

FIELD NOTES

OH#2209

Narrator: Thuylinh Chau

Interviewer: Brandon Chau

Date: November 5, 2022

Location: West Covina, California

Sub-Collection: My Việt Nam Story Oral History Project at UC Irvine

Length of interview: 00:52:33

- The oral history interview took place in Thuylinh's room in her home at West Covina, California with only Thuylinh and the interviewer, Brandon Chau, present.
- Thuylinh seemed neutral when beginning but comfortable as she was in her room. Many of the sentence changes and grammar issues were due to English not being her first language.
- The interviewer stuttered sometimes because the narrator was his mom.
- While it was not hard for her to mention Lam, she felt a bit of sadness and fondness when talking about him. They were incredibly close as siblings.
- She spoke easily about her personal experiences with racism and events during the war, such as hiding in her home with the sand bags.
- Throughout the interview, there were many pauses for Thuylinh to collect her thoughts and think about how to say them in English. One instance is finding the word "convent"
- Whenever her mother is mentioned, Thuylinh speaks with a bit of fondness and happiness. Her mother passed away in 2020 during the pandemic.
- When speaking of the embassy worker who helped her, it looked as if Thuylinh felt sad about not knowing his name.
- She laughed while talking about not taking her youngest child to Việt Nam because she was looking at her son while speaking. It was a playfully mocking tone. The interviewer is Thuylinh's youngest son.