

## ORAL HISTORY COLLECTION

**MAIN ENTRY:** Eggers, Harold  
**DATE OF INTERVIEW:** April 15, 2009  
**LOCATION OF INTERVIEW:**  
**INTERVIEWER:** Andy Wilkinson  
**FORMAT:**  
**IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:**  
**LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:** Tape A 0:32 Tape B 0:54  
Total ~ 1:30  
**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:**

**ABSTRACT:** The right hand man of famous song writer Towns, goes into detail about the years leading up to his death in 1997. Then Mr. Eggers talks a little bit about the law suit mess that he is involved with due to Towns Ex wife and her children.

<b>Tape A (005)</b>	<b>TIME STAMP</b>
Affidavit	0:00
1996 Towns wanted to split recordings	
1997- Towns died	
Live Recordings	0:02
1976-81	
He recorded all of his gigs	
1981- Towns moved back to Austin	
Harold went to Belmont University	
1984- Ed Bruce	
Mamas don't let your babies grow up to be cowboys	
Met Whitie Shafer	
Suzie Nelson	
Willie Nelson's daughter	
Literary consultant	
She was writing a book about her dad	

Very successful book  
 Harold moved to Austin in 1987  
 Late 86 Towns came to play in Nashville  
 Put posters up  
 Bob Oman- The Tennessean  
 Neil Young was there to see him  
 A lot of other big wigs  
 They said it was like Hank Williams came back  
 The recording of the concert was released on an album  
 Heartland Records 0:13  
 Sold his brother a label that went under  
 1988  
 Fire Station Recordings  
 Kevin – Harold’s Brother  
 60 songs  
 Shelved after everything was in the bag  
 1989-90  
 Carrie Lee  
 Wanted him to do a Stevie Ray Vaughn book  
 50,000 copies  
 Another book deal with Simon Shuster  
 1991 0:18  
 A spoken word  
 Larry Monroe  
 KUT  
 Two record labels  
 1992  
 Road songs  
 Cover songs  
 Recordings were made in the 70’s  
 \$1 record – Harold and Towns split it  
 1993 0:23  
 Blue Onion Club  
 Oklahoma  
 Bass player- Jimmy Gray (original Wailer)  
 Acoustic – Rooster – Danny Rolland  
 Fiddle- Owen Cody (Billy Jo Shaffer)  
 1994  
 Ireland  
 Last studio album  
 Phillip Donnelly produced it  
 Verbosity and Sugar Hill – Split cost  
 Towns had ownership  
 1995 0:26  
 Biography of Towns  
 Go to the places he grew up

1996

Europe  
Abnormal- Maid order  
Music Express

**TAPE B (0006)**

**TIME STAMP**

1996

0:00

Equivalent to Rolling Stone magazine  
The Music Express  
Made a deal with Sugar  
Back to Europe  
Bond, Germany  
Towns had a German girlfriend  
December- Back to Austin  
Recorded at Flash Point Studio  
Signed off of final contract  
Towns gave him half ownership of everything he had done  
Nashville, Towns was on a binge  
Jeanine- 1994 divorced  
In Ireland Towns was in the hospital  
Jeanine was the one who arranged the deal  
Towns was broken hearted  
Had "Texas humor"

Guy Clark

New Year's Eve the deal was cancelled

0:13

After hours clinic

Blood clot

Jeannine somehow got all of his rights to his songs

After that his spirit was dead

Poncho Lefty

On the drive back

0:21

Refused to go to the E.R

Mount Julian

Harold left

Jeannine took him home after leaving the hospital

Heart failure

His system was full of antihistamines (Tylenol PM)

The weather was raining and cold

"The veil of tears"

The reminiscing of his life was a premonition with death

He thought he was the ghost of Hank Williams and Van Gogh

Towns Van am died on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1997

"We all live the same lives, just at different times" – quote from Harold

Reaction	0:32
Law suit – 2005 Said Harold was taking advantage of Towns And selling bad products Guy and Susanna Clark don't know anything 2 <sup>nd</sup> law suit- they wanted to extend the lease Jeannine and J. T- the main ones giving Harold a hard time Barbara K. was a witness for Harold Harold ended up loosing “When you sue the children, you lose” \$100,000 fee Another lawsuit against the Towns for copyright infringement Thread Gills	
Barbara	0:41
KUT She got Harold's dad to talk after his mom passed “Cry and get the poison out of your system” Easter Day 3:00 am He was being reborn Ever since then he feels happy, excited, blessed They are in a business where rumors and reputation is everything	
Prayer from his mom	0:48
St. Jude His lawyer's grandson had a failing immune system St. Jude's Hospital in Tennessee They flew him out, he died on the table Flew him back, and he lived	

**DATE OF BIRTH OF INFORMANT:**

**GENDER OF INFORMANT:** Male

**ETHNICITY OF INFORMANT:**