



## **Alberta Harris**

My earliest remembrance was about five years, old living on Elsberry Quarters in Ruskin. My Mother's name was Josephine and my Daddy's name was Albert Harris but everyone called him "Georgia Boy". He was foreman of Elsberry Farms; that is to say, he was the black man who oversaw the crews, Mr. Jones was the white foreman.

I remember being bussed to school from Adamsville (Ruskin) to Milton on 22nd St. and the original Blake High School on Spruce in Tampa. My family moved from Palmetto where I was born to Ruskin to work the fields. It was my Mother, Father; brothers- Robert who passed away November, 2013, Abe John "AJ", Alvin, William, Nelson, Roosevelt, Randolph; and me. We all worked on the farm.

I keep in touch with friends, former Sun City Bethune School schoolmates. We get together at least once a year. I hold dear the memories of living and growing up on The Quarters. When I was 5 years old it was a pleasure being with my Grandmother (Lular Emzie) who lived in Sun City. My mother was sick and couldn't do too much. My Grandmother made it the greatest time in my life.

I wish my now young nieces and nephews could have tasted my Mother's cooking...she was a wonderful cook. The Foreman would come to the house cut her cake and just walked out the back door with it. He loved her cooking! My last remembrances of living in The Quarters were being 18 years old...leaving to live in Tampa...stepping out into the world.

Alberta Harris has many photos and lots of information about life in Ruskin. She has been kind to share the pictures seen here.

Lynnette Stallworth  
Apollo Beach  
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