

22 CARTER: Okay. [inaudible]

23 CARTER: Now, they--she came from--well, she came
24 from Romania, didn't--where along the line did--did Carolina
25 Schubert Engel live in France? Do you know?

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

STELLA: No.

CARTER: You don't think she lived in France?

STELLA: No, my mother's sister's lived--sister's children lived in France.

CARTER: Okay.

STELLA: I don't remember--

CARTER: Part of--okay. Okay. Okay. Do you--do you recognize the name Albert, Avrom, Jennie, and Cecelia as being--

STELLA: Well that was her brothers and sisters.

CARTER: Okay. That's Jennie's brothers and sisters.

STELLA: Yeah.

CARTER: Okay, because I have something that's written in Romanian here and translated it says, Albert, Avrom, Jennie, and Cecelia were brothers and sisters. Cecelia remained in Romania. The rest--others moved to France--

STELLA: Oh, well you're talking about her brother, yes, he--her brother--

CARTER: Albert or Avrom?

STELLA: No, Avrom was the violinist. The other one, Avrom.

CARTER: Avrom?

STELLA: Yeah, he--he was a theatrical agent.

1 CARTER: Okay, now Albert was the violinist?
2 STELLA: Yeah.
3 CARTER: Okay.
4 STELLA: Great violinist. Virtuoso.
5 CARTER: Oh, is that right?
6 STELLA: Yeah. But we don't know whatever happened
7 to him--
8 CARTER: And Avrom was a--
9 STELLA: Wasn't here in America, but he was also a
10 talent scout, you know, there's the days of vaudeville?
11 CARTER: Uh-huh.
12 STELLA: And he would travel around booking acts
13 and pricing [inaudible] down in Detroit [inaudible]
14 CARTER: Okay.
15 STELLA: That's his occupation.
16 CARTER: All right.
17 STELLA: My mother had a step-brother. Did they
18 tell you about the step-brother?
19 CARTER: No.
20 STELLA: Joseph Schaefer?
21 CARTER: Oh, oh--
22 STELLA: [inaudible]
23 CARTER: Okay. Well--okay, now lemme see.
24 STELLA: [inaudible] invented the barbeque pit.

1 CARTER: Now is that--now, Carolina married this
2 Schaefer or Schaefer--I guess it's called Schaefer--

3 STELLA: Yeah.

4 CARTER: --and had a daughter named Rebecca.

5 STELLA: That's right.

6 CARTER: And also a daught--a son?

7 STELLA: No.

8 CARTER: Okay. Then--

9 STELLA: But I can tell you that Joe Schaefer had
10 sons of his own.

11 CARTER: Now, who--who's Joe Schaefer?

12 STELLA: That was Carolina's husband. Well, the
13 father of Joe Schaefer--

14 CARTER: Oh, oh--

15 STELLA: --and Caroline.

16 CARTER: Caroline's husband's brother?

17 STELLA: Caroline's husband's children.

18 CARTER: Caroline's hus--well now, maybe I'm wrong,
19 so you're gonna have to straighten me out here. I understood
20 that Carolina--when Adolf died, Carolina remarried Schaefer.
21 And then--

22 STELLA: Had children.

23 CARTER: And he already had children.

24 STELLA: Right.

25 CARTER: Ah. Okay.

1 STELLA: And then Rebecca is the only union from
2 that marriage.

3 CARTER: Oh, okay. I'm--I'm with you now. So it
4 was Rebecca's half-brother.

5 STELLA: Yes.

6 CARTER: Okay.

7 STELLA: But I wanna say is the son of this--of
8 this union [inaudible] no blood.

9 CARTER: Mmm hmm.

10 STELLA: But the idea was that he was a good man.

11 CARTER: Okay.

12 STELLA: And he invented the barbeque, the one that
13 everybody uses.

14 CARTER: Is that right?

15 STELLA: Yes. And then [inaudible]

16 CARTER: Ah.

17 STELLA: And--but he never took out a patent.

18 CARTER: [laughing]

19 STELLA: [inaudible]

20 CARTER: Uh-huh.

21 STELLA: My parents--

22 CARTER: So--

23 STELLA: It had no blood--

24 CARTER: Yeah, I understand--

25 STELLA: But--

1 CARTER: --Carolina is--well actually, Jena's
2 stepfather's--or Jennie's--it's on my list as Jena so that's
3 why I've gotten it that way.

4 STELLA: J-E-N-N-I-E I think was her name. It was
5 supposed to be Charlotte, but she didn't like it.

6 CARTER: Is that right? Jena was--oh, you mean
7 her--her born name was Charlotte?

8 STELLA: Charlotte, yeah. Because it sounded like
9 Charlotta, she didn't like it. Called her Jennie. J-E-N-N-
10 I-E.

11 CARTER: Well on--on this sheet that I have, it's
12 listed as J-E-N-A.

13 STELLA: Oh no. I don't know.

14 CARTER: So you think that's just wrong--

15 STELLA: [talking over]

16 CARTER: Well, I guess the sheet was done after
17 1968 'cause there is one reference to 1968 on it.

18 STELLA: Where did you get all that?

19 CARTER: Don gave it to me. He had it in his desk,
20 but he--

21 STELLA: Oh.

22 CARTER: --wasn't able to read it and--and it's
23 partially written in--

24 STELLA: Oh well, if it was--if it's in Romanian,
25 they would have written it like that.

1 CARTER: Yeah.

2 STELLA: Jennie is the American--

3 CARTER: Right.

4 STELLA: --spelling.

5 CARTER: Right. It--I'm sure it's the Romanian

6 spelling.

7 STELLA: Uh-huh. That's the Romanian spelling.

8 CARTER: Right.

9 STELLA: So that's why it's spelled that way.

10 CARTER: Okay.

11 STELLA: Donnie must have gotten it from his mother

12 because she saved everything.

13 CARTER: Oh, did she?

14 STELLA: Yeah.

15 CARTER: Okay.

16 STELLA: Anything that was worth saving, otherwise

17 she threw everything out.

18 CARTER: Yeah, well that--that's good. I've got

19 lots of information. Does the name Rosa Kofler mean anything

20 to you?

21 STELLA: No.

22 CARTER: Gizella? Not--

23 STELLA: Oh, that must be the family.

24 CARTER: That's the Carolina's sisters.

25 STELLA: Yes.

1 CARTER: Uh-huh.

2 STELLA: No, she didn't have any sisters.

3 CARTER: Well, Rosa Kofler--Rosa married a Kofler,
4 apparently; and Gizella married a Nacht. And that's all
5 that shows here. And Carolina had a--a mother whose name
6 was Rosa Schubert. And she lived to be 110 years old.

7 STELLA: Right.

8 CARTER: You knew that?

9 STELLA: I heard that the family--I remember--

10 CARTER: Okay.

11 STELLA: [inaudible] I guess it was a long life
12 [inaudible]

13 CARTER: Yeah, well when you--when we get up around
14 40 and 50, and so it seems like time move fast, doesn't
15 it?

16 STELLA: Yeah.

17 CARTER: One of--one of Gizella's--or Gizella
18 Nacht--Gizella's Nacht--Gizella's Nacht--well, it looks
19 to me like somebody died in Foyesty in 1943 as a result
20 of American bombs.

21 STELLA: [inaudible] still there.

22 CARTER: Yeah. Well, okay.

23 STELLA: [inaudible] my mother [inaudible] she was
24 a teacher and her husband was an engineer. And they
25 owned an apartment building.

1 CARTER: Now who are we talking about now?
2 STELLA: Cecelia.
3 CARTER: Cecelia?
4 STELLA: Yeah.
5 CARTER: Okay. Now that's your mother's--
6 STELLA: That's--
7 CARTER: Oh--okay, Cecelia Lindenstein.
8 STELLA: Uh huh.
9 CARTER: Okay, and she was a teacher?
10 STELLA: Yeah, and her husband was an engineer, and
11 they had an apartment. And [inaudible] that is--well, it
12 is--it's so complicated because they--they had three
13 children--
14 CARTER: Uh-huh.
15 STELLA: --and--and they were--we never got--my
16 mother would write to them and they would write back.
17 And then it got to the point where my mother would say to
18 me, I can't write anymore. You write it in English.
19 Somebody over there will read it.
20 CARTER: Uh huh.
21 STELLA: And one time [inaudible] I hadn't been
22 feeling that well. I had been going to the doctor. I
23 said, Mother, why didn't you write something more Jewish?
24 CARTER: [laughing]

1 STELLA: Everybody wanted pity. Sympathy, I don't
2 know what they wanted.

3 CARTER: Oh, I see.

4 STELLA: And I don't know how--what they wrote
5 because I could never read it.

6 CARTER: [laughing] So.

7 STELLA: And my mother's could read their words--

8 CARTER: Yeah.

9 STELLA: But anyway, it was--when you go back that
10 far, it's kind of hard.

11 CARTER: Oh, I'm sure it is. Yeah.

12 STELLA: Oh, you know, all they would talk about
13 would be the same people over and over again.

14 [inaudible]

15 CARTER: Yeah.

16 STELLA: I don't know about [inaudible]

17 CARTER: Okay.

18 STELLA: So I don't know if I'm much help.

19 CARTER: Well you are. You've been a big help, and
20 I really appreciate it. I'll going to put all of this
21 information together and give it to Don, so that somebody
22 will have a copy of everything.

23 STELLA: Oh, I wish you'd do that. I have a Xerox
24 [inaudible] I'd like to know what I did [inaudible]

1 CARTER: Oh, well, I'll--I'll be happy to do that.
2 As a matter of fact, would you like to give me your
3 address so I can?
4 STELLA: Why, sure.
5 CARTER: All right. Let me put it over here with
6 your name. Okay, I'm ready.
7 STELLA: You know what my last name is?
8 CARTER: No, I do not.
9 STELLA: Oh, R-I-V like in Victor--
10 CARTER: Oh, Rives, yes, I did know that.
11 STELLA: Okay.
12 CARTER: I met your son--
13 STELLA: Oh, David--
14 CARTER: --is that possible?
15 STELLA: Why, sure it's possible.
16 CARTER: [laughing]
17 STELLA: He loves to come to San Diego.
18 CARTER: Yeah.
19 STELLA: Yeah. It's 16248--
20 CARTER: Uh-huh.
21 STELLA: --Mount Vernon--
22 CARTER: Uh-huh
23 STELLA: Road. Southfield.
24 CARTER: All right.
25 STELLA: Michigan 48075

1 CARTER: 48075. I've got it. Okay. Well, we
2 should have it put together for his birthday and I will--

3 STELLA: Well, you're cuttin' it kinda close.

4 CARTER: Yeah, it is.

5 STELLA: So are you going to be organizing it?

6 CARTER: Uh-huh.

7 STELLA: Oh, good. And you've been at it for quite
8 a while now.

9 CARTER: Yeah, a couple of weeks. And--but--

10 STELLA: What, are you planning a surprise party?

11 CARTER: No, it's not--it's not--it's--it's not
12 gonna--it's just the office lunch. You know, Don doesn't
13 like us to make a fuss over his birthday--

14 STELLA: I know.

15 CARTER: So we're just going to present him with--
16 we're gonna a little, this is your life or this was your
17 life or this would've been your life if you'd been there
18 or something, you know.

19 STELLA: But he is [inaudible]

20 CARTER: Well I'm not really talking so much about
21 him, 'cause I know he knows that. I was hopin' to find
22 out something that he didn't know.

23 STELLA: Oh.

24 CARTER: You know, and not so much do it as this is
25 your life but these are your ancestors.

1 STELLA: Uh-huh.

2 CARTER: And this is what I've been able to find
3 out about 'em so far, and--and I was able to find
4 somebody up in Los Angeles to translate the Romanian.

5 STELLA: Oh, you did.

6 CARTER: Uh-huh. So I drove up there Saturday
7 and--and sat down with 'em. And we--we--we went over it.
8 I only have one paragraph--

9 STELLA: Mmm hmm.

10 CARTER: --so I--I got that translated and--so
11 we're, you know, tryin' to put it together as well as we
12 can.

13 STELLA: Okay. I wish you a lotta luck on that.

14 CARTER: Well, thank you. I do appreciate you
15 taking your time with me.

16 STELLA: Well, it's been a long talk on the phone,
17 the long distance.

18 CARTER: Well, he's worth it.

19 STELLA: [laughing] Okay, then.

20 CARTER: Thank you--

21 STELLA: Nice knowing you, Mr. Johnston.

22 CARTER: Thank you very much.

23 STELLA: Bye-bye.

24 CARTER: Bye-bye.

25