

The following transcript is of an oral history interview with Angelo Fuster that was conducted by Brennan Collins and (GSU) and Aaron Rowell (UWG)

You can listen to the interview here:

https://www.atlantastudies.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Brock-Angelo-Fuster_Oral-History.wav

Not all the stories here are political. There's a picture over there that is, there was a 3D experiment that some TV station was doing in Atlanta – this was way back. And people had to wear these 3D things to watch the TV. One of the guys in that picture is a guy who's name I can't recall, but he, we knew him as the, the, oh, the sheriff of the Highland Hotel down the street – the Shady Rest. It got that name, it was called the Shady Rest. It is, it is a small hotel today and it's called the Highland Inn – just a half a block from here. And so, this guy, the Sheriff – he called himself the Sheriff and we all did too, because he lived there and they gave him a room in the basement because he was kind of like custodial kind of thing. And he was he thought he was security. And he wore an eye patch – like I have. The only difference was that sometimes the eye patch was on the left eye, and sometimes [laughter] it was on the right eye. [Laughter] So, and he would come and sit at the bar and he would put coins, five or six or seven dollars in coins, and he would tell the bartender: as long as this buys, I'm drinking. So, when he got to that he would stop. Geoffrey, I think, was his name – it's in the article. And then he died. And we didn't have, we didn't – nobody knew anything about him. So, we got, a lot of cops come here, and it was through them we tracked them down, tracked down his sister, somewhere – I think in Philadelphia. And contacted her and she said I don't, I'm so sorry it's been years since I've heard from Geoffrey – Lafferty was his last name – and, but you know, I'm of limited means and I can't afford to have his body shipped here. So, we pooled together, everybody contributed and we got it, we paid for it. And then the day his remains were transferred to Philadelphia we have a wake at the home of Bill McKloskey, who was the head bartender here and the manager, the night manager, two blocks from here. The party gift was an eye patch [laughter] you had to wear an eyepatch. And on the other side is a letter from his sister thanking us for the whole thing.