**Elisa:** Good afternoon, this is Elisa Mattson for the National Park Service. Today is 16th of September, 1994 and I'm in the home of Mr. Joseph Ceraolo and I'm here with his wife and with Peter Ham who's doing the recording for us.

Mr. Ceraolo, you came from Sicily, what year was it that you came?

**Joseph:** Geez, I know it was during the war because when the war ended I was here.

**Elisa:** Do you remember how old you were when you came?

**Joseph:** I think I was about 12.

**Elisa:** You were about 12 years old.

**Joseph:** Or something like that.

**Elisa:** Okay, where were you born?

**Joseph:** In Sicily at the province of Messina and the name of the town was Capo d’Orlando.

**Elisa:** Do you know how to spell that?

**Joseph:** C-A-P-O-D-O-R-L-A-N-D-O, Capo d’Orlando.

**Elisa:** What can you tell me about the town? Can you tell me what it looked like?

**Joseph:** Well, it’s a beautiful town near the ocean and every year they used to have fairs, people used to bring horses, cows and they used to trade. Some had horses they wanted to trade with somebody else or sometimes they used to sell them and there was a church right on top of the hill there and sometimes they used to bring the animal on this church and they used to bless them. I think they do it over in Mexico too.

**Elisa:** What did people do in the town? What did most people do for a living?

**Joseph:** Where I was born its farm, the county a lot of farms over there that plant a lot of vegetables and a lot of lemon orchids over there and the people work at lemons like my sister and she used to work wrapping lemons and she was about 15 years old [laughter]. She used to work wrapping lemons and then they used to put it in the case and then they used to send all over the world and in this country too and it’s just like our family, I feel at home there.

**Elisa:** Very similar climate.

**Joseph:** Yeah.

**Elisa:** What can you tell me about your father? What was his name and what did he do?

**Joseph:** His name was Giuseppe and he used to sell water to the farmers over there but he passed away when he was about 35 years old.

**Elisa:** What did he look like?

**Joseph:** Well, he wasn't a bad looking man. He was a little short but he was a nice looking man and he was building a home for one of the brothers and all at once he got a pain in his stomach and he crawled home. I think it must have been appendicitis or so and the doctors you know they were so far away, we had no doctor where we lived. They had to go to town that was pretty far and he passed away--

**Elisa:** It maybe an appendicitis.

**Joseph:** Yeah, it could have been appendicitis and he was about 35.

**Elisa:** Is there a story that you can tell me that you remember from your childhood growing up with your father?

**Joseph:** I know they used to own a wagon you know and I had some half-brothers and they used to take me with them in different places. There was one place, they used to call it in Italian [foreign language 00:04:22], that’s sweet water. I remember I was a little baby [chuckle], I still remember and I don't know it was taken somewhere, delivering some and then my father a lot of times used to take me to town Capo d’Orlando to kind of show me off [laughter] but I was [unclear 00:04:51] when I was small. A lot of times that we used to visit somebody and they want to offer something to eat, I say, "No, no." And all I want, I pull my mother's skirt [unclear 00:05:07].

**Elisa:** Can you tell me about your mother? What did she look like?

**Joseph:** She was a nice looking woman and when my father died she had a hard time to take care of us and I remember when my father died he left her quite a few debts with her. Lucky, the court they let her go, they didn’t charge her with any of that and ask when we were kids we used to go swim in the ocean and we passed a lot of farms over there and they had a fruit over there, the water melon [laughter].

We used to steal the water lemon and take them to the ocean [laughter] and we used to put them in the water, so it get cold and over there at that time our bathing suits [laughter] and the women used to be far away from us but when they used to go into the water they used to have a sheet, bed sheet [laughter] to get inside the water, when that come out --

**Elisa:** So they would wrap around them?

**Joseph:** To get in the water then when they came out but there was no men near there. It was just the women [laughter]. They didn't have no bathing suit nothing [laughter] and we had grandparents, my mother's.

**Elisa:** Tell me about your grandparents.

**Joseph:** My grandparents, that was my mother's father and mother and my grandfather he had a little farm over there, vineyards, grapes and every year he used to bring us the juice to a meal. They used to put in grey big place over there, the men used to get in there with their feet and smash it and I used to get in there with the men and smashing the grapes [chuckle].

**Elisa:** And that was to make wine?

**Joseph:** To make wine, he used to sell some of them, he made some himself.

**Elisa:** Do you remember their names- your grandparents’ names?

**Joseph:** Their name was Giuffre.

**Elisa:** But their first names?

**Joseph:** The first name- my grandmother, her name was Concetta.

**Elisa:** And her last name, how do you spell that?

**Joseph:** G-I-U-F-F-R-E.

**Elisa:** Okay.

**Joseph:** And they had a son over here and he's the one that sponsor us.

**Elisa:** Is that your father--?

**Joseph:** That’s my mother's brother.

**Elisa:** Your mother's brother.

**Joseph:** And for a while we were living with them too and they had two boys and then when they grow up one was a lawyer and one is a famous doctor in Philadelphia.

**Elisa:** Why don't you tell me a little bit more about Italy since you remember so much? What did your house look like? Do you remember what your house looked like?

**Joseph:**  The house was just one room [laughter].

**Elisa:** Okay and how did you do the cooking? Did your mom do the cooking or did your father do it?

**Joseph:** No, my mother done the cooking, she was a good cook too.

**Elisa:** What did she make?

**Joseph:** Well, she make pasta, she used to make gnocchi, roast with a lot of vegetable because we used to get the meat for about once a month. There was a store over there, they used to kill a pig and then we go over there and get some meat but we used to have some chicken, we used to get our own eggs.

**Elisa:** Did you have a garden? Is that where the vegetables came from?

**Joseph:** No, we used to buy the [unclear 00:09:21] because there were a lot of farms over there and my mother used to bake the bread with her hands, work the dough and she used to make the best bread around there and my grandfather, I used to go with him [unclear 00:09:45], his first name was Cono I think C-O-N-O and I used to go with him to work in the farm with him.

**Elisa:** What did you do on the farm?

**Joseph:** I had a little hoe to help him [laughter], help him out and then there was time the grapes, I helped pick grapes and take it to the place where they used to smash it and squeeze with brick thing that had- like a pole and they used to go around and squeeze the crop because that’s what makes the wine strong. I used to get in there [chuckle] and I remember my grandmother she used to dry figs, I don't know how she did it.

**Elisa:** So she used to dry them.

**Joseph:** Dry them and when they were ready to eat, oh there were a lot of sugar and they were real white and every time I go there she used to fill my pocket [laughter] for the figs.

**Elisa:** What was it like in your house? We're jumping ahead here. Did you tell me how many brothers and sisters you had?

**Joseph:** Well, we were two sisters and two brothers and the brother was Francesca but he passed away and one of the sisters was Angela, she passed away too and the older sister was Josephine, Josephina that time and she passed away too and I'm the only left.

**Elisa:** So two sisters and one brother?

**Joseph:** Yeah and they are all dead.

**Elisa:** So your house was only one room.

**Joseph:** One big room [chuckle].

**Elisa:** Can you describe for me what it was like to have dinner in your house?

**Joseph:** We had a table and chairs [laughter]. We used to sit like anybody else.

**Elisa:** At certain times would you always have diner at the same time?

**Joseph:** Just about.

**Elisa:** And everyone would be there?

**Joseph:** Yeah.

**Elisa:** What would you have for dinner- typical dinner?

**Joseph:** The most was the pasta.

**Elisa:** What kind of sauce would she put on?

**Joseph:** Well over there, there was nothing in cans, she had to make her own sauce of some tomatoes and that’s how she made the sauce. She had to boil for quite a while.

**Elisa:** What was your favorite thing that she would make?

**Joseph:** I guess pasta [laughter] with tomato and meatballs.

**Elisa:** How about religion, can you tell me about religion when you were in Italy?

**Joseph:** We were catholic, we had a church right next door to us and I remember we used to keep what they call the [unclear 00:13:11], we used to keep it with us and the priest used to come over there once a week on Sunday then we used to give him the [unclear 00:13:23].

**Elisa:** Is that because you were so close to where the church was? Why did you keep it?

**Joseph:** Yeah, right next door the church was.

**Elisa:** Oh that’s why you kept the [unclear00:13:30] at your house?

**Joseph:** Yeah, so nobody steals it [laughter].

**Elisa:** How about holidays? Can you remember a Christmas there or?

**Joseph:** Well, over there they used to have a feast every year.

**Elisa:** Tell me about that.

**Joseph:** The band- they used to come from Parti, it’s a town near the side of Messina. I think it’s very beautiful band and they used to come over there and they used to sell shisha, over there they call it [unclear 00:14:07], over here what they call them Tina? Ain’t she here? You know the [unclear 00:14:14]? The one I buy down the Claro once in a while, made out of - The caravan beans.

**Elisa:** [unclear 00:14:28].

**Joseph:** Yeah, they used to get them. I don't know how they used to do it. I don’t' know if they put it in water first get them a little soft and then they used to put it in the heat and they used to turn white and I remember there was a pile on the table over there, boy that was so good and they had all different things over there and they used to get the saint you know, they carried it on a thing about four or five men, carried a procession like that. That was every year.

**Elisa:** Was that for Christmas or was that for any specific holiday or is that just a once a year feast?

**Joseph:** Just once a year feast, those things they do. They used to say, "[unclear 00:15:27]," that was the saint over there, Saint Joseph in that church.

**Elisa:** Do you remember Christmas or Easter in your house?

**Joseph:** Well, for Christmas I remember my mother used to boil eggs then she used to make dough and it was kind of Swede you know and you was one year old she put in one egg in that dough, if you were two she put two, three. The ones who were 30, 40 years old it was only eggs over there, pile up, like a cake you know pile up.

**Elisa:** How about on your birthday, do you remember what you did on your birthday in your house?

**Joseph:** Nothing for my birthday.

**Elisa:** How about games that you played as a child, do you remember playing games with other children?

**Joseph:** We used to play, I've forgot the knock, I can't think of the name that us kids used to play, we used to put on a tile that had on a roof and we used to roll it down there, if mine hit yours I win.

**Elisa:** Like marbles or?

**Joseph:** You know what they call it Tina?

**Tina:** No, I don't know anything about that.

**Joseph:** Not the walnuts, not almonds, there's the other kind- they're round.

**Elisa:** A kind of a nut.

**Joseph:** It’s a nut.

**Elisa:** Hazel nut?

**Tina:** Hazel nut.

**Joseph:** I think a hazel nut, we used to roll them down and then another game we used to play, we used to cut a lemon on both sides and then we used to roll it down there. I don't know what we used to put on the top and we used to play that game and then we used to play another game. A stone- a flat stone that we used to throw it.

**Elisa:** Ooh okay in the water.

**Joseph:** I don't know what we were playing for but then there was another game that were like a steel over there, they call them [foreign 00:17:38]. It’s like there about this long, about this round and we used to throw it and there was one that we stood up and we used to put pennies there I think and the closest one that comes to that closes the pennies while you win [laughter].

**Elisa:** Sounds like horse ships, sounds kind of like horse ship game. Sounds like a horse ship game kind of.

**Joseph:** Well, we never did play horse ship but we used to play that we used to put like the bowling over here, we used to put bowling, a bunch of them you know and then we had a botcher, we through over this, see how many we could knock down [laughter].

**Elisa:** It sounds like fun to be a child there.

**Joseph:** Yeah, I had a lot of fun.

**Elisa:** What can you tell me about coming to America, why did you come to America, who decided to come to America?

**Joseph:** She had a brother over here.

**Elisa:** Your mother?

**Joseph:** Yeah and he was pretty well known, so he sponsor us and we were living with him for a while and then we moved, lived by ourselves but then one of the sisters- the older sister got married and she came to California.

**Elisa:** Tell me a little bit about your voyage here, can you tell me? Do you remember the name of the ship?

**Joseph:** Dante Alegeti and we got on the ship in Geneva, that’s where we took the ship.

**Elisa:** How did you get to Geneva? Do you remember how you got there?

**Joseph:** Well the train took us to Messina. Messina we took a ferry, took a labria and then took a train over there and then went to Geneva.

**Elisa:** How long did it take you to get to geneva? It sounds like a long-

**Joseph:** A couple of days, it was a long trip and then seats you know we didn't have the money to get a good first class so we had the hard seats. I was so sore [chuckle] when I got out in Genewa, my leg was so stiff that I fell.

**Elisa:** When you got off the train?

**Joseph:** When I got off the train.

**Elisa:** Do you remember what you brought with you? Do you remember? What you packed?

**Joseph:** We had a big case over there.

**Elisa:** Trunk?

**Joseph:** Yeah trunk, it had some clothes I guess.

**Elisa:** Is there anything that you brought because you really wanted to bring it, it had to come with you or did your mother did the packing?

**Joseph:** No, whatever she put in there was okay but boat.

**Elisa:** Tell me about that, what was the boat like?

**Joseph:** When we got on the boat in Geneva, we stopped for Portugal and Portugal at that time diesel, they used to load up coal and I bet we stayed so long and I remember the poor Portuguese- that’s what they used to call them. The crew, the officer used to give them something to eat, boy they were poor people that were starving. I felt so sorry for them and they were carrying to this coal on their back for days or that seems and then when they got through we took off but when we got in deeper waters I got so sea sick.

**Elisa:** Where did you stay on the boat? Where were you?

**Joseph:** Third class.

**Elisa:** In the steerage part.

**Joseph:** It’s cheaper and I got so sea sick. I don't know how long it took me to get over but at night- when we got in, this was during the war. There was no lights on the boat, it make me cry [crying].

**Elisa:** Why don't we stop just for a second here? Okay, we're back and its night time on the boat.

**Joseph:** And one night while we were up there, each group to their own boat and waves, ooh they were about ten story’s high.

**Elisa:** So it was a rough sea.

**Joseph:** The boat used to come down and then come up again.

**Elisa:** Real rough seas, do you remember what time of year it was? What time of year was it when you sailed.

**Joseph:** When the war ended I was in Philadelphia.

**Elisa:** What time was it when you were sailing?

**Joseph:** It was winter time.

**Elisa:** Oh it was winter time so the seas were rough.

**Joseph:** Yeah, because when we reached New York, there was snow there.

**Elisa:** How long do you think you were on the boat?

**Joseph:** Geez [chuckle], it seemed forever.

**Elisa:** When you're sick I'm sure it feels forever.

**Joseph:** And one night, I don't know if they dropped something in the water, it made a big noise. Oh I said to myself, "Here we go," you know a big ocean then big waves what can we do over there. They had row boat. I don't think they had motor on them.

**Elisa:** Now, at night that you told me just a minute ago, I don't think that we got it on the tape that they would turn the lights off on the boat.

**Joseph:** No lights at all, never.

**Elisa:** And they made you wear life preservers? Did you capsize?

**Joseph:** Well we go dangerous places you know.

**Elisa:** Did you have to sleep with them at night? Would you have to sleep in?

**Joseph:** We were sleeping yeah but then they used to wake us up.

**Elisa:** With the preservers on?

**Joseph:** No, they used to wake us up and we had to go up on the deck. Each group to the boat. That was terrible and I thought I'd never see America.

**Elisa:** And then you came to America.

**Joseph:** Yes, Ellis.

**Elisa:** Do you remember anything like eating food on the boat? Do you remember that?

**Joseph:** Well, they had all different kinds of foods but all I remember was pasta.

**Elisa:** They had pasta on the boat?

**Joseph:** Yeah.

**Elisa:** Were there people from just Italy on your boat or were there people from other places?

**Joseph:** I think the ones were all from Italy.

**Elisa:** Everybody on the boat was from Italy?

**Joseph:** Aha and I felt sorry for some of them you know over there they used to have a bunch of doctors and they check everybody. Anybody there was something wrong with them, I felt sorry for them to have to go back.

**Elisa:** Now is this when you got to Ellis Island?

**Joseph:** Ellis Island.

**Elisa:** That’s when the doctors checked you after you got off the boat?

**Joseph:** Yeah and I thought I'd never see the statue of liberty.

**Elisa:** Did you see?

**Joseph:** Then we were there the army was over there you know.

**Elisa:** Did you see the Statue of Liberty? Do you remember seeing it?

**Joseph:** Yeah, I saw it from the boat.

**Elisa:** What did Ellis Island look like when you saw Ellis Island? Do you remember?

**Joseph:** Well, it looks nice to me and that’s the first time I drank tea. I like it so much [laughter].

**Elisa:** Hot tea for [crossover 00:25:07].

**Joseph:** We were in one table and another table next to us was the army and I remember they used to eat so fast that there was the time to drink my tea [laughter].

**Elisa:** What did you have to eat when you were on Ellis Island?

**Joseph:** Well I know we had American food.

**Elisa:** Was there anything that you remember seeing that you'd never seen before, food, do you think?

**Joseph:** No, the first thing I noticed was a lot of food here. In Italy at that time there was no food, they used to ration the flour, they used to give so much flour a month, that’s all we got then we had to make it last.

**Elisa:** So there was more food here you think?

**Joseph:** Well over here there was a lot of food.

**Elisa:** How long were you on Ellis Island?

**Joseph:** I don't know but about three days or so.

**Elisa:** So you stayed overnight.

**Joseph:** We had to wait until my uncle come over and pick us up.

**Elisa:** Do you remember where you slept, where you stayed? What did it look like?

**Joseph:** It was in Ellis Island, in there you know. They had a hotel or something and we slept there.

**Elisa:** Rooms, you said [crosstalk 00:26:31].

**Joseph:** Rooms and we stayed there.

**Elisa:** Did you go outside and play? Do you remember they'd take you outside for a while or?

**Joseph:** No, not while I was there.

**Elisa:** Do you remember meeting or seeing any people when you were in Ellis Island?

**Joseph:** Oh there was a lot of people, most a lot of servicemen that was there.

**Elisa:** Did you talk to any of that, do you remember? Did they speak to you?

**Joseph:** They used to wave at me [laughter] and I remember what the doctor asked me when I got there. He asked me, I going to say in Italian alright, [foreign language 00:27:15]. I said, [foreign 00:27:20]. So he tapped me on my head and I went [laughter].

**Elisa:** Now what did he ask you? Say it in English.

**Joseph:** Okay, how much is five and four? I said, "Nine." How much is nine and nine, 18 so he tapped me on the head.

**Elisa:** You were fine and you got from there.

**Joseph:** We all were fine.

**Elisa:** So came to pick you up at Ellis Island.

**Joseph:** My uncle Tony.

**Elisa:** Uncle tony and where did you go from there and how did you get there?

**Joseph:** With a train and we stayed with uncle tony for a while.

**Elisa:** Where did he live?

**Joseph:** He lived at blivoson on 10th street.

**Elisa:** In New York?

**Joseph:** No, Philadelphia, we went to Philadelphia yeah and I remember I used to like the shows [chuckle], the cowboys.

**Elisa:** You used to go to the movies and watch?

**Joseph:** Yeah, in Philadelphia. Where I was born there was no movie there [chuckle], boy I loved that, every Saturday there was a show near there.

**Elisa:** Would your uncle take you to see these movies?

**Joseph:** No, we used to walk over there, us kids used to walk.

**Elisa:** Do you remember the names of any of them that you saw?

**Joseph:** I remember [unclear 00:28:51] [laughter].

**Elisa:** I won't now but maybe someone who listens you know.

**Joseph:** I don't think he knows either.

**Elisa:** But somebody who listens.

**Joseph:** It was before, Pearl White, Rema Navarro. They were playing.

**Elisa:** They were in the movies that you saw.

**Joseph:** And they were playing every week you know once a week and then the cowboys also [laughter], I love that, that fights of the Indians [laughter].

**Elisa:** What did Philadelphia look like? Do you remember?

**Joseph:** It’s a nice town.

**Elisa:** What did it look like then now?

**Joseph:** No, I don't know and the transportation they had wonderful, street cars were going both ways, this way, that way and they take you all the way out. I don't know what they have now, I think they have them anymore, maybe they got buses but the street cars were the best.

**Elisa:** How long did you stay with your uncle?

**Joseph:** I think we stayed about a year or so then we got our own place.

**Elisa:** Where was your place? Was it in Philadelphia or?

**Joseph:** Philadelphia but then I told you one of my sister got married, came to California and then she called us to come here so we did but my sister Angie, she got married Philadelphia.

**Elisa:** Do you remember that wedding? What was the wedding like, do you remember?

**Joseph:** That was a small wedding, that was a small wedding and it was pretty nice flower and then they had one boy there and then they came to California then they had three boys and a girl.

**Elisa:** When did you come to California?

**Joseph:** After the war ended I came to California.

**Elisa:** Your mother came as well?

**Joseph:** Yeah and then my sister Angie she had four girls and three boys.

**Elisa:** Oh my goodness [laughter] big family.

**Joseph:** She had a big family and they were all making out alright and what else can I tell you.

**Elisa:** What did you do for a living? What was your first job?

**Joseph:** Over here?

**Elisa:** Yeah.

**Joseph:** My brother in law got me a job where he worked. He was a carpenter and they were making beds over there, they used to call them disappearing beds, they used to go on the closet you know.

**Elisa:** Like a murphy bed kind of?

**Joseph:** And you used to open a door and there was a bed over there and you put them down then I used to paint little things.

**Elisa:** And then what did you do after that?

**Joseph:** After that my brother law- Angie's husband got me a job where they used to make piano's, so I quit and I went over there.

**Elisa:** Doing the woodwork? Did you do the woodwork on the pianos?

**Joseph:** We were putting veneer. No, wait a minute this was in Philadelphia I was doing that. Out here I was working disappearing beds, the beds that used to go on the closet.

**Elisa:** Oh okay but the piano work you did when you were in Philadelphia.

**Joseph:** That was in Philadelphia, they used to put in there.

**Elisa:** Do you remember anything about going to school here?

**Joseph:** I went to school in Philadelphia.

**Elisa:** What was that like?

**Joseph:** The name of the school was the Francis Riggs School.

**Elisa:** Did you speak any English when you came here?

**Joseph:** No [laughter].

**Elisa:** How did you learn English?

**Joseph:** Geez, few words. My aunt used to kind of teach me a little bit and my cousins but little by little. The teacher used to tell me something, I used to say, "I don't understand [laughter]."

**Elisa:** You knew that one. I don't understand [laughter]. Do you remember your neighborhood in Philadelphia? Were there a lot of Italian people?

**Joseph:** Lot of Italian and the houses were next to one another and the steps were just about together.

**Elisa:** Were the neighbors friendly to each other?

**Joseph:** They were friendly, they were really you know sometimes when it’s so hot over there, nobody could sleep [chuckle], everybody used to sit on the pouch, talk you know.

**Elisa:** Do you remember any kind of bigotry or persecution when you came to this country or were you treated very well by everyone?

**Joseph:** No, I was treated very well but then America was different. You never had all these rapes, killing babies, at that time no and the law was most strict then. Anybody killing anybody, too bad they used to put you on electric chair some because I remember there was two Italian, they were trying to bring the union back there you know for that they killed them just because they wanted to bring the union over there and they killed them and now look there's union all over and the union done a lot of good. I remember when we used to work up to six days a week, 48 hours a week. The union then comes in, five days a week, eight hours a day.

**Elisa:** So do you think the union was good for you? Did it help you?

**Joseph:** Yeah, it helped everybody here otherwise we were working like slaves over here, it had done a lot of good.

**Elisa:** Tell me how you met your wife [laughter].

**Joseph:** Angie's, we used together in the furnitures, furniture place with Angie's husband and he bought two tickets and that we're having ration money, so we're having [unclear 00:35:52] to dance with her. So the tickets and I went over there.

**Elisa:** To the dance.

**Joseph:** To the dance and I know some girls over there that were living near her and they took her over there to the dance.

**Elisa:** So you invited your wife to go to the dance with you?

**Joseph:** No, not with me, she was with the girls. I met her over there, at this strike dance and she was against the door, she was like this. I kind of liked her looks [laughter], so the girls introduced me to her and I made a date and then from then on, I don't know how long it took we gotten married Tin?

**Tina:** About a year.

**Joseph:** About a year we got married and then we had two children.

**Elisa:** What are their names?

**Joseph:** Joan and Phillip. Joan got two beautiful girls.

**Elisa:** Granddaughters.

**Joseph:** Granddaughters and my granddaughter she had two little girls and my son has got three boys and one girl. The girl married, she moved to Alaska [chuckle] and she has a little girl.

**Elisa:** So you have a great granddaughter.

**Joseph:** And the oldest son and [unclear 00:37:30], my son's old son is in the air force, he’s been in air force for about 10 years and when he got in his job was fuelling bombers up in the air and that’s what he was doing. I guess he still does but now I heard that he got a bunch of medals, if he's got a crew under him.

**Elisa:** That’s terrific.

**Joseph:** And now they sent him to Germany, he's going to stay over there I don't know how long, He been all over, they sent him all over and I think he's going to go to Germany. See I told you about my son, he's in the air conditioning.

**Elisa:** Oh that’s what he does.

**Joseph:** Yeah and my daughter her husband got his own business, so they're doing well.

**Elisa:** Doing very well.

**Joseph:** They're doing very well.

**Elisa:** Terrific, if I was to ask you one last question about coming to America, are you happy that you did that?

**Joseph:** We all were, to come to America and I'm glad. America has been good to me, real good. I own my home, I got a car, if I was over there I had nothing, if I was in Sicily, I would have nothing over there.

**Elisa:** Well thank you very much for this interview, it was wonderful to talk to you and the stories were great, thank you so much. This is Elisa Mattson, I'm just going to sign off now with peter Ham, Mr. and Mrs. Ceraolo on September 16th, 1994 for the Ellis Island oral history project, thank you.

**Joseph:** You are welcome.