

Interview with Glenn Evans as told to Nancy Avolese on 01/02/2019 regarding the Emaus Orphanage.

My parents lived in a house where the Turnpike Administration Building is now. The Turnpike Commission took the house by eminent domain in the late 1940's and paid my parents fair market value. They were able to either move the house or demolish it within a certain time period. My mother's father, Pappy John Ruths, was a carpenter by trade and he with others took the home's materials and rebuilt the home at 18 East Roosevelt Ave. close to the corner of N. Union St. East Roosevelt Ave. is the last street on the right going up N. Union St. before the orphanage.

I was born in 1950. I used to play with the kids who lived at the orphanage. I remember in the winter sledding with them as well as other kids in the neighborhood. I was fortunate to have had a "Lightning Glider" that was great for sledding. We would start at the top of the hill, sled down over multiple sections of the land where they grew crops for sale in the summer, over a vacant lot between Dugan's and Hoke's homes, over E. Roosevelt Ave., down between Wingert's and Montville's homes to Oak Hill Dr. It was quite a long run but it was great!

We would play numerous games in the orphanage. One was a shuffleboard table. It was very long where you had a shiny steel puck that you would push over a wood surface to try to make it land as far as you can close to the end of the board without dropping off the edge. That was a real popular game which we played for hours.

I remember as a youngster while attending St. Peter's Lutheran Church the orphanage children usually sat in the church pews on the right side of the nave about half way down.