

## **Interviewee Name**

### **Family Memory Interview Outline**

The following outline is meant to serve as a guide to those conducting interviews for the Family Memories Oral History project. The outline should be adapted to make it relevant for your particular interview subject. [Mark DePue at (217) 555-8949 or email at mark.depue@illinois.gov]

**Introductory Information:** State at the beginning of the interview:

- Interviewer's name (as interviewer)
- Date and place of interview
- Name of the person being interviewed
- "This interview is part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Family Memories* Oral History project"

#### I. Background Information:

- a. Parent's background?
  - i. Father?
  - ii. Mother?
- b. How family came to settle in Illinois?
- c. Parents' occupation(s)
- d. Other sibling & immediate family?

#### II. Growing up:

- A. Family life
- B. School(s)?
- C. Religious activities?
- D. Holidays?
- E. Interests / activities / hobbies?
- F. Extracurricular activities?

- G. Career aspirations?
- H. Memories from your early years?
  - a. Relationship with father / mother?
  - b. Values they taught you, and how they passed these on?
  - c. Life in the neighborhood.
  - d. Do you recall specific incident?
- I. The most important influence(s) on your life?

III. Life beyond high school:

- A. Finding a job or choosing a college?
  - 1. You major in college? Post-graduate education?
- B. Your career path?
- C. Marriage?

IV. Early career:

V. Family life:

- A. Active in community? Church? Politics?
- B. Family gatherings or events?
- C. Children?

**VI. *The remainder of the interview outline should be based on the individual's particular career and experiences. Look for those themes that most described or animated the interviewee's life? Their family? Career? A cause or passion?***