

Halloween in Vienna

FL: I could say, we had a real good relationship with the neighbors. It was a friendly neighborhood. At Halloween time, all the kids—you couldn't believe how many kids would come to the house. Vienna Elementary had a rule on Halloween, by the way. Am I drifting too far from this?

VH: No.

FL: The Halloween Parade started down at Magruders—what we are still calling Magruders now—and went that way, until later it starting coming *this* way. A lot of people don't know it. Maud and I were talking about it one day and she remembers. Incidentally, the fireworks were held up at Glyndon Park and later moved up. Anyway, going back to Halloween, Vienna Elementary had a rule on trick-or-treating night, which is always the day before Halloween. They told all the students, and boy do they really adhere to this—they said, 'Ok, you will start at (I think) 7 o'clock and you have one hour! You only go to the houses that have lights on.' Of course, it worked out real good because Cherry Street, all the streets back then, my kids would really come home with some candy that would last them until Christmas time. Before I threw it away—those that I didn't eat. That was a real good feature, like I say, it was safe to the kids, and of course, they were in numbers. My wife would stay home and give out candy, and the girls would go with me. I'd walk around with the girls. I keep saying girls, because there were girls for us first and boys later. They came along much later, after we moved here, really.

CG: Did you all go to the Halloween parade?

FL: Oh yeah. The Halloween parade was for kids. Nowadays, politicians and all—back then, I just met all the kids. It seemed like everyone was in the parade, all these outfits, a lot of homemade outfits then. Really unique things. And of course all the fire-trucks and all the noise. I'm not sure whether we had the little cars then or not. The little cars in and out. I think that might have come later, it might have been at that time. I just remember all the kids in their costumes. It was truly for the kids, not commercial. We had a band, I think the Madison bands and all.