

# Parent & family, Brothers & Sisters, Growing up, School life, Technology, and Major events and change over time.

**Interviewee: Adrian Morrison**  
**Interview Date: 4/2/2026**  
**Writer: Lillian Morrison**

**8th grade, Heritage Hills Middle School**  
**L:** I wanna learn a little bit about your early life. I have some questions. Okay, we will just start with when you were born?

**A:** February 21, 1956  
**L:** Where did you grow up?  
**A:** Around Buffalo Bill, Santa Claus  
**L:** What about your parents? What were their names?  
**A:** Eileen and Ivan.  
**L:** What work did your parents do?  
**A:** He was a machinist and also later was an insurance salesman. And my mom was a stay-at-home mother; she did work at Lanky Parker.

**L:** Did you have any brothers or sisters? And what were they like?  
**A:** I had nine siblings. We had a lot of fun growing up. We had rough times growing up, but we found ways to stick together and help one another.  
**L:** What about what a normal day was like in your house?  
**A:** We had our little chores to do, during the warmer months, my brothers and I, we'd always liked to go fishing and do a little hunting, but we just tried to find activities to occupy ourselves.  
**L:** What kind of clothes did you guys normally wear?  
**A:** Actually, my mother made a lot of clothes

for us. She made a lot of different things. Well, my brothers and sisters, you had hand-me-downs, so we got by as cheaply as we could.

**L:** What was one of your earliest memories?  
**A:** Actually, I can remember when I went to Clayhuff. I was at school, I can remember when I was on the playground, and when the teacher came out and told me that JFK had been assassinated, I'll never forget that.

**L:** So that was also a big event that happened.  
**A:** Yes, it's something I'll never forget. I was actually on the monkey bars when she came out and told us that, hit hard, and that's something that I will remember, and where I was at when that happened. And I think I was in the 2nd grade at that time.  
**L:** Well, on the topic of school. What was your favorite subject?  
**A:** I love history. Still, today, I love history.  
**L:** And there is a lot of history in our very interesting family.  
**A:** Well, just the history of the family, and then just the local communities. I just love history itself, as I said, my mother was from England. There's a lot of history there. I've been there, and I learned a lot about that, and I enjoyed it.

**L:** What was the first car you rode in?  
**A:** Probably a 53 Chevrolet. It was an old car.  
**L:** Did you like it?  
**A:** My dad loved old cars. It was older than I was.

**L:** Imma go back when you got your first job, how old were you?  
**A:** As far as lifeguarding, I was about 15 when I officially had a paying job.

**L:** What was your first job?  
**A:** I helped local farmers, putting up hay and stuff like that. And from there, as I grew, I was a lifeguard in Lincoln State Park. And after that, when I finished high school, I got into road construction and then worked on I-64.

And Patoka Lake helped work on that when they built Patoka. When some of the roadwork phases out, I went to work in the coal mine. And after working there for a while, I went to the landfill operation.  
**L:** So what did you do while working on I-64?  
**A:** I was a laborer on I-64. I learned about every aspect of labor, such as putting up fans, working on ditches, learning how to grade check work, and working with surveying. From that point, I began learning to operate heavy equipment. Then I went to work at Lawrenceburg, Indiana, on a bypass for Cincinnati, Ohio, and that's when I really started running heavy equipment.

**L:** What tools and machinery were used as you worked?  
**A:** It was just like the stuff we have now. Pretty much regular hand tools. Then, as a lifeguard, you use a whistle.  
 Small laughter  
 To help the farmers, you just needed the

strength. The Heavy equipment was the same as earth movers, bulldozers, compactors, and learn how to run a dredge.

**L:** Not only with work, but overall, how would you describe how different now is from how you were younger?  
**A:** Well, there's obviously a lot more technology involved with jobs anymore. Even farm work, they have the machinery now that takes away from all the manual labor we used to do in my younger years.

**L:** This is shifting to something a little different, but do you remember any major events that everyone talked about?  
**A:** I would stick with the JFK. I will never forget that. A lot of people, if you ask will remember the same as I did. He was well respected, even at a young age. In the Vietnam War, my family was involved in and I actually missed the draft at that time. I was to be drafted and the draft went out two weeks before when I was supposed to report for my physical draft.  
**L:** Wow! Well, I wanna hear what your hopes and dreams were when you were 20-years old.  
**A:** I don't know. Probably make a better life than what I had growing up. I wouldn't have it any other way because when you struggle young, yo get things you'd like yo have yo appreciate things more.  
**L:** Thank you for doing this as I've gotten some answers I didn't expect.  
**A:** Happy I did good!

## All About Red Pandas

**Mollianna Jennings, Grade 4 Lincoln Trail, Mrs. Fleetwood**  
 Do you like red pandas? Here are some facts about them. Where do red pandas live? They can live in China,

Myanmar, and Bhutan. They live mostly in the forest. The forest is a perfect place for them to live. It is wet and dry.

What do red pandas eat? They eat band boo and tender leaves. They eat 20-30% of their

body weight. They mainly eat ban boo because it is good for it. What do red pandas sound like? They sound like a huff-wack and meow. The huff-wack is a huff and a wack. And that is an example of what they sound like. What do they

look like? They are red, white and sometimes black mixed. They have black eyes and they are really smart. They look like a panda and a fox. With this being said, the red pandas are awesome and unique animals.

## Growing up in Clinton, Illinois

**Interview Date: Sunday, 5 2026**  
**Writer: Elena Zollman**  
**8th grade**

**Heritage Hills Middle School**  
 I interviewed my grandmother, Jill Zollman, about her early life growing up in Clinton, Illinois. She is 73 years old, and I know her through my dad's side of the family. Our interview focuses on her early childhood neighborhood, school life, family, and what daily life was like before all of the new generation. Her story is worth reading because it shows how everybody has different experiences. But really, growing up is important just like now  
**Q:** Where did you grow up/what was it

like growing up there?  
**A:** Clinton, Illinois, was a small town where everybody knew everybody. There was a small school, but big enough where 4 grade schools fed into the high school. It was bigger than Santa Claus but not as big as Jasper.  
**Q:** What was one of your favorite memories growing up there?  
**A:** There were five girls who lived across the street, and they were all my age. There were six of us, all the same age, and we lived on the same block, so we were always together  
**Q:** What was your family like?  
**A:** I had an older sister and an older

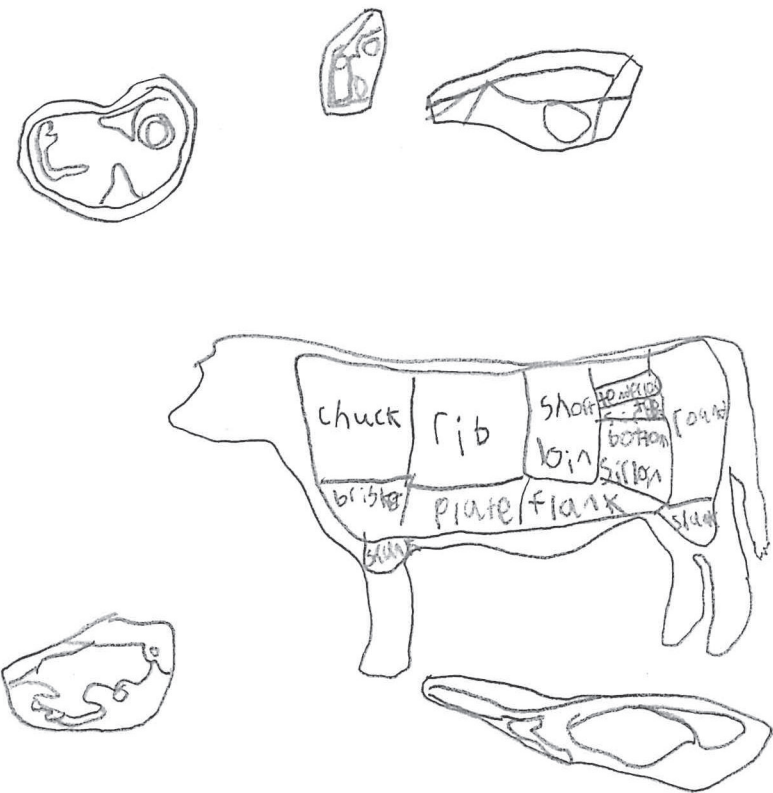
brother and my sister when i say she is older she is 15 years older than me and my brother was 11 years older than me so when i grew up they were almost out of the house when my sister got married her son was 5 years younger than me so we kinda grew up as brother and sister.  
**Q:** What was one of your favorite family memories?  
**A:** Well, we went to Florida every year because we had relatives down there, so every vacation growing up was in Florida  
**Q:** What was a normal day in your life like?  
**A:** High school was only two blocks from my house, so I would walk to school, and at that time, they didn't have girls' sports;

they had what we call GAA, girls' athletic association, so we had basically play time after school. I was big in 4-H. I was in it for ten years, and the church was really big.

**Q:** What are some big differences from growing up to now?  
**A:** Smoking was quite common everywhere you went, people were smoking, whereas nowadays smoking is banned in most places  
**Q:** What do you wish young people understood about growing up in your time?  
**A:** In the long run, we were polite, and we were expected to be polite, our parents put it in us. So I think we should all start being kind to everyone more.

NAME: Colton Buse  
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