

My dad built the El Rancho. I was born November the 4th, and I think it had opened either four days prior or four days afterwards, and I had to stay with my grandparents and then I was able to be brought to El Rancho, which was my first home, just a newborn, and I would be in the apartment in the back of the orchestra pit. And I would be serenaded every night with the Latin American music. Still in my blood, I guess. But the El Rancho, I don't know if you, here now, can remember it, but the ornate work that was done with the tile. And back at the orchestra pit, they had live music and back of the orchestra pit was, it was like a great big oval shape, cut it in half. And I never realized this until I visited in 2014, there were indentations, silver indentations and I always thought that they had indented it and painted it silver. No, those were abalone shells. All those marks on the—and it was for the acoustics. I enjoyed the El Rancho as a child. My cousin and I, we would go up in the cabanas that were up—there were, had two apartments—they had two things upstairs where you go up and have your private meals. Well, those were our playhouses. We, we did lots of things at the El Rancho. Grandpa would hold parties, birthday parties for my cousin on her birthday. And all my family, we all lived at El Rancho. I mean we were there all the time; it was our place. And I don't know how long it took to build it, but it was a beautiful place. It was outdoor dining under the stars, and a great big dance floor with—Lucho would play there also, Lucho Azcarraga. And I can remember being 16 years old, and I got to dance with my dad for the first time at the El Rancho.