

Bio--To expand on my bio, my family (at the time two brothers and my parents) arrived in North Judson, Indiana in 1956 with a group of Mexican migrant workers. At the time farming was labor intensive and typically migrant workers would stay through the summer and early fall until the harvest was in before returning south, either to work other crops or to go home—Texas or Mexico. But for one reason or another my father found year-round employment on the farm where he worked and so I grew up in North Judson in the sixties and early seventies. Much of my poetry and writing centers around the bigotry and poverty of those times.

While I have been writing since the eighth grade and was lucky enough to be published before, it was not until retirement that I was able to dedicate the time to writing. I have been published in *Palabra*, *Crosswinds*, *The Elysian Review*, *Whetstone*, and *Slab* among others. Twice nominated for a Pushcart Prize I was also a finalist for the Montoya Prize several years ago. Most recently I was Passager Publishing's Poet of the Year and Rattle's chapbook prize winner. Both published books.

I continue to write essays nonfiction and short stories. And I do occasionally travel to South Bend and enjoy the atmosphere and visiting the bookstore.