

## **Title Page & Abstract**

An Interview with Marian Goza

Interview #: SAA-A-D-2004-019

Conducted by the Springfield African-American History Foundation  
For the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Marian Goza grew up in Springfield, Illinois, and attended Springfield Junior College and Lincoln University in Missouri. After her marriage she spent 38 years as a medical technologist at Memorial Medical Center. She discusses her career, her family, and involvement in Scouting and the NAACP.

Interview date(s): March 22, 2004

Interview Location: Springfield, Illinois

Interview Format: audio cassette

Interviewer: Barbara Dickerman

Transcription by: Susan Crapo Transcription Service

Edited by: Cheryl Pence

Total Pages: 13

Total Time: 49 minutes, 4 seconds / 0.82 hrs

Interviews are archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential  
Library in Springfield, Illinois.

## **Abstract**

### **Marian Goza Springfield African-American History Foundation Project**

**Biographical Information and Synopsis:** Marian Goza was born in 1930, in Springfield, Illinois, to John and Clara Ritchie. Her father was a night watchman at S.S. Kresge and her mother worked as a custodian at CILCO. She had one older brother, John. She attended Enos Grade School and Springfield High School. She attended Springfield Junior College for one year. She then transferred to Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri, so that she could experience going to an all-black school, since she had grown up primarily around Caucasians. She left Lincoln University in 1952 and came to Springfield to work. She had married Robert Goza, a Missouri native, while living in Missouri. Upon her return, she was hired in the laboratory at Memorial Medical Center and attended medical technology school. She became a medical technologist and worked there for 38 years. After her mother passed away from cancer, Marian went to Sangamon State University and finished her degree in Biology. Marian stated that she never felt discrimination in the workplace. She believed that it might have been due to the fact that she did not have a lot of patient interaction. Marian also talked about her four children: Cheryl, Michael, Roger, and Jeannette, and being involved in Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. She was also active in the IMTA (Illinois Medical Technology Association) and the ASMT (American Society of Clinical Pathologists). Her husband was very active in the NAACP and every summer they would travel to many different locations for the conferences. Marian retired in 1992 and then worked for Alice Campbell Temporary Services and the Illinois Funeral Directors Association for a few years.

**Topics Covered:** Springfield, Illinois, 1930s – present; Enos Grade School; Springfield High School; Springfield College in Illinois; Lincoln University; Memorial Medical Center; Sangamon State University; medical technology; Union Baptist Church; Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts; PTA (Parent Teacher Association), ASMT (American Society of Clinical Pathologists); Alpha Kappa Alpha; NAACP; Kansas City, Missouri; downtown Springfield

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