

FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE



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Abstract: **Terry Puhl**

Terry Puhl was born in 1956 in Canada, the second youngest of 4 children. He enjoyed an idyllic childhood with plenty of sports. At age 17, he was signed by the Houston Astros minor league team after being named the Most Valuable Player and Most Valuable Pitcher at a Canadian national tournament. Terry spent 3 ½ years in the minor league before moving up to the big league – Houston Astros.

He and his wife Jackie have been married 40 years this October a raised three children in Sugar Land. They met in Canada during a hiatus before he traveled to Venezuela to play winter ball Terry retired from baseball in 1991 due to injuries. He took classes and became a registered investment advisor as well as being the head coach of the University of Houston-Victoria baseball team.

15 Pages

∥ *Scroll down for Key Words from the Interview.* ∥

Interview Summary

People (in alphabetical order)

Jim Beauchamp – Double A manager
 Lee Duggan – mayor of Sugar Land
 Rick & Cyril Hosley – friends
 Wayne Morgan – baseball scout
 Mike Newlin – neighbor
 Hakeem Olajuwon – neighbor
 Catherine Puhl – sister
 Curtis Puhl – son
 Delores Puhl – sister
 Frank Puhl – father
 Gerald Puhl – brother
 Jackie Puhl – spouse
 Margaret Gulash Puhl – mother
 Naomi Puhl – daughter
 Stephen Puhl – son
 Valerie Puhl – sister
 Craig Reynolds – fellow baseball player & partner
 Jodie Stavinoha – Fort Bend county judge

Jimmy Thompson – mayor of Sugar Land

Joe & Nancy Zimmerman – mayor of Sugar Land

Places / Businesses

Calgary, Canada
 Corda Investment Firm
 Double A ball clubs
 Houston Astros professional baseball team
 Kansas City Royals professional baseball team
 Melville, Saskatchewan, Canada
 Missouri City, Texas
 Paine Webber Investment Firm
 Sanders Morris Harris Investment Firm
 Sugar Land, Texas
 Triple A ball clubs
 University of Houston-Victoria
 Venezuela
 Wharton Junior College

Events

Terry was born in 1956 in Melville, Saskatchewan Canada, the second youngest of 4 children.

His Dad was a farmer and owner of the Massey Ferguson dealership while his mom stayed home to raise the children. Both his parents are of Hungarian ancestry.

At 15 he was asked to sign for the Cincinnati Reds but was too young by Canadian law. By age 17, was signed with the Houston Astros to play in its minor league. Three years later, he joined the Houston Astros professional team.

During a break, he went home and met his wife of 40 years, Jackie. They raised three children in Sugar Land. Terry played professional ball until injuries forced retirement in 1991. Today, he is a registered investment advisor and a coach for the University of Houston – Victoria's baseball team.

Terry and Jackie still reside in Sugar Land and enjoy getting together with family and friends.