

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

McLaughlin Family History

Personal Experience

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JEANNE FOLEY

Interviewed

by

Linda Pondillo

on

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P: This is an interview with Jeanne Foley for the Youngstown State University Oral History Program, on the McLaughlin Family History, by Linda Pondillo, at 1098 Academy Drive, Youngstown, Ohio, on August 30, 1993, at 3 15 p m

The first question, as you already know, is how do you remember the house on Kensington?

F: Well, when I was very young the porch went down the middle and it had a banister on both sides, and then the steps were in the middle. I think it was right after my dad died that we switched it and we had it going over to the side of the house. That was a real, real big thing because we spend a lot of time out on the porch. I remember my sister Kay, she loved tomatoes. She would be out there with the tomato and her salt [Laughter]. I can remember sitting out on the porch with the glider and we had a radio on and they said, "We want to know the name of this song. Now this song was popular ten years ago." And I thought, now whoever is going to remember the name of that song. I was age eleven.

P: So you knew it was not you.

F: No, that is so long ago. How can anybody? And, of course, that is youth, that is so funny. It was a dumb thing to remember, but I remember that. We used to spend a lot of time out on the porch. We had a porch rug and awnings that came down. I think when I was young they were straight, but when we moved it over to the side we got plain green. And boy, I thought that was just the cats meow getting the plain green. That was the porch. For a while, again, when I was a baby--or young--we had some grape bushes, trees, something in the front yard. I guess it was a tree, but it was grapes. We had those in the front yard, and again, so much happened after Daddy died. So much was changed around, but those were nice because we could eat the grapes, although we were not supposed to.

The backyard was so pretty. It had flowers, there was a rock garden that Kay and Daddy had along the one side, and it kind of went down the one side of the hill. Daddy had peonies and they were so special, especially after he died. Everybody had to watch out for Daddy's peonies. To this day I love peonies. I just do because of that. But that backyard, you walked out and there was a little space and then there was a hill. We used to go down the hill sled riding. Then down at the end of the back yard were two trees, a cherry and an apple. We used to climb the apple tree all the time. That was so much fun. Then we had bushes growing along the back and lilacs on the side. Those lilacs were so gorgeous. Again, I just loved lilacs.

But do you know what? I can remember way back then -- this is funny -- I remember taking the bug down and running through those bushes to the first house on New York Avenue. We were almost at the corner of New York, almost two houses from New York and Kensington. I would take it to the lady, she lived just one house down, and I would say, "Hey, my mom wants to play the bug."

today." She would say, "Okay" and I give her a nickel. And of course mother never won. Of course, everybody did that. I must say, we went back when this house was first for sale and I was married and had seven children. We went down and looked at that house and that back yard looked small. The hill that we went down was small and I kept telling the kids, "Wait until you see this hill. Wait until you see this back yard. There was a hill we went down." And I went there and it was hardly a hill. I could hardly believe it.

P The difference from when you're small

F And when you are big. But I had a lot of fun in that backyard. It was just a real nice backyard. Inside, it was a long living room. I cannot tell you too much about the downstairs, a regular living room, dining room, and kitchen. But upstairs we had three bedrooms and my brother Vincent painted them. And as you have heard, he is a painter. I am sure that you heard that. He did what people are doing today and paying lots and lots of money for. He painted the walls white and I would say probably a foot of it was white and that was the border. In between that border he daubed it. Each room was a different color. They were beautiful rooms, they were just beautiful. When we went back, when we told the people we had lived there, and could we go in and see the house. She said "yes," and you know what, I think that disappointed me. After the hill in the backyard [Laughter]. That disappointed me that those rooms were white because they were so beautiful. That is what I remember about the house itself. Of course, there was a big third floor because that is where we slept at with a house that big, and, of course, just the one bathroom.

P One bathroom in the whole house?

F One bathroom for everybody. I could remember many a time brushing my teeth in the basement in the tub, brushing my teeth in the sink in the kitchen. Everybody just did it. That was life and you just did those things. I never thought too much about it at all.

P So you slept up on the third floor?

F Yes.

P With your sisters?

F Yes.

P And the boys had the bedrooms on the second floor?

F Well, the one bedroom my two sisters had. We had three bedrooms on the second floor. Probably when Richie--we all call him Richie by the way--was a

baby, maybe he slept in with my mom and dad. Then, he probably was about five when, I am guessing ages now, when Vincent went into the Army. When he left to go into the Army, Rich probably moved in with my brother Jim. So, that would take care of the boys. Then the girls, the two oldest girls always had the third bedroom. As one got married the next oldest moved downstairs. So obviously it was a long time before I moved down. That was fun. I could remember going in there to see what I could wear and I could not wear too much of my sister clothes, even as I got older, because Kay and I were the shortest. Their clothes did not fit me. My mother used to say, "The first one out is the best dressed."

P Well, you spent most of the time up there on the third floor then?

F Not really, no. I was nine when my dad died. I had just turned nine. I was an epileptic. I am an epileptic. Poor mother, she just worried her heart out about that. She said, "Jeanne, you will pray to St. Jude, the patron of impossible cases, for you to get better. We will say that everyday for the rest of our lives." I said, "Okay, Mom," and we did. We did not say it together, obviously, because I got married. We said it. I got away from it, as busy mothers do. I have started up again, because certainly I am still an epileptic and I still take my medicine. I have to take medicine and so on. But certainly I am better, because back then I took seizures. Well, about once every two weeks I would have a seizure. I do not know, I do not have seizures now as long as I take my medicine.

I had a heart attack in 1989. They put me on coumadin, which is a blood thinner. I came home from the hospital and when I was home my youngest son was with me, my baby, and I had a seizure because and it was of the coumadin. My poor Kevin, he had never seen me have a seizure. My older kids knew all about it because I used to have them all of the time. He had never seen me have a seizure. I thought, boy that is pretty great that he had never seen that, even though it scared him to death. In fact, he called the ambulance back to the hospital. I figured that if my heart could stand that, my heart is in pretty good shape now. That was right after I came home from the hospital. I am getting relayed am I not? Because of that, mother had me sleep with her. So, I came downstairs much sooner than the others. I do not know if I had a seizure up on the third floor, possible that I might have. After Daddy died and, like I said, I was nine when Daddy died, I slept with Mother until I was in high school. Then I got to go into the other bedroom. That was fun. Those were fun days.

P Hectic, but fun?

F Well, you know, it was nice for me because I was so much younger. It was during the Second World War and none of my sisters, well let us see, Kay and Mary Helen were married then, but all my other sisters were home. Then Anne left and got married in 1943. I was thirteen then. All the others were home until after the war and they used to dance in the living room. They would have

soldiers up and I would sit on the bottom step and I would just watch them dance. Then, I lived on the other side of the tracks, so to speak. I lived down on Kensington, which was below Elm Street. All of my friends lived above Fifth Avenue. They liked to come to my house because it was more fun. I had all those sisters around. So they used to come to my house all of the time and it was really very nice.

P You were nine when your father died.

F Yes I was.

P Tell me what you remember about him.

F Okay, I will. I wrote it down. One of my first memories was waking up after a nap and mother coming in and saying, "Come on Jeanne, you have to get dressed up. Daddy is going to be home pretty soon." I always had to get cleaned up before Daddy came home. When I think of the kids playing out in the sandbox, "Hi dad!" Anyway, Dick and I, I do not know how the rest of the family was, but we got dressed up before Daddy came home. I remember dumb things about Daddy. I remember he used to come down the steps sideways. Dumb things you remember. I remember when I was in the third grade, two things in the third grade, that he died when I was in the third grade.

That Christmas I woke up and it was real dark and real quiet. I thought, "I am going downstairs to see what Santa Clause brought me." Back then you still believed in Santa Clause at that age. I went down the steps and it was real quiet and I was looking at the tree. There was a knock on the door. I about died. I can remember that. I can remember how panicky I was because there was a knock on the door. I went to the door and opened the door like every good child should do in the middle of the night. I opened the door and it was a friend of my brother Vincent's. They call him Doc. He said, "Jeanne, where is the family?" I said, "Well, they are not here." He said, "Oh, I just stopped by to see if anybody wanted a ride to midnight mass." And just then Daddy was behind me. He said, "Okay, Jeanne." He was not mad or anything. He said, "Okay, Jeanne, you just go up to bed now. I will take care of it." I said, "Okay Daddy." I was scared to death [laughter]. I went upstairs and as I was leaving I just remember Al saying, "I thought something was funny." But that was Daddy's last Christmas. I just remember that.

I also remember decorating for Christmas. I remember that with Daddy. That was a real big thing when we decorated. And, of course, one of the things back then, and I loved it back then, was when you had your Christmas tree lights, if one went out, the whole thing went out. So, before Christmas, first of all, we had to check all of the lights and make sure that they all worked. Then we would put them on and then every day the tree was up we would go down. "Okay, let us turn the light on and let us see which ones need changed." We would spend time changing the Christmas tree lights because that was just so

much fun [laughter]. I remember that about Daddy

I do not remember too much about Daddy Is it not a shame? Let us see what I have here about my dad We went for family rides in the summertime and I could remember being afraid of the curves at Mill Creek Park When my father was still well, my sister Sue came down with scarlet fever and no one was allowed upstairs We all were downstairs I think the ones that worked were not even in the house For instance, Daddy was not He was across the street at my aunt's You know my aunt and uncle lived across the street They told you that

P· Mary Helen mentioned that

F Aunt May and Uncle Harry, they were something else Uncle Harry was real quiet and Aunt May was, "Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha " I have a daughter just like her Everybody knows Katie But she is like Aunt May He stayed with Aunt May while Sue had scarlet fever We slept in the dining room and I can remember him coming over and visiting us Dick and I were so excited because Daddy was there That is all I remember I do not remember anything more about it

These are just little spots, but Daddy died in 1939 when I had just turned nine years old A week before his death Rich and I went and we stayed with our godparents His and mine, two different families Daddy died on Monday before Easter and my godmother took me downtown to buy me a dress that I would have I met my sisters downtown I will never forget that because they treated my like a queen I was the doll and it was, "Oh Jeanne, how are you doing honey?" I remember that they were just so good to me Probably then, because I was a little girl, and Daddy had died, they felt kind of bad because I was not going to see Daddy It was so funny I, of course, did not realize it In fact, they had the wake He was waked at home I heard that my class was coming down to the house. I was so excited I do not remember this, but I have been told this ten thousand times. I was so excited because my class was coming down to the house that I wanted to put up tables and chairs so they could play cards or something It just shows what I thought about my dad

One thing I will say about mother, and this is really kind of interesting, I never really thought about it, I do not remember missing my father I really do not ever remember thinking, "Oh, I wish I had a father to do that " And, you know, when I thought that, I thought that when I was married and I saw my husband playing with my children or taking them places I think boy, that really would have been nice to have that

Well, of course, Mary Helen got married in 1936 so Jack was around and he was like a father to me Mary Helen was sixteen years older than me So, he was about two years older than Mary Helen He was about eighteen years older than me Daddy died when I was nine so he was, you know, he could have been a father In fact he was a father when Daddy died Did Mary Helen tell you that?

P I do not think so

F John was born in October of 1938. And Daddy died in April of 1939 I thought this was kind of interesting, I had never really missed him Is that not something?

P That is a credit to your mom

F. Oh, it is I mean, what a credit to mother I just never even thought about it until I remember when I would see Don with the kids. Boy, that would have been nice But that was gone So, I do not remember too much about my dad

P Do you remember if he was very strict with the children?

F No. I hear it, but I do not know I truthfully cannot remember that I probably, being the baby girl, got away with murder I really do not know. When I was in the third grade and Daddy was sick, I was home from school and I had somehow caught lice. I was home and mother had cleaned my hair and did whatever they do. This probably was not--I do not know what the singular for lice is--there was something crawling along the floor along the porch and we were on the swing. Daddy and me and mom and I said, "Mom, look, is that from my hair?" And I do not know if that was my exact words but the point was I wanted to ask my mother "Is that a lice?" What is it, it is not lice?

P I think it is louse.

F Louse, yes I knew it was not lice. I asked her if that was from my hair and I can remember my mother going, "Shh, do not tell Daddy " She did not want Daddy to know that I do not know, but it was really funny because I went to school after that and I sat up front The teacher really started talking about this great family and she said, "This is a real nice family and they are a very clean family Their child got lice in her hair " I was so pleased that she was saying all of these nice things about my family that I turned around and was going, "That is me, that is me [laughter]!" I wanted everybody to know that was my nice family. And, of course, we got rid of it

P It is still a problem

F I know, and they say they can jump six feet So, you could be at the mall and easily get it But is that not a shame? I just do not remember that much about my dad

P Since there were ten of you in the family and you came along fairly late, were you closest to those who were closest to you in age? Did you have a favorite brother or sister?

F I did After, let us see, it was Mary Ellen, then Vincent, then five girls, then Jimmy, then me, then Richie I idolized my sister Sue I really did I thought Sue could do no wrong I loved her boyfriends She was a good dancer She taught me how to dance. After I was married, mother was working then, and I would call Sue and ask her how to make things, or how to do this, or how to clean the house My mother used to tell me that Kay was very close to me when I was a baby I got deathly ill and I called Kay's name, I called for Kay instead of Mom Mom felt so bad, but there were so many kids that mother had to take care of I know exactly what she meant because when I had six and seven years, and when I had the last one I got Sue. I had Jimmy, Mary--Mary was my sick daughter that died--then Sue. And I did the same thing with Sue, I said, "Sue, I had the six and seven years and five years later I had the two more " So when we had the first of the two, all those five kids were just crazy about this little one.

Then, two years later I had the second one, which was number eight They all loved that one Well this poor little two year old didn't know what was hitting him I got Sue, she was about ten, and I said, "Honey, you know what I want you to do? Whenever you see Michael and he looks like he is kind of forlorn because everyone is paying attention to Kevin, I want you to go over and play with Michael Will you do that for me because he is just a baby, too?" And Sue did Sue was real good to get Michael Do you know when Sue got married, Michael was an alter boy at her wedding and he cried all through the ceremony We laughed at that, but it was so sweet He was giving communion and he was holding the cup weeping He was just crying his poor little heart out That was so cute. Of course, that does make you close

Kay did it to me, I was really a baby and I do not even remember that. But growing up, Sue was just the closest in age to me. When I was in the first grade, she was in the eighth grade She took me to school I could remember Susan being very upset that she had to wait for me because mother had to make my curls. I had long curls and Sue had straight hair She would have loved to have had curls She could not stand mother making these curls [laughter]. She would have to wait for me then she would say, "She cannot walk as fast as me anyway mother " I could not I would be running behind Sue, but I loved Sue It is funny how you do That was growing up Once you get older you are close with all of your sisters, because you all have families, you all have babies

P Age does not make any difference

F No, that age does not mean a thing But growing up I was close to Sue Now Sue probably was not closest to me I think she was probably closer to Lenora Sue and Lenora were very close. She was older. She was the one closest to me Now, I never did anything with her because all of my sisters were older than me I was kind of alone because after Sue there was Jimmy, and then there was four years, then I was born. So Jimmy and I did not have that much in common Then there was five years between Dick and I. Or was it four and a half years?

Anyway, there was just enough time there that I really did not have anybody close to me growing up

P Were there friends in the neighborhood?

F Yes, I had friends in the neighborhood that I grew up with. You know, that was fine

P A lot of kids in the neighborhood?

F Not when I was there. Most of the kids in the neighborhood were the age of my older sisters. There were a lot of kids in the neighborhood. But the kids used to come to our house. Like we would play kick the can and stuff like that, or baseball. We would have enough kids for that. We also lived right by New York Avenue. Do you know where that is?

P. Yes.

F It is a hill. In the wintertime we would take the sleds up to Elm Street and go down that hill all the way to Logan. We would have people standing at Kensington, which was the only street, to make sure the kids could go straight through. If they possibly could not, they would stop the sled, but no one ever got hurt. We always got away with it. I also played down in the hollow. My sister was telling me the other night, it was Mary Ellen or Lenore, that mother used to make sandwiches for the kids and they would take them. Well, when I was that age I was not allowed down in the hollow. I said, "I wonder what happened in the hollow." But I was not allowed in the hollow and they were. Maybe there were more of them. When I was there, there were not that many kids around. So, I do not know. Something must have happened I think. I would go down there, I could remember going there and I could remember picking flowers and taking them to the May Elder up at school. Because you know, we always had May Elder. I do not know if you're Catholic or not. Did you go to Catholic school?

P Grade school

F Did you have May Elders when you went there?

P Yes, we did

F. Well, they always had the flowers just growing wild. I would take them to school

P Tell me about holidays at home. Christmas, I know, is always a big one. What about the Fourth of July?

F We had firecrackers. Do you know where we bought those firecrackers? We

bought them out in the country Do you know where?

P Where?

F Probably around Mansel and Belmont [laughter]. That was way out in the country There was nothing up on Belmont They would have those little stands that you see way out in the country that sell fruit They had those kinds of stands selling firecrackers because they were legal then You know, Daddy bought those How do you like that? Something else I remember about Daddy

P Great

F Yes, he bought those firecrackers I do know it was on Belmont Every time I go up Belmont I think, "Oh my gosh, so crazy."

P Did you have a big picnic with the family?

F We used to have big picnics We used to go on picnics a lot We used to go up to Liberty Park and when Daddy was a Prudential Insurance salesman, we would go to the Prudential picnics Would you believe my husband's father was a Prudential salesman and he got the job because my father saw him selling Jewel Tea. He thought he was a good salesman so he told the guys at Prudential, "Hey, I have a potential salesman for you " It was Mr Foley So, my family knew the Foley's and they all knew the older ones, especially the older ones They all knew each other I was so young when my dad died that I really did not know them. In fact I went to the picnic for about three more years with a friend of Daddy's He would take me because he had a daughter that age and he would take me to the Prudential picnics So, I did go probably until I was eleven or twelve to those picnics

P Those were in Mill Creek Park?

F No, Liberty Park. You know, when I started dating Don they all knew who he was dating and my family all knew who I was dating Don and I did not know each other at all There is so much I could tell you I could go off into little things, but I first of all want to answer your questions

P Well, the questions are really just meant to start some things

F I could have started some things a couple times

P Be my guest, absolutely.

F This has to do with school, is that okay?

P That is fine

F When I was in the third grade we had confirmation. At that time we were in the diocese of Cleveland, so we only had confirmation every three years because the bishop was too busy to come every year. We always had a very big doings, and they picked three kids -- it might have been four -- and we were to say a poem to the bishop and to present him with a bouquet of flowers. I was one of the ones chosen. Coming from the large family that I did, big crowds did not bother me at all [Laughter]

We went over to the rectory, and they had all kinds of priests in that building. I told them, that we had something to say to the bishop to welcome him. We wanted to see the bishop. I do remember this, the priests were having a good time. They were laughing, they were getting a big charge out of it, they said, "Why do you not practice with us." We said, "Okay." We would say the little verse to them and I remember one coming down and he would ask us our names. He would tell us, "I am Father Macavoy." I said, "Are you? Did you know that my uncle is chief of police, or fire captain and his name is Macavoy. Are you related to him?" He was not related to him but wanted to know Macavoy. We had a ball. I do not even remember doing the poem for the bishop. We had such a good time. For that very affair I must have been in the third grade and again Daddy died in the third grade.

He used to sell insurance to--do you know McVein's funeral home? Wrong funeral home. McGovern funeral home. They have been out of business for a long time. John McGovern was just a prince. Oh, what a nice guy. I only say that because I got to know him as an adult, he really was. But back then he had two girls, and one of them was a year older than me. I guess Daddy told him that I was going to present the flowers to the bishop. I had my first communion dress but after I had it I had worn that as my Sunday dress. That is what I was going to have to wear. Daddy must have told him. I do not know the story about it, but he told Daddy he had a dress that his daughter wore for first communion and I could borrow it. I can remember that dress and it was net and lace and taffeta. It was beautiful. It was something my family could never have afforded. Dear John McGovern let me wear that for that affair. It was such a nice thing. He has probably forgotten about that. He has now died, but I told his daughter when I met her, "Let me tell you about your dad, because he was a nice guy." You remember those things.

P Absolutely

F You just do not forget those things

P Those are important things.

F Yes, there is just so many crazy things. I forget what I was going to tell you. There were a couple things I was going to tell you while we were talking.

- P Things to do with school?
- F I was trying to keep my mind on your question I did not want to get away from that When I think of things, I will just tell you
- P I was thinking of something too It has gone out of my mind. Getting back to school, did most of your friends, just the kids that you played with, were they school mates?
- F No, and that was another thing My friends, talk about friends, we went into camp fire girls. We were Camp Fire Girls Those were mostly my friends. There were about twelve of us After we got out of Camp Fire we were in a club We still get together We got together after we had children and all that Then, Don and I moved away in 1960 Oh boy, is that a story, too! We moved in 1960 and were gone for ten years When we came back that group had separated because it was the 1960s, they had children, some of them started working That was one of the reasons I wanted to come back to Youngstown. I wanted to see all my old friends But while I was going to school with these friends--these are things that I did not know until I was older--but you know, they all watched me to make sure that I did not have a seizure I never do that. Mother said they would say, "Okay Mrs McLaughlin, we will take care of her You do not worry about Jeanne " And I never worried about Jeanne [laughter]
- P You did not have to [laughter].
- F No, but you know what, I have to tell you that That is something so big in my life and I cannot thank my mother enough I started taking these seizures and I guess Mother found out about that the same time she knew Daddy was dying of cancer, which was a pretty sad thing to hear They told her I would end up at the crazy house Nice news to hear about your baby daughter
- P Well, they looked at it a lot differently back then
- F Definitely, and I do not think Mother ever told Daddy. I do not think Daddy ever knew that Because when she found out he was sick with cancer and she just did not want to bother him--maybe he did, I do not think he did--but anyway she started taking me to the doctors Finally, when I was fourteen, I went up to a doctor up in Cleveland, and he said to my mother, "You know Mrs McLaughlin, do you want her to lead a perfectly normal life and maybe die young? Or do you want to shelter her and not let her do all the things that all your other children did and she might live until she is sixty? Which would you rather have?" Mother said, "I would rather have her have a normal life " He said, "Well, then that is up to you You let her lead a normal life and she will enjoy life and she'll be fine Once in a while she will have a seizure " And that is exactly what happened. I

led a very normal life, thank God to my mother

P. Absolutely

F It really was thank God to my mother, and probably all my brothers and sisters, too. Again, I was in the court for prom. Do you know they all came down? I thought they came down to see me. I was kind of embarrassed, "Why are you doing that? I am a teenager. You are not supposed to come down and see me." But they were coming down because they were so afraid that I might have a seizure. Also, I played the piano and they used to come to my recitals. And, again, I would walk out on the stage. My only fear would be that I would miss a note. But my family, "Oh, dear God, please do not let her have a seizure." They worried so much more than I did, but yet they were all so good in keeping it away from me. It never bothered me. In fact, to this day, I do not mind telling people, "No, I am an epileptic." Now I am kind of proud of it. You can be an epileptic.

When I was first married I had a miscarriage. I was going to this doctor on the North side of Youngstown. I went to him and told him that I had had a miscarriage. He said "Well, you should be glad you had a miscarriage. Did you know with your condition you should not have children?" I said, "Well, I was told this was caused by an accident and it is not hereditary. We cannot find it in the family anywhere." He said, "Well, I do not think you should take that chance. If you get pregnant you should have an abortion." This was in 1951. Nobody talked about abortions in 1951. I just told him, "I am sorry doctor but that goes against everything I believe in. I cannot go along with that." He said, "Well you can go to another doctor and see what he has to say." So I did, I went to an obstetrician. He told me no, that was crazy and I did not have to worry about that.

Then I did have Mary, my second daughter. She was a hydrocephalic. That is a baby with an enlarged head. Her head, when she died, was about this large and her body was about that large. Everything she ate went to her head. She would get water in her head and it just kept growing. Her poor little body was real thin and she had no muscle. She died when she was seventeen months. When I had Mary the doctor came in and he sat by my bed. He sat next to me, and again so nice, he said, "Jeanne, I have something to tell you that I wish I could tell any one of my patients but not you." I said, "What doctor?" I could not understand. He said, "Your baby is a hydrocephalic. She was born with an enlarged head. She would never be normal. In fact, she might die before the day is over. I am just going to let you know some people are going to say that happened to Jeanne because she is an epileptic. I am just letting you know that, but I am telling you, Jeanne, it had nothing to do with your epilepsy. Believe me, many tests have been studied. It has nothing to do with that." Do you know what? I believed him and I had seven more kids [laughter]. Six more because I already had two then. Thank God that he came right out and said that to me, and I believed him.

My mother was so good to me with the epilepsy and so on. She worried,

and I did not really appreciate it until I was married and had children of my own Like I said, what I really appreciated that she was able to hide it so well "I will make sure she grows up normal " And I did Mother has done a lot of great things in her life, but for me that is probably the greatest thing she did

P It is funny, because probably in those days epilepsy was not as well known They did not understand it too much This was caused by an accident, you say?

F Yes. Maybe I should tell you about that

P. Yes, I was going to say, you did not have it all your life

F. No, when I was three years old, all of the kids used to sit around the table and do their homework Obviously, I was not in school, but they were all sitting around doing their homework in the dining room and I climbed on the back of one of their chairs I was on the back of the chair and whoever it was got up and the chair went over and I hit my head on the buffet I was out for three hours The doctors say that obviously was when it happened I guess they really did not know too much about that until the Second World War. So many men started having seizures afterwards because of injuries to their head Then the doctors realized that and started shortly after So that is how that started.

P When you had these seizures, did you have any warning?

F Yes, I did They have a petit mal and a grand mal A petit mal--I would be sitting talking, and I would come back and say, "What was I saying?" And everybody knew I had them They would say, "Oh, you were telling us about that," and they would go on. You know, once somebody took a picture When they took the picture I had a petit mal--we used to call them dazes I had a daze, and I knew I had a daze because after the picture was over I said, "Oh, it is taken," and I thought darn, I had a daze I looked at the picture, I was really anxious to see that picture to see what I look like, and it just looked like I was looking out at the tree or something That made me feel very good I did not look real horrible or anything

Before I would have the grand mal, which was the seizure on the ground and all of that, I would have a lot of petit mals. If I had a lot of petit mal, that was my warning to take it easy All my married life I had three miscarriages and all my eight children One miscarriage was because of a seizure The other two were just normal things but I never had any problems with that I came home from the hospital once and I was holding the baby and Don was right next to me I handed him the baby, he was there doing something , I handed him the baby and he grabbed it and I had a seizure Is that not funny?

P So, you knew?

- F I guess so Now I do not remember that, but I guess I did.
- P That maternal instinct comes through no matter what It is funny because it seems like most of your brothers, well your sisters especially, have had various illnesses throughout their childhood.
- F Yes, my poor dear mother, I do not know how she did it
- P When I was reading the book, that was one of the things that impressed me the most I mean I have dealt with chicken pox and the usual, and that was hard
- F But she did not have just the chicken pox, she had those yes, but then she had all those others
- P Oh, I am just so amazed.
- F I am, too. I have something else to tell you about Mother.
- P Okay
- F Mother had a heart attack in the 1940's when I was a teenager She had been teaching at school She started teaching the fourth grade when I was in the fifth grade That was great for Dick and I because she just took us to school, taught, and then we went home I asked a friend of mine who mother taught, I said, "What do you remember about Mother? I do not want you to say something real nice because I am her daughter " This is a friend I said, "I am really serious " I told her why I wanted to know She said, "Well, that is interesting Jeanne, this is the truth. Do you know what I always thought after your mother taught me? I always thought I wish more mothers could teach, because your mother was just so nice." She said, "I think that that was part of it, because she was a mother " Then, this has happened to me five times and I was trying to think of the doctors I thought of the last two because it is probably the most recent. Mother worked as a secretary up at the hospital, St Elizabeth's She was the first secretary on the floor that was hired in Youngstown, because they were just getting into that She worked in surgery She scheduled all the surgeries Whenever I run into an old surgeon they all knew mother They always tell me about mother I went to a party, Dr Phillips. Do you know Dr Phillips?
- P No
- F Dr Phillips, oh man, he was a prince Anyway, I was kind of awed by him and one day he came up and told me and he said, "You remind me of your mother " And I about died Talk about a complement He said, "You know, your mother worked in surgery and I knew her quite well."
Then I went to a party, it was a wedding reception Dr Bonaface was

there I do not know and had never met Dr Bonaface I was introduced to he and his wife Then the men started talking, and I was talking to her and she said, "Boy, you just reminded me of somebody Who do you look like?" I said, "Well, I have a lot of sisters." Because I get that all the time, too She said, "No, it is driving me crazy " I said, "I am Dick McLaughlin's sister Do you know Dick?" She said, "That is it, Elizabeth!" I about flipped I said, "She was my mother." She was so excited and she went on because she was a nurse, I guess, and she said, "She was the greatest lady We loved her up at St Elizabeth " She was telling me about her I just felt so good hearing that about Mother About ten minutes later Dr. Bonaface came up to me Like I said, I do not know Dr. Bonaface He said, "Jeanne?" I looked up and said, "Yes " I had been introduced to him, but that was it He had gone He said, "I am Ray Bonaface " And I said, "Yes " He said, "I just had to come up to you because I knew your mother so well and she was such a nice lady " It was just so nice to hear that

P Absolutely

F I know she was a nice lady.

P But it is nice that everybody else knows that

F Yes, it is, it really is That just happened this past month with Dr Bonaface.

P Oh, really?

F Yes

P How long did she work there? It was after your father died, I know, because she taught first.

F No, she did not teach before Daddy died She taught before she was married Then once she go married she quit her job Then after Daddy died she went back to work I have something funny to tell you Mother played the piano all of the time I think she would play the piano and she would sing old songs that reminded her of Daddy I knew them so well One of the songs she used to sing was, [singing] "And he walks with me and he talks with me and he tells me I am his own." I used to be ready to go into tears because I would think, "Oh poor mother, how she misses Daddy She loved Daddy so much " Again, I think I was twenty years old when I found out that was a hymn [laughter] I think that is so funny I just think romantically every time if I ever hear that song

P You start to laugh

F I do I think that is so funny

- P Well you know that reminds me, you took piano lessons?
- F. For five years
- P Well, the oldest one did, Mary Helen took piano lessons You were the youngest girl The oldest and the youngest took piano lessons What happened to the ones in the middle?
- F Probably mother could not afford it. In fact, Vincent took too, but not too long He took it long enough and mother told me that the teacher said to mother, "Well he did not take too long, but do not feel bad because he took it long enough that he has an appreciation for music " And, of course, Vincent is the one that went on to get all of the beautiful and classical music In the Depression, when people did not have anything--well I do not know how old I was, but I could hardly remember it, so I was young--he bought a console It had the record player, and the radio that stands on the floor They used wooden needles back then
- P I did not know that
- F He said you could get steel but wooden are better He would sharpen the needle, I do not know how We were not allowed to touch that, hands off. I do not know about my older brothers and sisters probably, but Rich and I because we were young Keep your hands off that I can remember that We did not touch it We learned that music So much so that when Rich was in the first grade the teacher said, "All right kids, I want to know what are your favorite songs " They were saying, "Little Red Riding Hood," and "Merry-Go-Round," and Rich said "Latrobiatta " And it was, he loved that song. Vincent would put it on and he would say, "Oh, I love it! This is my favorite song!" You know, talking about getting it ingrained without even trying It was the same with English I think everybody in the family got A's in English. It is not because we studied, it is because mother spoke correct English So did we, or else In fact I did the same thing with my own children Even today they will say "broke" instead of "broken" I will say, "It is broken," and stuff like that
- P I do that, too
- F That pays off because the kids, it is in there They do not know it is in there, but it is in there Mother used to do that with me [laughter]
- P So music was always important, then, in your family?
- F Oh, yes.
- P. Everybody sang?

F Oh, yes I loved to sing, and to this day. We were all in choirs I was in the choir We moved to Akron and there was a Sister up there, and she realized who I was and said, "Oh, you are a McLaughlin," and she was the choir teacher She knew all of the McLaughlin In fact, that same teacher took my daughter Katie because when we moved to Akron, things were rough here, we had to make a move financially We went up there and she said, "Katie has a perfect pitch She should take piano " I said, "Oh sister, I cannot afford to give her piano lessons " She said, "Have her come at noon and at noon I will give her piano lessons " So Katie did and then she used to practice over there because we did not have a piano My oldest son would like to take piano now None of the kids were able to take piano I think all of us love music The kids too, you know, the grandchildren We all just love music. But mother, of course, used to sing all of the time She had a beautiful voice.

P That is what I got from reading her book, is that music was very important to her and her religion was very important to her.

F You are right I think that is the one thing that she certainly has given to all of her children What mother always used to say happened to Vincent, and I do not know if it is in the book or not, there he was this family of girls and he was a very intelligent little kid John Chase lived just a block away and John Chase took him under his wing and he wanted to teach him about birds, but John Chase went out on Sunday mornings. So he took him out on Sunday mornings By the time I knew about it he was twenty years old or nineteen. I do not remember Vincent in school I do remember when he worked That would have been nineteen or twenty That is when he bought the Victrola and so on because he had the money and he was working, he was able to buy it Then he met Margaret, and Margaret was a firm Protestant and he just went that way I think all of the family religion is very important to them

P Did it upset the family that he fell away from the church?

F. I am sure it did. He got married in 1943 I was thirteen Before that he was in the Army He had been dating her, so probably that all happened after Daddy died and I just did not even know about it It is like the Second World War People say, "What was it like?" and I say, "Well, I remember the rationing, but that is all I remember " I was too busy being a teenager and watching my sisters with the soldiers As far as battles or how it was going, I paid no attention I was a teenager and you just do not pay attention to those things. I was very happy, I still am happy, but what I mean by that is I was just a very happy kid.

I married my husband who was, let us say we were both crazy, happy kids. I think that what really brought us around was the birth of our daughter, Mary. We were married four years. We had Jimmy first and Jimmy was a great kid He always was, no problem He was born He was good looking, had a lot of hair, ten of each, and he was fine So it was a real shock when Mary was

born. She was not normal. That really brought us around. If someone had said to me on my wedding day, "Now Jeanne, after your wedding you are going to have eight kids." I would have said "Bye," and going down the street I never would have gotten married. "Are you kidding? Me with eight kids? No way!"

P: Well it is kind of hard to deal with when you are just starting out. So was I, I know what that was like.

F: I wish I could tell you more about Vincent. I was always just so impressed with him. He just knew everything. You mentioned it, he knew it. He was smart. I think he got a big charge out of me because I was a character. I was smart but I was crazy. He said, "Oh my God, I cannot believe you."

P: I get the impression that he was serious a lot of the time.

F: He was.

P: That was probably good.

F: Vincent was serious.

P: That was probably a good break for him, just to laugh with you a little bit.

F: That is probably true. Now Mary Helen, see I do not remember Mary Helen. She was married when I was six. The only ones that I would remember are Rita down. The older ones I really do not remember. After they graduated from high school, but being at home during that Second World War when nobody got married, that was so much fun. I just had a good time there. Is that not crazy?

P: Well, at that age you're not thinking about all the political and social ramifications of war.

F: No.

P: It is just how it affects you personally.

F: In fact, when Lenore got married, I think she got married in 1946 to Tammy Kerrigan, her husband. They were going on their honeymoon about six o'clock in the evening. There was a football game up at Rayen. When did they get married? I think on Don's birthday, September 21, I think. But anyway, I wanted to go to that game and they are going and everybody is waving goodbye to them, the tin cans and everything. I ran out and I said, "Hey Lenore, can I get a ride up to the game?" So they drove me up to Rayen and dropped me off at the football game.

P· Oh, that is funny [laughter].

F Oh, Lenore used to kid me about that

P· She does not have her date of marriage in here I was just looking at, she has 1965

F That marriage, yes I think it was September 21, 1946 It seems to ring a bell and I think that is when she got married, maybe 1947, but it was right around then Is it not crazy? The crazy things you do My mother used to say it is a poor house that cannot afford one lady [laughter]

P I like that.

F Guess who was the lady? I was the lady As I had gotten older, I heard she said that more than once, I was not the only lady. But I thought I was because I was the youngest. I just started writing this an hour before you came

P Really, you got quite a bit done.

F I was telling you about Daddy, and Mom teaching, and I slept on the third floor with my sister I do not think the older ones did this because I do not remember doing it when I was younger, but as I got older, Dick and I always said "Yes, ma'am" to Mother I do not think the rest of the family did I think that maybe she picked that up when she taught school I can remember, you know it was funny, you know another thing I wanted to tell you this about Mother

Don always kids me about this He was a year ahead of me He dropped out of school when he was a senior and went into the Marines Then he finished school in the Marines, he finished high school when he was in the Marines He came home and we went out. We went out with another couple to what was called the Pines It was a night club I was still in high school and I should not have been there in the first place There were about six of us and there was a floor show There was going to be another floor show later on and they wanted to stay and see the second floor show. I was not going to get home When I got home it was after 1.30 It was after 1:00, excuse me So, Don called my mother and told her that we had a flat tire I used to come home and I would go upstairs and go to bed and mother, I would never hear a word, she was just sleeping In fact, many a times I heard her snoring Don calling her and saying that, she was downstairs.

When I came home she was in the dining room chair in her rocker. She loved her rocker. She was rocking away and I said goodnight to Don and she said, "Did you have a good time?" I said, "We had a real nice time " She said, "Did you get the tire fixed? Is the car all right?" I said, "Mother, we did not have a flat tire "[laughter] She said, "All right Jeanne, you can not see Don You are grounded for anything for a month " That was right before my birthday Don had

bought me a birthday present, he gave it to his sister [laughter]. He called me up the next day, it was one of those beautiful days in January, you know, sun shining. We were going to go for a walk. My girlfriend and her boyfriend, I guess the two boys had seen each other at church and said, "Let us go for a walk today. It is a beautiful day." So we were going to go for a walk. Can you imagine kids doing that today?

P No

F Going for a walk on a Sunday afternoon. Anyway, he called me up and I told him I could not and I told him why. He about flipped. So, then he started just calling me on the phone. He would talk to me and then Mother finally said, "He can come up but, you cannot go out." So then he just started coming up to the house. I started Ursuline when I was a Sophomore because St. Edward's had the ninth grade. So all the St. Edward's kids went down at sophomore. I met Don right away. I went out with him. I bet there was a big prom. I was dancing with this kid and he was a senior. It was not Don. I was out in the middle of the floor and I had a seizure.

P Oh, my

F I thought that was the end. My whole family thought that was really the end for Jeanne. She has had it. Don went home, he brought me home. His mother said, "You know, Don, she is a very nice girl. I bet they feel so bad. Why do you not take her to a movie tonight?" That was Don's mother who did that. He says, "Okay." He called me up and asked me to go to the movie. It is so funny. It did not effect me like it effected my family. The whole family thinks that is when mother fell madly in love with Don. She did love Don. She lived with us and she really loved living with us. Don really treated her well. Because I take so much medicine--and it does not even seem to affect me anymore--but one thing it did, I slept well at night. I do not anymore, but anyway, I probably sleep better than I would if I was not taking all of that medication. When mother lived with us sometime she would wake up. Don always heard it and he always remembered mother. She said, "You know Don, I love you like my son. You are like a son to me." He had such a good relationship with Mother and his family was all gone. They were out on the West Coast. It was nice for him, too.

In fact, the whole family thinks of Don as part of the family because from that moment on, I dated other kids, but I kept going back to Don and finally married him. Everybody else was married and they gave Don the worst time and teased him. I should write in my autobiography of when Don was dating me. I got two corsages for Easter because he was down in the Marines and someone sent me one because I had a date that night. So, would not you know, the brothers-in-law -- they were all married then -- the brothers-in-law hid the one from the kid that I was going out with that night, and they left Don's. So, I would have to wear Don's. They just thought this was so funny and I am going crazy.

Finally, my sister Lenore got it she said she could not stand it "I had to get that corsage out "

Another time, when Don was in the Marines, I had a date with this kid who was kind of shy. He was a nice kid, but he was shy So, they were all there for Easter Sunday and they put the seats around the front door waiting for him to come He came and I was at that door and I said, "Bye, Mom," and I went out So my one brother-in-law, Sue's husband, was so crazy, he ran and he opened the door and said, "Hey Jeanne, do not forget your expecting a phone call from Camp Lajune at ten o'clock " They were terrible, but it was a lot of fun We just loved them. It was just a real happy family. We really were I just feel that I was so darn fortunate to be part of that family I probably could go on talking forever

P: Well, that is good We will have a nice long chapter for you

F Well, you know, there is just so much to tell about the family. Dating was so funny That was strictly with Mom and Don (Laughter) I know this is not part of the book, but like I said, I had seizures quite often in high school Don knew how to take care of me. I had one in high school that Don was in the same room I was in study hall There were like six rows. I was going to have a seizure and my girlfriend was behind me She said, "Don! Jeanne!" He jumped over the tables and took care of me Even the sisters, later on, told me how they used to admire Don

Every Sunday we would have a roast for dinner Dinner was early, 1.00 She would make three pies always That was for dinner Then we had supper. For supper we would always have something small to eat, but we always had a cake and Jello

P· She must have spent all day in the kitchen

F I guess Is that not something?

P. Did any of you help with that kind of thing?

F Oh, yes.

P. There were so many that you had to deal with

F No, I did not help too much because there were so many older ones, but they did, yes, they did help You see, they were all still around during the Second World War If everyone would have gotten married as they progressed, I would have had more time to do that I really did not, I did not do too much of that They got married in 1946 and 1948 Then I graduated from high school in 1948 I really did not do too much in the kitchen I worked, after everybody was gone, I cleaned bathrooms and scrubbed floors I had to do that

In fact once Don came up to the house and I said, "I will be out in a

minute," -- it used to be a playroom and it had not been for years -- I said, "I have to clean the playroom floor " I have not thought of that for a long time That was off the kitchen. It was probably a pantry. It was probably built as a pantry but we played there With so many kids, I guess that is why we called it the playroom. In the downstairs there was a living room, dining room, kitchen and pantry, but it was a playroom. I had to scrub the floor. Don came up and he said, "Well, here, let me finish it for you " So, he was there scrubbing the floor and, who came to the door but his older brother, who was coming to see my sister. They did not date or anything, but they were all going out together She said, "Don's here " And he said, "Oh, is he " She said, "Oh, he is scrubbing the floor." He walked out and said, "Oh, my gosh, wait until I tell mother I do not think you could pay him to scrub floors in my house " [laughter]. I remember that That is just kind of funny

I did a lot of bike riding and ice skating. That was what I really loved to do Of course, I was in Camp Fire, and we really were active We were an active group and we were always doing things for the Camp Fire We loved it I played the piano for five years and I liked to read. I did that Like I said, the holidays were so much fun The ones that I remember, really were All I remember about Easter is we never hid eggs or anything The baskets were always just sitting on the buffet. There was no ceremony or tradition there We just went down and they were on the buffet I do not know how it was with the older ones, that is what it was with us I remember that, and then getting a new outfit for Easter So Easter really was not a big thing Of course, [at] Thanksgiving, everybody was home Everybody helped out with that and the house smelled so good, but that was like any house It was just so much fun. Of course, we were big on pumpkin pies We would have three pumpkin pies That was my favorite pie. So, that was fine with me

P. What about Halloween? Did you dress up?

F I do not remember Halloween Maybe I do not remember too much about Halloween. I cannot tell you too much about that I had to make my own bed, too I am going back like this, you know what we did? New Year's Eve, and this is when Daddy was still alive, we got together with his relatives at our house He only had the one sister and he had an aunt and uncle They came to our house for New Year's Eve They just had a real nice dinner and they would let us stay up Then we would all get spoons and pans and at 12 o'clock, we went out and we hit the pans. When I had my children, they did the same thing I had more bent pans [laughter] Just like my mother had bent pans. Then I could remember having kids over and someone would stay over with one of the kids, like there was a friend over of Donny's "What do you mean you are going to hit the pan?" I said, "You are celebrating the New Year." He would go out and he had fun, but he laughed and thought it was so funny He went out and pounded and had just as much fun as the kids did With my mother and dad, you put money outside, or bread I do not remember what you put outside because I did

not do that. That stopped after my father died. I think it was a piece of bread and a penny. And a dark haired man had to be the first one into your door after the New Year because that meant good luck. The food meant you would have plenty of food and the money, you would be in good shape. We always used to do that with those relatives. That was New Year's.

I wish I had my glasses. Childhood illnesses, you know, I just had that run of the mill. I went to Camp Fire Girls camp one year. I went two years. I can remember I was so excited about going into camp. After the week was over we were down in a valley in Rogers, Ohio. My sister Kay came to pick me up. I saw them standing at the top of this big hill and I was so excited, I ran all the way up the hill. I started crying when I saw them and I was twelve years old. I should not have done that then. I was just so happy to see Kay and Mom. Then we went home.

P You had been at camp for how long?

F. A week. Talk about values. I think we got a lot from Mom. She did not talk about people, she never swore or anything like that. She did not smoke or drink. I was in my thirties and I found out that she was upset. She did not like the English, because what the English had done to Ireland. She never told me that. I told my kids that a long time ago "Those darn English, they really took advantage of Ireland." And they did, but that is another story, too [laughter]. Mother never said anything bad like that. I never knew that until I was in my thirties. I thought I did not know mother. She said, "Well, I just did not say Jeanne." I thought, is that not interesting. I was really surprised. I thought she just did not care about that. I talk too much [laughter]. Down here, special school memories, I remember when I was a senior in high school the sister saying to me, "Jeanne, you are a good girl, but you talk too much."

I worked at City Loan, that was my first job. When I left City Loan, I left because I had seizures. I went to work and right before they opened the doors, I had a seizure, so the door did not open for about five minutes. Then I went on vacation. I worked that week and I went on vacation. While I was on vacation the boss called up and I answered the telephone. He talked to mother. He said, "May I speak to your mother please?" Mother came back and said, "Jeanne, that was Mr. Walters." I thought that voice sounded familiar. She said, "He just fired you." I said, "Why?" She said, "Because that is why he wanted to talk to me. He said, 'I just want you to understand they cannot take the chance of somebody having a seizure like your daughter did. I just feel we have to let her go. I am really sorry.'" He was apologizing to my mother, he could not tell me, so he told my mother. Then I went down to my friend, I had a friend who worked down at the Diocese. She said the head of Catholic Charities needs a secretary. So I went down. His name was Father Dempsy, and I talked to him.

I told father Dempsy my experience with City Loan. I said, "I just wanted to let you know I am an epileptic and I might have a seizure now and then." He said, "That is okay, Jeanne. I get sick, too. I have ulcers and every once and a

while I cannot come in because my stomach hurts So, that is all right with me " He was so nice, that dear priest, so I worked for him until he left and Father Cub came, and he was my boss until I got married Back then, you did not get married and work at the same time. So, I had to quit my job

P I did not realize that

F That was with the diocese, and that was 1950 So, when I got married -- I got married in 1950 -- I could not work with them anymore But then it was funny, I did not work for them, but they called me back to work part time because they had other work that had to be done in the diocese. So, I would go back and work all over the diocese until I got pregnant with Jimmy, my first born After I had him, I did not go back Actually, when I worked, I gave all of my pay to mother and she gave me so much to spend, only because she needed the money It was not because she was being hard on me, or did not think I could handle money I had to pay her money to help her live because she did not have a job then

My wedding gift from mother was I kept my paycheck before I got married In the meantime, because I wanted to get married and she really could not give me a wedding. My sister Kay made my wedding dress. I went out to my sister Kay's house and she went through her box of patterns She picked up one pattern and she said, "This will be the arm, this will be the yoke, this is the skirt," and she was doing what I had taken a picture out to her She told me, "If you could get a picture of a dress you like, I will make it for you." I did, and she made it And then my sister, Sue, made my veil for me My family, I mean they were just so darn nice Now that I am married, my adult years, we have lived in quite a few homes You do not want to get into that do you?

P We can save that for another time

F. Here is reactions to major events I remember my mother feeding men during the Depression They all came to the back door and Mom always had something to give the men

P. Here is a family with ten children during the Depression, and she is feeding other people

F Yes, she is feeding other people Also, during the Depression, in the block, we had people working for WPA Those were men, and I guess I went over. I do not know if I repeated something they said or what, but she would not want to go back because, "they spoke bad language, Jeanne You cannot go over there " So I was not allowed to go over and watch those men working over at the WPA because they spoke bad language

P You grew vegetables and so on in your yard?

- F Yes, but I do not think that was until the Second World War, when everybody had a Victory Garden. I am not aware of that before that.
- P I am just amazed that a family with that many children during the Depression years had enough to eat
- F Oh, you do not know why? No one told you why?
- P. They mentioned something about the clients paying in food
- F Yes, the clients paid in food. I guess enough clients paid in money that we had to live on, and plus the food, we did not have to buy that food. In fact, we even gave food to my aunt. Now, I do not remember that, but my sisters tell me that I guess my uncle had a real good job in the mill, but during the Depression it was gone. You know, something I remember about Vincent, I will never forget. I decided one day to help him. He was painting a picture and he always painted birds, and I am sure you have seen his picture of the Owl
- P. I have not seen it
- F Oh, I will show it to you
- P Okay
- F Before he died he had a photo made of this painting that was always in the house on Kensington. It was a picture of an owl, and it was George. We all loved it. We just loved George. So, after he was married--I think he knew he was dying--he had a photograph taken and he had one taken for each one of us. I thought that was so nice, because we all loved that picture. When I was young he was painting a picture of ducks. It was a real nice picture, but I do not know what I did. I decided I was going to help him paint. So, I picked up the paint brush and started painting the picture. The next I remember is standing in the basement watching Vincent tearing up the picture and putting it in the furnace. So, I guess I stayed away from that for awhile. That was funny.
- It was very important for my father to have a car in good working order because he was a Prudential insurance salesman. He would go to the people's homes. So, if his car was not working he was not working. That was very important because he gave up the garage. The garage was used as a play house. Dad never used it all winter long in that bad, bad weather. I can see this today. I have not thought of it in sixty years but it is, again, thinking of stuff reminds you of something else. I would get chalk and I would mark off. This would be the living room. Then I would mark off the dining room and the kitchen. I had a ball in that garage.

P Playing house.

F I really did, playing house. That is so funny I had just forgotten all about that

P Were you usually by yourself when you did this, or with neighborhood kids?

F You know, I played a lot by myself because there were not a lot There was one young girl that lived in the neighborhood, and she had a heart condition Of course, today if she had a heart condition she would be exercising all day long But back then they would not let her do anything because she had a heart condition They felt if she did anything she was going to hurt herself I do not know whatever happened to her I do not remember playing with her very much and, again, my other sisters were older I was in the first grade when the sister closest to me was in the eighth grade So, it was just a time difference there Then I was thinking about it, I thought my brother Jim, who was four years older than me, also used the garage He loved to fix bikes He would fool around with bikes I wonder if maybe I remember that because I wanted to use the garage to play and he was using it to fix bikes. Like I said, it is interesting because whenever my kids said to me, "What was your favorite thing when you were young, Mom?" My favorite thing was paper dolls I loved paper dolls I completely forgot about the garage Mom would get catalogs and I would cut out all the pictures Did you ever do that?

P Oh, yes

F You would play house. My gosh, you could have a whole house and all the furniture and all the family and everybody else, because they have everything in these catalogs.

P God bless those catalogs

F It is a shame kids are not able to do that today. My husband told me, "I do not ever remember anyone ever doing it around our house." He keeps kidding me about growing up on the East side He said, "That is where the tough and rough kids are They did not have the money, but they knew how to do things And all the snobby kids were on the North side " He really loved the East side He was saying that on the East side they used to get newspapers and wrap them real tightly together I guess they got them wet They wrapped them tightly together and they would make a football That was their football Is that not interesting?

P Yes, it is

F Is it not amazing what imagination will do when you have to have it?

P Kids do not have to do that

F: They do not have to do that, and it is a real shame that they do not have to do that. I was just talking to my daughter today, and I know her tuition is paid this year at school, but I said, "You know Peggy, when you went to Ursuline and your brothers and sisters went, they all paid their way through Ursuline. They all worked so hard." Except my last two. They did not. We were able to pay their way and we did. I said, "I think that was a big plus for you kids, that you had to work and save your money so you were able to buy those things or go places, or tuition and so on. I really do think that was a good thing."

P: Absolutely. It teaches them responsibility.

F: It sure does. Do you have any questions?

P: Yes, there were a few things, but let me put it all together first. Then we can go back and do questions later. I wanted to start today with school years.

F: Okay.

P: And start from grade school and work through high school. You went to St. Edwards, right?

F: Yes.

P: Did that have a kindergarten?

F: No, I did not go to kindergarten. I do not think anybody in my family went. That was not real big.

P: I did not either, so I can understand that. But you went first grade through what?

F: Ninth. When I went they had the nine grades. When my sister Sue, Jim, Rich and I, they had the nine grades. I loved school. I loved it because I was popular [laughter]. I really loved school, I really did. I had good grades. I was a good student.

We had May crowning's back then. I crowned the Blessed Virgin in the second grade, which was a real big thing. When I talk about school, this is strictly school, not much about home. I loved school.

P: Were you mostly taught by nuns?

F: Yes. I had a lay teacher in the second and fourth grade, and all the rest were sisters. I loved the sisters. When I went to St. Edward's they still had the convent. The sisters would go home for lunch and we would be playing in the yard and the girls played in one yard and the boys played in the other yard.

They were separated. Then the sisters would start walking down the long walk to go back to the school. Everybody would run out to walk down with the sisters. They loved to walk with the sisters. It was just so interesting, because you hear all these bad things about the sisters. I don't remember anything bad about the sisters. Maybe they were easy on me because of my sickness, I do not know but I got along real well with them.

P Did you notice when you were in school that it seemed like the boys were getting into trouble more than the girls, and the girls seemed to love the sisters?

F Probably. I mean, of course, the boys were in the other yard. So when they were walking down you never saw them as far as that goes. Oh, certainly.

P So, no real discipline problems in school with the sisters?

F No, I had a good time. In fact, would you believe that I was a good kid and most of the kids were? Kids were not bad then. I went to a boy-girl party when I was in the fifth grade and played spin the bottle. Father Ashton, who is pastor out at St. Nicholas, kissed me. He is a dear friend, and he is still a dear friend. We had a good time. I belonged to Camp Fire girls. Those girls, I do not know if I told you this before, those girls took care of me. I did not know it. I really did not know it. Because if I knew it I would feel as if I was a cripple or something. If we went some place my mother was fearful of me doing something dangerous, they would all keep in tabs with my mother and let my mother know, "Hey, Jeanne is okay. She is fine." I took piano lessons for five years. I did tell you this I am sure. I always was worried about forgetting the piece. My family worried about me having seizures; I never did. It was just so funny that that never bothered me.

P Well that is a credit, really, to the family.

F It is a credit to the family definitely, without a doubt. You are right. I cannot say that enough. My mother certainly takes a lot of that credit. She was a wise woman. Although, I must say, she was thirty-nine when I was born, so I did not pay as much attention as to what she had to say, as to what my sister Sue had to say. I do not mean I did not obey her. I did. But if she would say, "I do not think this is popular," or "I do not think this would look good," I would say, "Sue, what do you think?"

I guess I was a good student. I won the spelling bee for our grade one year. I think everybody in our family won it for their grade in one year. It was something, I do not know why.

P Well, you said before you were always good with English and grammar because you were taught it at home.

F: Exactly

P Were there any subjects in school that you did not like or that you did not do well in?

F Well, I did well in all of my subjects really I was not that interested in science, I really was not I am a lot more interested today, and I think, if only I paid attention back then School was fine I cannot remember too much to tell you about school As I said, I was a Camp Fire girl and we did so much together We had a good time together I was in the choir, we had a choir Mother had a beautiful voice. Most of us sang, and that was a real nice thing that mother gave us.

P Did you all stand around the piano at Christmas time and sing Christmas carols and do things like that? Or was it kind of an every day, always singing?

F No, I do not remember doing that at Christmas I can remember mother playing, and I told you about the hymns she used to play

P Yes

F Mother used to play the piano all the time, and then I took lessons I played, also You know, mother had that talent She played by ear, where as I had to have the music in front of me. So, today if I had a piano and someone would say, "Well here, play this " I would be there struggling trying to get the notes Where mother could just sit down, "Alright," and she would sit down and play it. Which is so nice I always had envied her for that. Then I went to Ursuline

P Did you have anything like an elementary school graduation?

F. Oh, yes

P That would have been the ninth grade graduation?

F Yes, ninth grade graduation

P Big ceremony?

F Yes, but I cannot remember anything about it When I was in the ninth grade I also went to--I do remember this--I went to Canton Before my graduation in the ninth grade, somebody thought there was something new for epileptics and mother took me over to Canton, Ohio. I was in the hospital in Canton and mother knew one of the sisters She was a sister up at St. Edward's and she was teaching in Canton We also new one of the priests and they both came over and visited me, and just stayed with me and fed me. I had something that

was called an air incephlogram I do not even know if they do them today, probably not. Anyway, they put air in your head and I do not know what they did to my head, but I could not move my head. Then coming home in the car from Canton--I was in the hospital for a couple days--even still, coming home I had to lay flat in the car I went back to see Dr. O'Brien but nothing ever changed

P They did not find anything new from the test?

F. Just nothing That was the way it was all my life

P Constantly trying for new procedures?

F You know, after that I will tell you about my epilepsy I will just go through that and you can put it in how you like After that, when I was in the ninth grade, then mother had me go to a doctor on the North side. She said, "He is really good " She had heard rave reports of him He was not a neurologist, but I went to him and he gave me the medicine that I was still taking anyway. He said, "You know, you have no acid in your stomach You should be taking acid " So I started taking acid and I had to put it in a glass, and I had to drink it with a straw because I did not want to hurt my teeth. Now this is crazy because you know when you eat something and it goes in your body it hurts the teeth But anyway, I did that and I was not allowed to drink more than five liquids a day, because maybe this doctor thought I had liquid in the head I do not know what he thought Anyway, that included gravy, that included everything As a result, that is when all of my friends started drinking pop I never did start drinking pop and that was why

Then, in high school I still went to this doctor I got married and had a miscarriage. That is when I told you the doctor told me to have an abortion and so on. I went back to talk to the nurse and when I went back to talk to the nurse, it was the first time myself had ever gone back there She had a book shelf with all the medicine on it The bottom row of that book shelf was loaded with five-gallon jugs of the medicine I take So, it looks like he was telling everybody in the world, "That is your problem You take it and it is going to make you better " So I told mother I was not going back to him I did not know that until after I was married So, I did not go to anybody In fact, after that, I was pregnant all of the time My obstitrition would order the medicine for me if I needed it reordered, and I needed it from the doctor. I just went to the obstitrition

Then when we moved to Akron I still got the same medicine I did get a new doctor up in Akron, but he was just a family doctor He said he would order the medicine for me Finally around 1966 -- now this is since 1950, I have not been to a neurologist--and I went to a neurologist and he said, "I want to give you some new medicine It is new and it has done great things I want you to take it, but you cannot take it until after you have your baby " I was pregnant with my last one. So, when I was in the hospital with the baby he came in and he said, "I will give you a prescription and you can start on the new medicine " I

did, and I started taking the medicine when I was at home. That is when my husband thought I was on a cheap drink. He would say, "Jeanne, now what is the matter?" I would bump into the chair like that and I could not turn a corner. I was always bumping into things and I had a brand new baby. My baby was born in February and this is when this was happening, February and March. He said, "Jeanne, I do not know what is the matter with you. Why are you not walking straight?" "I do not know." It did not bother me. I would sleep during the day and my sister came in and said, "Jeanne, where is the baby?" "Oh, I do not know. The baby is on the bed." They thought, my gosh, what is the matter.

So Don said, "I am going to take you down to see that doctor. Maybe it is the new medicine." So I thought, "Maybe it is." Of course, I take this other medicine and, I take it all with me. I just have the feeling I told you this. That was really unusual because they were just beginning to say medicine can interact and you have to be careful. That was just when they started saying about smoking and all that. Anyway, I want to take all my medicine with me because I am taking this medicine when I was pregnant. Maybe it does not react well with this medicine. So I went down and I had like five pills in my hand and he would point to each one and say, "What is this?" Then he said, "What is this?" And I said, "That is the medicine you ordered, Doctor." He said, "Oh, okay." He said, "Well, I will be right back. Sit down and I will be right back." He came back and he said to me, "You know, no wonder your husband thought you were on a cheap drink." He said, "You are taking five times too much medicine."

P Oh, my goodness

F I was. He had ordered twenty-five grams and I should take it five times a day. The druggist, in his own words, said to me, "Oh my gosh, I grabbed the wrong bottle." He gave me the two hundred and fifty, five times a day. So I really was out of it.

P I guess so

F So, I did not take any medicine for about two weeks. Then he started me back on my old medicine. You know, it just seems like, why knock it. I did not do anything more about going to neurologists or anything. I thought, "Hey, I am in great shape. I have had eight kids. I feel great. I am fine." That is another story, too. Anyway, I felt real good and so on. So, I just stuck to that medicine. Then about ten years ago, after I had moved back to Youngstown, I noticed that my memory was not too hot. Of course, it could be age, but of course it could be the medicine. When you take medicine like that you tend to think that way. You think, "Could this be the medicine?" You do not think, "Oh, it is my age." It was driving me crazy so Don said, "Why do you not go to the clinic?" And I did. Talk about going to a specialist. He was an adult seizure specialist. They have all kinds of things up at that hospital. He said to me, "You know, you are taking phenylbarbital and your not taking that much. You really do not have to take it

What you should do is just very slowly get off the medicine, in a week Just take it very slowly and then just do not take it " So, I did. That was about probably, and I am very serious, the most trying time in my life I had a lot of bad things happen, but it was not my fault

In 1980 my husband split his business with the man he was in business with I cannot put this in the book I was thinking about this and about you coming That was a terrible time because we all had the same friends He was not doing his share of the business It was very obvious to anybody who was in the business and all the salesman that called on him Finally Don said, "I have got to get out of this " So he bought him out That really shook me up I was really upset about that I was down at Dick's office I had to give a deposition because he was suing us I was down there giving the deposition and I had a seizure That was the first seizure I had in a long time It was right at the time the doctor told me to get off the phenylbarbotal So I often wonder about that. I often think maybe I got off the phenylbarbotal to fast. Maybe, if I had just quite one pill a week

I would love to do it now, and now I am kind of afraid because of my heart attack It is just a terrible thing. The older I get, and you read all the time in the paper, medicine stays with you as you get older You do not have to take as much medicine. I really would like to do that Anyway, I had my heart attack When I had my heart attack they gave me coumadin It is a blood thinner and I had a seizure then I have not had a seizure since then, and that was 1989 So, that is great In 1989 Kevin came home, and he is my baby. He was with me and nobody else was Kevin who was in his twenties had never seen me have a seizure He was scared to death He called 911 and we do not even have 911 out here But they came through and they did get an ambulance for us.

P That is good.

F Yes, and I am back to the hospital I just wanted to tell you that part of my epilepsy, just to let you know how that has progressed But back to school. When I was in school, I used to have seizures once a month. Sometimes I had them more often, but normally it was once a month. Once I had one in school and everybody knew I believe I did tell you I had a seizure when I went to a dance.

P Yes

F And how Don was always there. He really was A real sweetheart. My family really loved him for that Down at school, I was not academic at that point I was interested in having a good time and I did my work, but I did not study like mad, or do anything like that I really did not care I had a scholarship and I did not take it because my friends were going to Ursuline. That was not very nice because my mother did not have the money to pay my way If I am not mistaken, I got my way paid because of being from this large family Down at

Ursuline I got along real well with the teachers I know one teacher said to me once, "You know, Jeanne, you are a real good kid, but you just talk too much If you did not talk so much you would be okay" But I always talk too much [laughter]

P Did you join a lot of organizations at school?

F Down at school? Yes. They had Latin then I was in the Latin club and what else? They had a lot of things you did for people, volunteer things. Now down at Ursuline, they have a regular religion class that you do things for people from that class They did not have that when I was there. For instance, they would say we would like a group to go up and sing carols at Christmas time Anybody interested, sign up I would sign up and do it They have a class now, and I think that is a good idea

I loved football and I used to go out to the football games I was involved in the rallies You know, I wanted to be in the play. I was not in the play. My friends were in the play I was not in the play because the teacher said, "You know Jeanne, what if you have a seizure and you had a big part, you would not be able to do anything." Which was true, it really was true It was hard to hear, but I could understand that After I had a seizure I would sleep for a couple hours and I could not do anything

P Did you help behind the scenes?

F I did. So, I did and that was fun because it was just fun doing that I went down with my friends when they tried out I did not try out and I would hear them and I would be thinking, that is not the way you should do it You should be doing it this way. If only I could try out, I bet I could do it But when you cannot try out, you always can do it better.

P Of course

F No doubt about it If I had to try out, I just would have been like everybody else [laughter]. But because I could not, "Well, if you tried me." I never said that That was it Don played a big part of my life I met him when I was a sophomore

P He was a year older?

F He was a junior He used to call me every night. He was a nice kid When I was a junior I went to school one day and one of his friends came up and said, "Jeanne, Don joined the Marines " I said, "Oh no, he did not " "Yes, he did " I said, "I do not believe you " He said, "Well, he did " I saw Don and we were going steady I really did not like going steady I wanted to date a lot of kids. I said, "If you join the Marines, I am not going steady with you anymore " And he

said, "I would not expect you to Jeanne No, I do not expect you to do that You do whatever you want to do " And I did I dated all the kids in my class and I had a ball, I really did. In fact I was runner-up for prom queen. So considering everybody considered me Don's girlfriend and the boys vote for you, that was a pretty good honor for me. I had a real good time But Don went into the Marines

P This is before he graduated?

F He was a senior in high school and he finished high school in the Marines. He would come home and everybody at Ursuline would know that Don's home because I would be so excited about it. I had a date for the prom and when I was graduating--this is when I was graduating--he surprised me He came home for graduation, but he arrived the night of the prom So, there was hardly anything I could do. I mean this kid you know had, we did not wear tuxedos then, but still he probably had a new suit and paid for the corsage and all that Don came up to the house and I told him, "Well, I have to go out tonight because this is the prom and I promised him I would " And we did We went to the prom and while I was at the prom, I was telling everybody, "Don's home, Don's home!" I just remember doing that

My family was so funny with me and Don I was the baby girl and they all treated me like that They gave Don and I such a hard time They would not let us do anything that they would tease us about. They would not let us in the kitchen alone They would not let us in the living room alone They would not let us any place alone They would try to get on our back or accuse us of things They were just a lot of fun. Then when he went in the Marines, and it was a lot of fun really When he went into the Marines, and I dated other boys, oh they gave me a bad time I remember one Easter while Don was in the Marines I had a date and I got two corsages Did I tell you this?

P Yes, I think you did They took one, your sisters took one

F Yes I thought I told you that The other was the real shy kid and they all got chairs and they all sat around in the living room waiting for him I met him at the door. They were crazy Then when I met him at the door, my brother-in-law, Sue's husband, he was so funny, he yelled out the door, "Jeanne, do not forget you have a phone call at Camp Lejune at ten o'clock." Then we got married and, you know, it was really very nice because, at that time, my sister Anne lived in Akron and Mary Helen lived out of town. Kay was moving to Phoenix So, the husbands of Sue, Lenore, and when Rita would come to town, Rita's husband and Don They were all good friends We would all go out together We had a lot of fun together As each one of them died, I felt so sorry for Don because he really loved those men, he really did. They were his good friends That was sad to see them go.

I was going to tell you about Chuck, Sue's husband He drove a truck for

Thorton Laundry He used to want to see all the Notre Dame games and so did Don Don did not work on Saturday So he would get Don and they would go out and do the route in twice the time so they would get home in time to watch the Notre Dame game They had good times together Those were just good days and those were in the 1950's I just felt so bad My last brother-in-law, Jim Ryan, died in, I think, 1970 I really felt bad when he died Actually, then we started getting closer to Rich because Rich had been out of town When I got married he was still in school. Then he went to Georgetown in the middle 1950's and got married in the 1960's. Then he was in Washington. When he came home from Washington, we were still in Akron So we did not really go out with Rich and Betty at that time But then we moved back

They had the "Follies" down at Powers Auditorium I think they had them three years We went down there and we were in them That was so much fun, it was all amateurs All of the amateurs do the Broadway plays of Zigfield. They have all of the outfits It was so darling In one of those, Don and Betty learned to polka They polka and now, to this day, if we are out some place and polka comes on Don says, "Come on Betty." They go up and polka away, and Dick and I sit there.

P. Neither one of you knew how to polka?

F. No I think I could do it now One-two-one, or is it one-one-two, I do not know If I was on the floor, I would get it I do not usually do it, but that is nice

P Absolutely

F That has been nice for Don and Dick, I think, because, as far as Dick is concerned, his other brother has been out of town as long he has been an adult, too That has been kind of nice That is getting way ahead. I will tell you what, when we were first married, we did not have a car for two years We would go every place on the bus In fact, when my first baby was born, we took him on the bus When I was dating Don, speaking of the bus, we lived on Kensington Avenue Mother moved when I was eighteen because she had had the heart problem She was going to go into the dress business It just was not succeeding too well My brother-in-law felt that if she took it up to Elm Street, which was a busy street, she might be able to sell more So she did It really did not work out, but anyhow we moved. Don had gotten to know the bus drivers because he was coming up to my house all the time So, when I moved, the bus would stop at the corner of Thorton and the corner of Sherinack I lived right in between on Elm Street So, the bus driver would take us, and he would stop right in front of our house (laughter) Then go on to Sherinak Avenue That was just a lot of good memories We did not have a car

Jimmy was born in 1952 When he was one year old Don came home with his "birthday present" It was a television, our first He said, "Well, it was a good deal Jeanne Jimmy is having a birthday, is he not?" Any excuse is better

than none We got our first television We lived on Rayen Avenue, above the Catholic service league Right next store to us were the buses. They used to run the buses at night to get rid of the exhaust and all that stuff. And Don, my gosh, there we were, I was twenty and Don was twenty-one. He called up the councilmen and complained about the busses (laughter) We had so much fun in that apartment because we were one of the first married of our gang. We had another couple that got married, there were two of us All of our other friends were not, and they would come over Then he went to Y.S U for a while and all his friends would come over from Y S U for lunch. We has so much fun on Rayen Avenue

We had a fire once on Rayen Avenue and Don was getting out of the tub I got all of my cooking lessons from my sister Sue, because my mother was working at that time up at St Elizabeth's I would call Sue and I wanted to make french fries She said, "Well, until the water gets hot, until it is boiling " I went out and waited for the grease to bubble like water does, and it never did. So, I left it on and on I got the french fries and I thought, this has to be hot enough I poured them in, all of them, and I started a fire The fire went right up in the air and went right across the ceiling. Don was just getting out of the tub I said, "Don, there is a fire in the kitchen!" He had a towel around him and he ran out I am wondering, I am not sure about that fire because when he went out to the kitchen, do you know what he did? He poured water on it (laughter). I knew you do not pour water on grease but he did He picked up the pan, and he ran out of the apartment, and there were like six apartments on each floor There was a big hall, then all these doors He had to run down the hall carrying this flaming pan of grease He got to the last apartment and a dear lady there got her couch cushions and put out the fire with her couch cushions. Don, in the meantime, was so excited he lost the towel that he was wearing out there You know, I could go on we have so many crazy stories that I could tell you about I really mean it I could keep you here all afternoon.

P Absolutely, I would like to hear all of them.

F Another one, all these apartment went out into a hall so they had to have some kind of -- I cannot think of the word They had to let air in

P Ventilation?

F They had to have some ventilation Each closet was up against the hallway There was a little vent there The vent was probably a foot long. There were people right across from us. He had been in the Second World War He was in the Second World War and he started drinking afterwards He had a teenage daughter. He stopped drinking and he bought all new furniture for the house On Christmas Eve he started drinking again. I guess he really tore that place apart But we, young people, had never seen anything like this "Gosh what is going on!" The two girls, we went into the closet and we stood by the vent to

listen what they were saying. All of a sudden, somebody yelled, "What are you doing watching us?" Oh my gosh, we about died and we jumped back. Here it was one of the guys from our place. They went out into the hall and they yelled. We about died. We laughed about that so many times.

We stayed there until I was pregnant with Jimmy and then we moved to Evergreen. It was a real nice house, very similar to my mother's house that we lived in on Kensington Avenue. It had a porch and we loved it. Don took care of that yard like it was his very own, like it was a million dollar house. All of the neighbors could not get over it. They said, "Oh, my gosh. I cannot believe this yard!" We went down to Good Will and bought second-hand porch furniture and a second-hand porch rug, and we spent more time out there. We just loved it. We had been in that apartment on Rayen Avenue. This was really living. Oh, how we loved it. Then somebody lived upstairs, we had the downstairs. When Jimmy was born, the dining room was made into a bedroom to sell it as an apartment. We slept in that bedroom and we had Jimmy in there. That was real nice. It did the trick.

Then I got pregnant again. I was always getting pregnant in the 1950's, that is all I did. In 1954 I had Mary. Mary was my daughter that was a hydrocephalic. We moved again because we needed a bigger house. We moved to Dewey Avenue and it had three bedrooms in it. When I had Mary, I went in the hospital but the doctor never knew anything was the matter. I went in to have the baby and you are in the labor room for a while, then at the last minute they take you into the delivery room. I do not know if they still do it that way but that is the way they did it then. I was in the delivery room for about an hour and a half while everybody else was coming and going. My mother and Don were sitting there just waiting.

P. Now where was I when Mary was born?

F. The doctor came out and told them that Mary was a hydrocephalic and that she probably would not live the day. So they had given me ether and a double dose because I started coming out of it because I was in so long because they could not get Mary. The reason they could not get Mary is because her head was a little bit larger and she could not come out. She was too big to come out so the doctor had to get forceps and he put them inside of me and turned Mary around so I had a breached birth with her. Of course, I do not remember that because I was really out of it.

Doctor Young came in while mother and Don were in the room and they just told me I had a little girl. They did not want to tell me anything. So when Dr. Young came in, he explained to me she probably would not live and that if she did, her brain would just be damaged. It would be better if she did die. Then he said to me, "I am sorry this happened to you more than any other of my patients because some people are going to say this happened to you because you are an epileptic. It did not happen to you because you were an epileptic. I want you to know that right now." I believed him, thank God I believed him. I do not think it

was, because we had forty grandchildren and about sixty great grand children and nothing has happened to any of them. I did have that fall on my head when I was about three, so I am sure that is what it was and I never worried about that

Mary was beautiful. It was a beautiful thing to have them for us because we were so crazy. I kind of settled us down and make us appreciate having a normal baby, like we did in Joleene. Mary, Don would bring her down in the morning. I could carry her around at first. In fact, with Jimmy -- he was born in 1952 -- it was real popular then to prop the bottle, to give the baby a bottle. They sold all kinds of bottle holders so you could prop the bottle and, with Jimmy, I always propped the bottle and he was my first one. It was not like I was running around after eight other ones. I did prop it now and then. With Mary, she lived the week. I was in the hospital a week and we brought her home. She lived a week and they said she probably would not live a month. Then they said she would not live a year. After a year was up they just were dumbfounded. What did we say, we just do not know. But anyway, when I had Mary I thought, I will always feed you in my arms because I know your not going to be with me forever. And I did. That was good because I did it with my other ones, too. I said, "Oh my gosh, what was I missing? This is the way it should be."

Now for Suzanne, I had her with natural child birth and nobody did that in the 1950's. That was very different. I was eight months pregnant and Dr. Young asked me if I would like to try it. I said, "Yes, I will try it." And I did with all my kids then. But Don was never there.

P. Was that a good experience then?

F. Yes it was, it really was. And I was so excited about Suzanne. After that, I started reading about it. This was with Suzanne, after Mary. Mary, I just thought, I just have to do this. I have inverted nipples, which I will not put in the book. I could not get them to come out to feed her. One day Don says, "You know Jeanne, maybe there is a purpose for this." I said, "Why?" Of course I was having seizures once a month then. He says, "Jeanne, what if the baby was hungry and you had a seizure? What would you do? I think you probably should not breast feed the baby because of your seizures." And I had not even thought of that. I really had not because I did not like to think about that. I really tried my hardest not to. I thought that was a good point because I would go to sleep then and I would sleep for maybe four hours. If the baby was hungry, what could I do?

With Mary, it looked good for her at the beginning. At the beginning you could hardly tell she had a problem because I think her head was two inches larger at first. By the end of the year it was this big. She was beautiful. When I brought her home she had black eyes from the forceps, which was not too bad, but she was beautiful. She was very dark complected, black hair and blue eyes, just beautiful. This is a picture of her.

P. Oh, how sweet.

- F She was, she really was sweet This is me on Evergreen with Jimmy, our one and only Mary was so sweet You could see her eyes were black there.
- P A little bit, yes.
- F I had this up only because my daughter was here this weekend. Were trying to figure out who the baby looks like, our latest grandchild, so I had this out and it just happened to dawn on me I had a picture of Mary That is when I found these, too Do you want these?
- P I am just going to make a note of them that you have them, just in case
- F Someone has those pictures, I do not know who Of course, the one in the newspaper, I do not know if anyone has that one Mary was a good baby and she never cried or was cranky. She slept in the bedroom with the other girls Did I tell you this?
- P No
- F She slept in the bedroom with the other girls and we had the blackboard in there, and the kids would take the blackboard and put it on the floor The would dance for Mary They would be there making noise on the blackboard and dancing for Mary Mary loved the kids and she would laugh and that was all Mary would do. Mary laughed, that was about all She said, "Ma " That was about it Mary did not do anything else We kept her at home for eight years and then we put her in a home. During those eight years she was never a problem She was a real sweetheart. Like I said, the kids were real good It was a good experience for the kids, too
- P Sure
- F Like I said, the kids were real good It was a good experience because after that, they did not laugh at people that were different She was out in the buggy one day and Jimmy, Jimmy was only two years older than Mary She was in the buggy She was not in the buggy like most people were in the buggy She was in the buggy forever He was about kindergarten age and we had her in the buggy and someone came by and mentioned, "Hello, kid." He mentioned what a queer head she had, and Jimmy got in a fight with him I about flipped, he got in a fight
- Then my oldest daughter Suzanne, I always used to tell the kids we had a little angel in our house, and were very lucky to have a little angel I told that to all the kids and Suzanne went to school and she came home and she was crying I said, "What is the matter honey?" She says, "I told everybody we had an angel that lives at our house, and my sister is an angel, and they do not

believe me " Poor Suzanne, and I said, "Honey, they do not understand." I tried to explain to her about saints then and so on

But Mary, it just started getting worse When she was first born she was normal from her head down Her body was normal size and she moved around That first year most of the damage was done The bigger the head got, the more damage it did to the brain At first, it paralyzed the right side. Then it would do something here, then to the eye. She was blind from birth That was the damage.

P She was?

F Yes, that was done before she was born By the time we put her in a home, she was cripple up. Poor little kid, you just felt so sorry for her She was never unhappy, she really was not. She was always happy. We got along well, I think Then, when I went in to have my next baby, I was the only one to take care of Mary and I did not know what I was going to do because my sister would take Jimmy, but who would take Mary? I had worked the Catholic charities and I asked my old boss. He said, "I think you should ask your family doctor " So I went in and I told the doctor my predicament I said, "I do not have anybody to sit with Mary when I go in to have this baby I have to make some plans." He said, "Jeanne, when you have the baby all you have to do is call me up and I will admit Mary into the hospital When you go in to have the baby, Mary will go in to stay, and she will stay until you leave " And back then, you used to stay for about a week -- five days to a week We did that Well, that was 1955 and again in 1957, 1958, and 1959 we were back. In fact, in 1959 I was in my room We used to have fun because you could stay for five to seven days and, especially when you had a lot of kids, this was a vacation

P That is right!

F I enjoyed it and I was having a real good time It was when Donny was born He was number six in the seven years, and I had Donny and I was having a real good time This nurse walked in and she said, "I am looking for Jeanne Foley " Everybody just stopped talking and I said "I am Jeanne Foley " She said, "Jeanne I wanted to talk to you because I work up on the children's floor. I take care of Mary every time you come in " So that was for Suzanne, Peggy, Katie, and Donny So this was the fourth time that I had been in She said, "I want to tell you something " And she had a real sad story, she told me about her parents, I forget it now but it was really sad I think they were shot, but her husband was also killed in an automobile accident or it was vice versa, but it was a real sad story and she said, "I lost my faith after that happened because I just could not take it But I want to tell you when Mary came in, I have taken care of Mary every time she has come in the hospital When she came in this time and I knew you had another baby, I had to come down and see you because I have my religion back because of Mary."

P. Everything happens for a reason

F Mary was such a good thing for us We were poor, too Oh, my heavens, I would not have it any other way, I really would not I was really shocked when that lady told me that That was great Then Mary stayed with us and she lived with us until she was about eight Her head kept getting bigger and her body just kept withering away Don, in the meantime, had to get another job because after Donny was born there was a six month strike In the 1950's we had Jimmy and Mary Then in 1955 we took out a loan for a down payment on a house Then we had the new baby in 1955, then we had Peggy in January of 1957, then Katie in 1958 and Donny in 1959

The same month that I had Donny, Don went on strike for six months. Things were just not looking good I know we went down to try to get a loan. He said, "You know, I do not know how you people are doing it I cannot give you people money I am sorry " He knew us He said "There was just not credit, but you have been on strike for six months and I just cannot do it with all of these bills " So my sister lived in Akron and Akron was booming at the time and we talked to her and her husband suggested we moved to Akron So Don went up there and he lived up there for a week with my sister, and her husband had him see a lot of people because he really did know a lot of people up there They were not able to help him. On the way home Frank said, "Now Don, there is one other place you could try, but I do not know anybody there It is in Barberton, Ohio. So Don did, and he got a job there He was kind of glad because that one he did get on his own But I am not going into that yet, I am getting ahead of myself but I just wanted to tell you we were thinking of moving.

We did not know what to do about Mary I was still having seizures When I would have a seizure, somebody could come and stay with the kids Even Jimmy, would you believe when he was five years old, he could call and ask for Don. He called and told Daddy that Mommy is sick again Anyway, we did not know what to do Don came home one time, it was two weeks before Christmas He started working He worked up there a year before we moved. He came home, it was about two weeks before Christmas and he said, "Jeanne, we have to decide what we are going to do about Mary We are moving to Akron and there will not be anyone around We should talk about putting Mary in a home " I said, "No, I am not going to do that Don, do not even talk about it " He said, "Hey Jeanne, she is my daughter too and I do not want to do it. Do not just say no, we are not going to do it " He said, "Look, it is too close to Christmas We will not talk about it We will wait until after Christmas "

So we did and in the meantime, we had Christmas holidays and three things happened One of them was Mary fell off the bed Her body was like this Her head weighed as much as the rest of my body. She was just overpowering We just did not know what to do One of them was Suzanne, they always played school, all the time Sue was in the second grade and they still played school Everyone was on vacation so they came over and they played in the bedroom I

went in the bedroom and we always had a chair next to Mary's bed next to the crib I started talking to them and I said, "What is that girl sitting over there for?" And Suzanne said, and she was just very excited, she said, "Well Mom, we were playing school And Libby was bad in school so she is afraid of Mary " So I said, "You have to sit next to Mary " There was poor Libby sitting next to Mary and she was afraid of her And there is my own daughter, God love her, and I said, "Don, I cannot " That was terrible

So Don came home in January and I said to him, "Don, you know I have been thinking about what you said about putting Mary in a home " And he said, "Yes?" I said, "Well, I have been thinking about it," and I told him what happened and I said, "Well I guess that is what we should do " And Don said, "Jeanne, I went back to Akron and do you know what? I went to church every day and I prayed I did not pray that you would decide with me, I just prayed to God that we would make the right decision " And do you know what? I put Mary in that home and I never felt that I was doing the wrong thing I felt this is what I am supposed to do, I really did

P Where was the home?

F These are the three -- I do not know if anyone else has shown you this -- in Mt. Vernon, Ohio This is Frank Flannery and that was Chuck Johnson and that was Tammy Kerrigan, all deceased They were our dear friends I am looking for a picture I wanted to show you Every time I see it, it kind of makes me a little sad. Oh boy, these were the days, huh Anyway Mary went in the home and we just went out and it was fun.

P Did you visit her?

F. Yes, we did visit her We took the kids down to visit about once a month Then Mary died about three months after we had moved back to Youngstown She was seventeen and she died in the home Seventeen, and they did not expect her to live a year

P Is that not amazing

F It really was amazing Anyway, she was something else But to get back to my other kids, then I had Suzanne She was such a sweetheart I had all the kids, and had them right in a row, and they were all fine They were good kids They really were good kids I will tell you, I had a great family. They were just cute kids and they were nice kids Here is the picture I was looking for This, Donny must have been taking a nap Where is Donny? Donny is not there Don was up in Akron See, there is Sue She is the one that was teaching school. Don was up in Akron and he came home for Christmas and then he had to go back to work I was home and I did not drive a car, so I was just kind of stuck My brother Dick came home from some place and he was in his early twenties He

came over to visit me and, you know, that meant so much to me. I had all of the kids get all dressed up because Uncle Mack was coming over. But we did not go any place that year because Don was in Akron. Donny is sleeping in that picture.

Those were sad days but I have to tell you about those days. When Don was in Akron, we had so many kids. He had not been working. Things were just bad. One night all of the kids were in bed and I was just sitting there and I was feeling pretty low. I was so shook up. He fixed the Victrola, which I did not even expect him to fix. We did not have any records. He fixed the Victrola, he said, "Do you have a needle?" I said no, because why would I have a needle. I said, "No I do not." He said, "I think I have one in my truck." He went out, got me a needle and he fixed it and Don came home that night. I said, "Don, he thought I was your mother but it was worth it." Because actually, I looked very young for my age, I really did. That day I must have looked pretty lousy and being nine months pregnant, I guess it did not help. And him coming down the steps with this butch. That was funny.

When we were in Youngstown Don was very involved. In fact, when we left to move to Akron some people said, "Better worn those people in Akron that Don Foley is coming." Because he had been president of every organization. He was very involved and he was a good guy. He still is. Back then he did not have any money but he was still going out and working for other people and doing things for people. He always was doing that all his life. As long as I can remember, that is just the way he is. We had such good times in Youngstown. I have had my picture in the paper many times because I would be the wife of the house, the chairman of some dance. We were very involved in Ursuline Booster Clubs. He even joined the Elks and we did that. A friend of his probably got him into that. That was kind of crazy.

After Evergreen, we left that house, that porch and everything, but we had to move because I got pregnant. We moved on to Dewey Avenue and we lived on Dewey and I had Peggy there. So I had Jimmy, Mary, Sue and Peggy. That was in 1954. In 1956 we built a house on Susan Circle. That was out in Kirkmere. Oh I just loved it, and so did Don. That picture I showed you was taken in Kirkmere on Susan Circle and it was a brand new house.

P. You drew up the plans yourself and everything? You started from scratch?

F. No, we did not start from scratch. They had basic plans that you could choose from. We put our own little ideas in it and of course we also got to do the linoleum and the tile and all the kind of stuff too.

End of tape

F. Jimmy started school there. Jimmy went to St. Christine's and Sue. They both went to Kirkmere kindergarten and I started telling Jimmy then, "You know Jimmy," he wanted to go to Notre Dame like his dad. He did not go to Notre

Dame, but he loved it I said, "You know Jim, if you want to go to Notre Dame you are going to have to get a scholarship We will never be able to send you to Notre Dame and you can get a scholarship because your uncle Bob had a scholarship to Harvard on the Foley's side and your Uncle Mack, on my side, he had a scholarship to Georgetown Now they can do it and you can do it, but you have to study Always remember that " Jimmy did, he got a scholarship to Notre Dame

P Wonderful

F. And he got a scholarship to Notre Dame law school And they also gave him fifteen hundred dollars a year, which was nice because he was married and had a baby He got married after he graduated from undergraduate In law school he had a baby He was very active too but, of course, to go to Notre Dame you just cannot be smart You have to be very involved He was in debate He won the debating for the state of Ohio and he went to Utah to compete in debating. We lived in the diocese of Cleveland at the time, he was in high school He won the best actor for the diocese of Cleveland Those were all very important things They were just extra-curricular activities I said to him, "I knew someone in my family could be an actor, Jim I thought it was going to be me but it was not me, you were " I was so excited about that It was almost like living it over, you know they talk about parents living there dreams through there children When he was doing that, he did it because he strictly wanted to, not because I was pushing him I thought I was so glad because someone did that.

He really was a nice kid He was a popular kid All the kids liked Jim and in high school, his friends used to come to our house They always used to come to our house and used to play with Kevin and Michael because they were babies. Jim was in high school and they would have these two little kids running around That was just so nice He was the oldest of the family We probably learned through him

P Absolutely

F All of that was just so much That was Jim Suzanne was more on the quiet type which was so unusual because she took care of Mary She was a sweetheart. She would take care of Mary and also, after Kevin was born, Sue was about ten I said, "Now Sue, I am going to tell you something Michael has been the only baby for two years and everybody has shown all this attention to him All of a sudden were coming home with a new baby and he cannot understand this so whenever we are all around and you see poor little Michael and he might be by himself, I want you to go over and you make sure you play with Michael Will you do that?" And she said she would and she did Michael cried at Sue's wedding He was the alter boy He sobbed He was giving out communion sobbing That was so funny That was good for Michael When he was born the kids were so excited. I will get back to him later. I am trying to tell

you things in some kind of an order We moved in July of 1962 We lived at home that one year by Susan Circle and in July, I sold the house for one dollar

P Why?

F He said this is the smallest amount because we were so anxious to move

P Why were you so anxious to move?

F Because Don was in Akron and we were in Youngstown. He had been there a year and we wanted to go join him

P I see. Okay.

F. So we finally sold it and, you know, that was a great neighborhood, too. That was not a good time for Youngstown Anyway, we sold it and moved to Store Avenue in Akron The biggest thing that happened in Akron was we had a fire

P Oh, dear

F And you said you wanted to hear all the stories, this is a story Michael and Kevin were babies They were in bed All the other kids were doing their homework It was in October, I believe. They were all doing their homework and we had a fireplace You know, you have the hole for the fireplace and after that you might have some ceramic tile, then you have some wood There was smoke coming out in between the ceramic tile and the wood, and there was no fire there We thought, what the heck could be the matter I looked down the cellar because I had burned some paper We had an incinerator and I checked that and thought, "All right." I was checking down the cellar, I could not find anything I thought I did not know what it was

All the kids were doing their homework I was helping Suzanne with her French and Peggy kept calling me in, "Mom, you have to come in here I smell smoke " And I kept saying, "Oh honey," and I went in and smelled all of the registers and I could not smell any smoke and I said, "Well its nothing Peggy " She called me back She was doing her homework in the living room and she called me back I finally said, "Sue, do something else I have to come back " I went in the living room and I saw that smoke coming from there and I thought, I do not know what that is Then I checked down the cellar and I said, "You know, I think we should call the fire department " Don was watching the football game on the television and the television was at the right and the fireplace I am trying to say it how you wold say it on paper

P That is okay We will worry about that later

F The television was right here and the fireplace was right here He was here

watching television I am standing there right next to him. He is on the floor watching television He is looking over there. "Don, I do not think that is right I think we should call the fire department " He said, "Well, if you really think we should." I said, "I am just not sure. I guess I really should call the fire department " So I went over to use the phone and the phone rang and it was my sister Anne She was real excited, she said, "Jeanne!" I said, "Yes?" She said, "Guess what?" I said, "What?" She said, "Mom is going to take that trip up to Canada to the St. Anne shrine." I said, "Oh, Anne that is great Listen I have to call you back because I have to call the fire department " Anne said, "What?" I said, "Oh, it is probably nothing, Anne I will call you back " She said, "Okay" and she hung up Poor Anne was going crazy then.

I called the fire department and it was dark I am standing there, you know. I should have told them I hope they do not ring there sirens I bet they will ring their sirens Oh, am I embarrassed Pretty soon we hear them coming down the street They rang their sirens and they are looking for the house So we went out on the front porch. I thought, oh dear God, they are here and I do not even know where the fire is They came in the house with their big hip boots on Peggy is sitting on the couch and she said, "I hid my face I did not want them to see me I was so embarrassed I am so embarrassed that firemen are in our house " Then she left. She finally left she was so embarrassed and she went upstairs.

Anyway, I explained to him and I showed him and he said, "No, you were right to call No, there is a fire some place " We went downstairs I went downstairs with one of them and he looked at the incinerator and checked it out and checked the furnace. He said, "It is okay " We went back upstairs and when you walked in our door, right to the left of the door you take one step and then you turn and go up the steps to the second floor, and there was plastic on the steps The fireman went running up the steps and I said, "What is it?" He said, "We found the fire!" Don said that he was standing there talking to one of the firemen and that he was standing, the steps were here He was standing in the hall right off the front door Peggy walked down the steps and came over and she tapped Dad on the shoulder and said, "Dad " He was talking to the fireman and said, "Wait a minute Peggy I am busy. I am talking to the fireman " She waited and he is talking She said, "Hey dad, I have got to talk to you!" "Oh Peggy, what is it?" "Dad, I think I found the fire " Now I must go on to tell you that Peggy is an A student She is no dummy, she really is not She is a nurse She grew up to be a nurse

Anyway, what happened was Peggy was embarrassed because the firemen were there She went upstairs and Kevin and Michael were in bed Kevin and Michael were so excited that there were firemen there that they wanted to come down and see the firemen They were in their pajamas Peggy said, "Wait a minute, I will get my schoolbooks " I am just explaining She probably said, "I will put my books on the steps going up to the third floor " She slept on the third floor She said, "I will get you boys and I will take you downstairs " She opened the door to the third floor and the smoke poured out of

the third floor. The fireman told me you could not see farther than two inches, it was so filled.

What happened was someone had turned on an electric light, an electric fireplace. It was an electric fireplace when the people had it before us. Their daughter's husband had gone away in the war so she moved back home and she moved up to the third floor. They fixed it and made it kind of look like a living room for her, and they put in this thing that kind of looked like a fireplace. But it was covered and they had glass over it. Someone had turned it on. When they turned it on, it got hot enough and it started burning the bed.

P. Oh, I see.

F. And it was mostly, smoke but it did eventually catch on fire. Actually, despite how funny the story is, it was kind of sad because the three girls lost practically everything, they really did. It was too bad, even their dolls, their souvenirs, their toys, everything was gone. That third floor was just gone. The second floor was fine until the fireman got to it. Of course, they had to put the fire out upstairs and they were watering like mad. They had all the water come down to the second floor and the first floor. That was a wild story. My oldest son, Jim, had been up there and he had been writing a note to one of his girlfriends who he later did not marry. He was so funny. I wished I had kept that crazy letter because, actually, I read it. It was just real funny, but we finally did go upstairs and along the one end of that room was all windows. The windows were up high and the kids used it as a desk. There was a desk by the window and they could sit there and do their homework there if they wanted to get away from the rest of them. And they had a book. There was a book just sitting there on that desk and I walked over. That wall looked like black velvet. Three hours before the fire it was powder blue. It was painted powder blue. That is what it looked like, black velvet. It was just real thick. It went over and everything was covered like that, everything on the third floor. I went over and I turned it over and guess what the name of the book was? *A Night to Remember*.

P. Is that not funny?

F. Is that funny? Also, the kids had a Simon and Garfunkel record, *A Bridge Over Troubled Waters*, and it went. It was a perfect candy dish. It went up and down and up and down. Except the one piece with the writings on it in the middle, it was flat and the rest of it was all scalloped. It was wild, just crazy, it really was. But that story, that is so funny because our family is just so crazy. We have just so many fun stories and we do. We had the fire when we were married. We had this with all our kids. We had a fire here too when we moved in.

P. Did you really?

F. The three fires, the one the first year we were married. The next one we had

here We were going to move out here and we lived on Selmar This was just three years ago, 1989, four years ago We were going to move out here We were all excited about it and it had air conditioning Our house on Selmar did not, but we had an air conditioner in our bedroom That is all we needed to go to bed There was a black out because everybody had on air conditioners and the electricity went on our side So we rode in the car for a while and Don said, "How about we go and sleep at the new house? It has air conditioning " I said, "What a great idea " So we got Barney, our dog, and came out here, slept on the floor because at that time, this was the end of the house.

P I see, okay

F. And it had a big picture window It was beautiful Can you hear me?

P. Yes

F And, of course, we had not furniture here So we slept on the floor right here In the middle of the night I woke up and Don was standing and he was looking out the window He was looking, and this was all grass. He was looking and saying, "This is so beautiful. Oh, I love it This is going to be so nice " I said, "Hey, Don, I think I here water running in the sink " He said, "Jeanne, it is two o'clock in the morning Why would there be water running in the sink? We did not come here until eleven o'clock at night and we did not use any water " I said, "Will you just check it out? It sounds like that " So he went over to the back door and opened up the door and the whole garage was on fire It was just in flames

P Oh, my goodness

F Then he was trying to put it out While he was trying to put it out I ran over across the street and asked them if they would call the fire department because we had a fire It was in the middle of the night and nobody saw it starting because it started out here in the back It started in the back and nobody saw it, as far as anybody going by in cars When we came, of course, it had not started and we went to sleep But what happened was we put on the air conditioner and we had people working out here There was a hot wire exposed and when we put on the electricity, it started a fire So that was two weeks before my son, Kevin, got married I was running over to get something and I tripped on the hose

I was talking to one of the guys, they had an ambulance there just in case I was talking to one of the firemen and somebody said, "We have your husband in the ambulance because he was coughing and he needed some oxygen We have him in the ambulance and we were thinking of taking him down to the hospital to make sure he is okay " I said, "Okay," and they said, "How are you?" I said, "I am okay, my foot hurts I tripped back there but I am okay." They said, "Are you sure your okay?" I said, "Yes, I am okay, but I guess I should go with

Don " I went with Don and they had oxygen on him and I am in the car and I said, "Were not going to stop for this red light are we?" But we did and I said, "Oh my gosh, I always wanted to be in an ambulance and go through a red light and here I am in an ambulance and your not going through a red light "

Nothing was the matter with me We got there and they said, "And how about you?" I said, "My foot hurts " They said, "Let us X-ray it " They X-rayed it and I had a broken foot. Don was fine [laughter]. So I had to wait around until they put it in a cast While I am in there I said to them, "You know, my son is getting married in two weeks and I am wearing a pink dress You do not happen to have a pink cast do you?" The guy turned around, "Hey, do we have any pink casts?" I about flipped. I never heard of that They said, "Yes, we have pink." They put, up to my knee, a pink cast I about flipped Then I had to go back in a week to have them check it. They said, "Here, I will take it off " He was getting the saw to take the cast off and I said, "Well, can you put a pink one back on?" He said, "Oh no, I cannot afford those Only a hospital can do that " I said, "Well let me tell you, my son is getting married in a week and I want this pink cast " He said, "Well, okay, does it feel okay?" I said, "It feels fine " So I walked up the aisle with a pink cast

What I did was I had a crutch for a while and I walked with it for a week Then they said, "Now you can walk with a cane." So lucky my husband is in the business [laughter]. I went up to the store and I got two canes that were alike I took the one up to where they were doing the flowers. I said, "I have a cane and you know what I would like you to do? I want you to get a lot of pink ribbon and maybe some pink flowers Really decorate this up so I can walk down the isle when my son gets married." I said, "Can you do that?" They said, "Oh, I guess we can " And they did Do you want to turn that off? (RECORDER IS SHUT OFF)

Anyway, the cane was curved at the top and it had ribbons that were hanging down from it They had it going criss-crossed going down the cane so you could see the black but it was criss-crossed with the pink Then at the top it had little pink rose buds and at the bottom It was darling I walked down the aisle with my cane. We have had three choirs and they have all been completely different

P Absolutely

F I am really mixing all around I am going from front to back to whatever

P Well, that is okay That is what editing is for.

F Let me tell you, when we were in Akron, like I said, Don worked two jobs We did not do anything and I had to laugh If the people in Youngstown could see Don now, all those people said, "He will probably be president of every organization " All he did was work and he worked hard trying to make money so we could pay our bills off back in Youngstown In the middle 1960's, he started

working for St. Vincent DePaul. He went around and some of the things he did was we took a lady to church every Sunday. She was about eighty-five years old. She was a little black lady. All the kids, I had five kids in school. Some kids asked if that was their grandmother. But she was a nice lady. She cried when we moved back to Youngstown because she felt bad because we would take her every Sunday. She got to know the kids and it was nice. She was a nice old lady. That poor little old lady, and she was poor. Every Sunday she had her little envelope to give. A nice, nice lady.

While we were in Akron that was really a great time for Don. He had the two jobs and then first of all they made him foreman of his department. Then he came home one night and said they are looking for a new buyer and they are going to pick one man and they have seven people that they are choosing from. I am one of them. He said five of them had college educations, and Don did not. I knew he could do it. Don was sharp. I just thought, "Oh darn, let him have a break." He got the job. I was so proud of him because he deserved it. He worked hard, he deserved it. He got the job and he stayed in that capacity for about three years.

In 1967, I was thirty-seven and he was thirty-eight, I was eight months pregnant with my eighth child. This guy called him up and said, "Don, I have heard about you from Bill Stiller." Bill was one of the guys he worked with at St. Vincent DePaul. He said, "And Bill tells me that you would make a great salesman. I wonder if you would come and talk to me." And that, of course, was John Barringer from Akron Oxygen Company who got Don into the medical business. At the time Don had the job. He called on the Akron hospitals. In fact, he had two briefcases. The other briefcase was fire equipment, fire extinguisher equipment that he sold to restaurants because Akron oxygen was strictly that. It was an oxygen company and they sell oxygen, welders. That was a big, big customer. So Don would go to all of the restaurants and sell that and that was a good time to be selling it because it was kind of new. Everybody was getting it and that was a good break for him. But, he did so well in the Akron hospitals that John had him go to Cleveland and we moved back to Youngstown in July of 1971.

From 1967 to 1971 he was then covering Toledo, Cleveland, all of the northeaster Ohio including Youngstown. He was just doing real well. We were thinking of moving and we first of all were thinking the east side of Akron, so we would be closer to Youngstown. Then it kept getting closer and closer and before you knew it, it was Youngstown. And we did move back to Youngstown. At that time when he did talk to Don he said, "You know, Don, you sound like what I would like to have and I know you are hungry because your wife is pregnant with her eighth child and man when you have eight children you have to be hungry." Hungry meaning you are anxious to go out and sell because you want to make money.

You know before he took that job we looked him up in better business because we had never heard of Akron Oxygen. We did not know what it was and I called my sister because she had lived in Akron since 1949. I said, "Anne,

what do you know about this company?" And she said, "Oh, John Barringer!" I said, "Yes, that is his name." She said, "Oh Jeanne." That family was the family. There were five boys and each one had their own business. Each one was hugely successful. Kind of like Bill Lydon would be of Youngstown. But we did not know that because we did not know that much about Akron. He started to work for him. But before he went to work for him we really had to think that over because Don was a buyer now. You could buy stock and you had retirements. Going out on your own, that was a big switch. He was thirty-nine and I was pregnant with my eighth child. He would never do it without me.

His family moved out to California in the early 1960's. Some of them moved out in the late 1950's, 1960, 1961. They really wanted Don to go out there. "Come on Don, come on Don. We are out here, it is great out here. You could sell out here. You could sell real estate. It is going to be going crazy." And you know it did. Anyway, Don was not sure he wanted to go. I remember at that time, I am so glad I remember this, we talked to mother. Mother was in her seventies. She said, "Now I am going to tell you something. I do not want you two to stay home because of me. Do not you stay here because you think I am going to die in a couple of years, because you cannot do that. You have your whole life ahead of you and you have got to live it and do what is best for you." Dear mother, thank you mother. But we did not move. We did not want to move. We wanted to stick around here and we did. And of course, obviously it paid off in the long run. Gee, we have had an interesting life.

P Yes, absolutely

F So then he went to work with John and he kept coming to Youngstown. He would come home and say, "Well, I was at Lenore's house tonight. I had the best time there. Well, I was at Sue's tonight." And I think, "This is terrible. He is going and spending all that time with my family. Oh, Don, this is terrible." That is when we really decided we would go all the way to Youngstown. Then we moved to Selma Avenue. That was a good move. Then, this is interesting too, we could not sell the house. We always had a hard time selling houses. We had a hard time selling the house on Store Avenue in Akron. Don used to go around, like I said, he worked for St. Vincent DePaul, with this one guy. And this one guy in real estate was loaded, he really was. Nicest guy, he was so down to earth. We took them out to Notre Dame once. They had never been to Notre Dame and we took them out to Notre Dame. They had a ball.

While we were there we were walking along one of the driveways on campus and a car was coming along real slow and someone said, "Look, it is Father Hesper!" I ran out in the road and I am running along the car and I said, "Father Hesper, can I have your autograph [laughter]?" Father Hesper pulled over on the side of the road. He said they did pull first. He was in the back seat laughing. He said, "Yes, but I do not want you to get hit. I see a car coming the other way, I think it is best if we turn and get on the side of the road." We did and he gave me his autograph. Well, we gave it to them because it was their

anniversary, so we gave it to them. Those people were so nice. They were the nicest people.

Well, we could not sell the house so he said to Don, "Don, I am going to buy your house." You know, we were shocked, "Why?" He said, "Hey, I am in the business. I can buy your house." He said, "I will buy it from you and then it will be off your hands and you can go to Youngstown and you do not have to worry about it, Okay?" And he did. He came to pick up Don, they went out on Wednesday nights to visit families for St. Vincent DePaul. He came in one Wednesday night, our kids running all over and Don's getting ready. He said, "Hey Jeanne, how about showing me the house I just bought." I mean what a nice guy. I will never forget him. What a dear. He bought the house and that was great. We were able to move to Youngstown. Again, we didn't make any money on the house but we got the house off our hands.

P. Yes

F. And we moved to Youngstown. But before I get to Youngstown, I wonder if there was anything more about Akron. Well, my sister Anne played a big part in Akron. Anne just had one daughter, she was adopted. She loved the family and they would come over every Christmas Eve and the kids put on plays for them. The kids loved to do stuff like that. They would put on a play for young Anne, and then my mother came back and she moved in with Anne and lived with her for a couple of years. Then, you know, mother would be there too and they would all come over. They would have the play and that was real nice. Then when Anne went out, we were not going out. You know, we could not afford to go out. Whenever Anne went out, mother would come over and stay with us for the evening, even New Year's Eve.

I remember there was a girl there, was it our first Christmas? One of our first Christmases there and Don was working the two jobs. I wanted to go to midnight mass and Don was going to go to midnight mass. He said, "Why do you not you see if you can get a baby sitter and you can come?" I got a baby sitter and we went to midnight mass. I was in a study club with this girl's mother and she was in high school. I went to pay her and she would not take any money and she said, "Oh, I never take money from people that I baby-sit on Christmas Eve." And you know, at the time I did not think of it, which was kind of dumb. After she left I thought how many Christmas Eves do you baby sit? What a sweet girl, and I wonder whatever happened to her. We are out of Akron now and there were a lot of nice people up there. We met a lot of nice friends up there. It was a nice experience.

Oh, an interesting thing about moving to Akron. When we moved to Akron everybody thought that I really did not pronounce certain words correctly like Dawn, D-A-W-N and what else? Copley. That was a street name real close to us, or Cobs. Anything with that sound of an 'o', "You do not pronounce that right." And I had to laugh and I am thinking, what am I doing wrong? Then I would come home to Youngstown and I was talking like everybody in

Youngstown What it was, was I was in Akron, which was only an hour away, but the Akron people talk like the Cleveland people and the Youngstown people talk like the Pittsburgh people That was the difference and it was funny So when we moved back to Youngstown I told the kids, "Hey kids, now your going to have the accent I am losing my accent and you kids are going to get it next."

P Right

F. I do not know where to go in Akron next Well, of course, I had the two kids I had Michael and, oh, the kids went crazy over Michael They used to get bath towels and they rap it around his neck and tie it with a pin and have him walk around, "Here is the king, here is the king!" That is why when Kevin was born, he was thrown for a loop I had to say to Sue, "You make sure you keep you eye on him " The kids played with Michael all the time He was just so cute Then when he was two, Kevin was born. Even at age, two, we went over to the house and Michael sang *Row Your Boat Ashore* for the nuns The kids were with him, all the time teaching him Then I will never forget when Kevin was born we sat there, we were eating dinner and they all wanted to hold him and he was sleeping I said, "Wait until he wakes up." He woke up when we were eating dinner I wish you could have seen that table The kids just flew to that baby, and they were so excited about the baby That was a lot of fun.

I remember we got our house painted and we had taken the kids to see *The Sound of Music*, then I got the record. I took short hand Remember, I was telling you I took office practice in high school I took short hand and I was writing the words to the songs to *The Sound of Music* Then I would not get all of them, so I would put the record player back a little and I would be taking it in shorthand Then I would give the words to the kids. They were singing that song, that is all they sang They were going crazy singing, and I said to the men that were painting the house, "Oh my gosh, I hope these kids are not driving you crazy " They started laughing and said, "We love it This is great, really it is great Those kids are having such a good time " And you know, they were We did not have any money It was just like when I was growing up We did not have the money and I had a ball So were these kids I know my daughter Sue, God love her, says the kids made fun of her because she had to wear Jimmy's winter jacket I felt bad about that What can you do? Those kids had a ball and they are all close

P Well that is good

F That is nice. You know, nothing can replace your family I used to say when we lived in Youngstown, "Hey Don, we do not have any money but we have each other and we have our kids My god, what else do you need?" You do not need anything else

P Everything else is extra.

F Yes, it is all extra. Even my daughter Sue said to me, "You know, Mom, I do not work and all my friends work and they all say, 'I do not know how you do it Sue.' I go to there house and I look around and I see all the extravagant things they have and all the fancy things and the trips they go on I think to myself, well I know how. I do not do those things and I do not miss them either."

END OF TAPE TWO

P This is interview three with Jeanne Foley on Wednesday, November 17, approximately 1 p m at her home

F Back then, times were so nice and everybody trusted everybody, all the doors were open I used to go Halloweening a couple days and nobody cared They had stuff and it was fun I used to take a pillow case and it was just fun Did I tell you about my surprise sixteenth birthday party?

P No

F Yes, it was in the afternoon and Mom went shopping up at the A & P When we came home, you know, you always help take the groceries in She said, "No Jeanne, you just go straight ahead." I thought, "What? That is awfully funny Why does she not want me to help?" I never had any idea what was going on I walked in the house and there were all of my girlfriends Mom had a surprise party. Of course, I have to laugh. I am thinking sixteen back then it was all girls and in the afternoon. What a change That is all I remember. I just remember the surprise and how exciting it was It was just very, very nice That really sounds bad

P: We could reword it. Had a lot of friends and enjoyed the social

F Yes.

P. I know what you mean. It sounds like it was wonderful [laughter]

F: I was thinking, in case people are reading that maybe I should not have that in there Maybe I should say he became a priest.

P Okay, do not name him

F So I would not involve Father Ashton [laughter] I do not know how Father Ashton would feel about that, although it is the truth

P He probably remembers it fondly as well

F. I hope so And grade and high school

P Oh, both

F Both Don read this last night and he said, "Do you mind if I read it?" I said, "Oh no, go ahead Don " He said, "Jeanne, you did not date many boys when I was away in the Marines." I said, "Don, yes I did " But he did not say anything more But I dated some boys, I did not date many. I did date, like I had told you I think I told you. Well, first of all, I really did not believe that he joined the Marines because he did it without telling me He came from a broken home, which I would not want in the book. He is the one who should be having his story told He has a story and a half Anyway, he was working at the Sheet & Tube and he was really supporting his family and going to Ursuline When he was a senior he went to school and there were two of his friends and they said, "Come on, the bell rang " He said, "We are not going in " He said, "Why?" And they said, "We are going down to join the Navy " Don said, "Oh, I will go with you " They went down there and the Navy office was closed so they joined the Marines

P. For heavens sake, just spur of the moment like that?

F Just like that So the next day, no, that day everybody was talking and I said, "Where is Don?" They said, "Oh Jeanne, do not you know? He joined the Army or something " I said, "I do not believe that Why would he do that?" One of his friends who was there said, "Jeanne, yes he did " So he came up that night and I said, "Well if you think that I am going to stick around and not date anybody while you are in the Navy, or the Marines or whatever you join, you are crazy Because I am I am going to date whoever I want." He said, "Oh Jeanne, I do not expect you not to date I would not expect that." I will never forget that Then I did, I started dating and I dated kids in my own class, which I had not done before I was always going with Don and kids in the class ahead of me. That was kind of interesting because they all knew I was Don's girl We really did have a real nice time I did start dating my first boyfriend John Buckley Again, no names

P. Okay

F But Buck and I were great friends When we were freshman and I was baby-sitting for somebody, we were having a picnic out in Mill Creek Park and the people did not come home He lived on Hallic and he started walking down towards my house on Kensington I saw him and I said, "Buck, wait a minute, these people are not home. I have to stay." So he went back home. Well then I went home when they finally did come home, and I felt so bad My family, always getting in on the action They said, "Oh, you have to go out Jeanne You have to go to that picnic How can you miss that picnic?" Well my big mistake was I did not call Buck and ask him to join me I do not know why, I have no idea

but that was the end of our relationship. Then Don went back in the Marines and I started dating Buck again. Like I said, he was not the only one, there were a lot. This is funny, there is another girl who really chased him. She is now married to him [laughter]. Now we are all very good friends.

P That is good

F Oh, at the time she used to get very mad because I was dating Buck. Is it not funny, the things you look back on

P A matter of life and death at the time

F. Again, that is not part of the book

P Okay.

F But I had to laugh when Don said that. I said, "Well Don, I did date. I thought I just better date some other boys and let that cover it

P Do not sit at home and wait.

F You are right. This I cannot get over. Did I ever tell you about my thyroid?

P No.

F This is a story and a half. I have a lot of stories

P Yes

F After I had my eighth child I was very listless. I told you the mistake the doctor had made with the medicine, I took too much medicine. Let us see, what came first? That came right after Kevin was born. Then I still was not feeling good. I went to the doctor and said I was just tired all of the time. I am listless, I just cannot do anything. He said, "My god woman, your thirty-eight years old. You just had your eighth child, you are an epileptic and so you are taking medicine to calm you down, and you think it is unusual that you are listless?" I said, "Well doctor, my medicine never bothered me before. Never. I did whatever I wanted with everybody, I always stayed up with them. I do not think it is the medicine. As far as eight children, I know a lot of people with eight children and I am right up there with them. I always have been. I do not think it is that." He said, "Well, that is the way it is." This is when we lived in Akron. So I went home and it was so funny. One day I would feel real great. The next day I just felt like I was going to die. In fact, at that time there was a song. Every time I hear it, it reminds me of those days. Do you know the song I mean?

P Yes, I do.

F You know, she died [It is] A real sad song.

P: Yes, it is

F I tell you, I thought that was me I really did, I thought that was me I could not understand what was the matter I just was tired, I could not do anything, I did not look right Finally, Don would say to me, "Jeanne, why do you not go to another doctor " And it was kind of like that song, *Manana*. "The window she has broken and the rain is coming in. If I do not fix it I will get soaked to the skin. If I wait a day or two the rain will go away " That is the way I was I just kept putting it off and putting it off and finally that Don was now into the medical business at this point He has started right before. Did I tell you that?

P I wanted to get that a little more clear

F Alright, anyway, he was in the medical business now He said, "Jeanne, I can make an appointment for the Cleveland Clinic Now, I know those men up there and I can get an appointment I want you to go " You know, we could not afford to do that I just did not want to do it but he was very adamant, thank God So we went up there and they examined me from head to toe, and the one department that really gave me an A-plus rating was gynecology I probably could have had ten more kids if I wanted them At this point I really thought I had cancer I did not know where but I figured it had to be something like that At the end of the day the doctors came in and they said, "Well, you have every right to be tired Your thyroid is so low that you have a disease caused by low thyroid and that is called myxedema A normal thyroid reads between 1.8 to eight " And my thyroid was .08. I just hardly had any I told them about going to the doctor a couple of years ago He said, "You know, thyroid works very slowly on you You do not know it because it works so slowly This has probably been working on you for many years." At that point, I could hardly stand up. I was just real woozy, just not feeling right

He said, "I am going to tell you something I had a lady in here who was an epileptic She had an overactive thyroid She took about ten pills a day and she still was having seizures She could not control the seizures. After her thyroid was fixed, her medicine was cut way down and now she has no seizures. With you, you have not had a seizure for a while?" I had not He said, "Well, as you get better you might have a seizure because your body is going to be getting back to normal and right now, your thyroid is slowing everything up so you would not have a seizure But as your thyroid gets back to normal you might, and when you have it, keep that in mind Your body is getting back to normal " I did A couple months later, I had a seizure and I was delighted because I thought, "Oh, thank God."

P They just treated this with medication

F Medication

P No surgery or anything like that?

F Nothing, but I remember he told me, and then Don came in I gave him a big kiss and said, "Oh Don, I am so happy." He said, "Why?" I said, "I have a thyroid condition " I mean, my gosh that was nothing

P Compared to what you were thinking

F: Compared to what I was thinking. So, as a result, I take thyroid medicine We moved back to Youngstown right after that. I think about a year later I was in the *Follies* down at Stambaugh It was not at Stambaugh, it was at Powers And I am doing the kick and everything because taking that thyroid medicine just got me right back But because of that, I was growing hair on my face If I knew anything about it, I would have known these signs, but I did not I was growing hair on my face on the side I had a little moustache that I kept shaving because I did not know why I was doing it, why I had it. My eyes were puffed out I probably had more bags than anybody in my family because my eyes were real puffed and once your eyes go you can never get them to come back So that is about the only thing bad about the thyroid medicine. Anyway, that was the thyroid It was about a month I worked there about a month. It was more than a week because then I did tell you, I do not know if you have this on tape. A man called my home.

P· Talked to your mother

F Yes, I told you that. I did not give all of my pay to my mother. I just gave her part of it I gave her part of my pay but for my wedding gift she let me keep the whole paycheck

P I see

F I had to keep some out

P For yourself

F Not much, but I did have some. About Don being so close to all the husbands that died Tammy Kerrigan was Pat Kerrigan's father He and Don were really active in the Ursuline Booster. They were both presidents of it. They worked together all the time. Then when Tammy ran for office right after we moved to Akron, Don used to come in all the time and help Tammy campaign Tammy was probably the only one that had a sign out for it, you are now entering

Mahoning County [laughter]. Don got out of the car and put his sign in. Don was so darn happy. That is another story, like I said. He started the booster club and was the first president. He was one of the charter members of the Gaelic society. He was the first elected president. The guys just said when they were putting in together. Actually, I think it was Tammy. They were so close. I think Tammy was the first president, then Don after it was organized and everything the next year, he was the first elected president. I guess I was just going over this. I thought of something about Mary Helen. Did I tell you about Father Cowholes?

P No.

F. Father Cowholes was a very good friend of Mary Helen's. I just knew him when he was a priest. I did not know him any other way. You will have to ask Mary Helen about that. I do not know if she ever dated him or anything, but he was a priest and he used to come to our house all the time. Everybody in the family just loved him. He was just a favorite of the families. He was going back. He was a missionary priest and he was going to Puerto Rico. He spent most of his time in Puerto Rico. Jack came to visit Mary Helen and Jack and Mary Helen were going pretty steady then. I ran out of the front door and ran down to Jack and said, "Jack, I saw Mary Helen kissing another man!" Jack and Mary Helen used to kid me about that and it was Father Cowholes, and he was going to Puerto Rico.

Kay, I used to baby-sit for Kay when I was young. She lived on Hallic and we lived on Kensington. That was about three blocks away and I went over all the time to see Kay. I got very close to Teddy, then he died. I think I was thirteen and boy, that was a real blow. I think that was my first real blow because when my father died, I really did not understand. That really upset me when Teddy died. But I used to baby-sit for Kay. She was such a sweetheart, she was a dear. She used to, I think she told you this, used to walk in the house and go to the bottom of the steps, "Hey kids, I am home!"

I will never forget that. Mom took me to a lot of different doctors to try to get help for me. We went to Cleveland, Akron, Youngstown, to different doctors and then finally we went to the doctor, I know you have it somewhere in here that she said let her live a normal life, and we went along with that. But in 1938 I was eight and the doctor told mother I was an epileptic and would probably end up in a home, insane asylum. The same week another doctor told mother that Daddy was dying of cancer.

P Oh, my

F Is that not something to hear? I had a mistake here. I have the house built on Susan Circle sold for one dollar. It did not sell for one dollar, we had a profit of one dollar.

P· Oh, okay.

F So we had paid on it and Don, at this point, was in Akron and I was at home. These people wanted to buy it and they got a good price. But we did not sell it for a dollar. We made a profit of one dollar. In fact, the banker said, "I have never made a check out for one dollar." We never made out on the houses. The kids, Christmas Eve, Anne and Frank would come over to the house and the kids put on plays for Anne and Frank. Just real cute plays of dumb things. Just real cute kid plays. That was a lot of fun. He bought the house.

P Oh, he bought it himself?

F· He bought that house, then he rented it. It was just crazy. Suzanne was here today and I said, "Suzanne, she has down here that you took care of Mary." I said, "No." All the kids, actually nobody took care of Mary except me. That was why she went in the hospital when I would have a baby, was she had nobody to take care of her but me. But all the kids, they used to dance. Did I tell you this?

P Yes, make her laugh.

F On the blackboard.

P Yes.

F They had a blackboard and they would dance on the blackboard and sing. Mary would laugh, she just loved that. But Sue did. After I came home from with Kevin, poor Michael was only two and he did not know what was going on. That was when I said to Sue, "You make sure you, whenever you see anyone making a fuss over Kevin and poor Michael is just there, you go over and do something with Michael." And she did. It just blossomed. At the time I never thought of that. I was just thinking I wanted to make sure he does not feel bad, but it blossomed into a very nice thing. Don said to me last night, "Jeanne, about Jimmy's scholarship, you know, Bob Foley paid his first year." I said, "Oh, that is right." Bob, Dr. Bob Foley, was married and he was out on the coast.

P This was Don's brother?

F Yes. Jim was very smart. He got all kinds of awards. In fact, I used to make it a point when raising the children not to say too much about Jim to the other kids, not to compare them. Because that is the one thing I really never wanted to do. And as a result, when Sue got older, her grades were not as good. All the kids got good grades, then Donny started not getting good grades. That is because he was fooling around. The kids all got good grades. They were all on the honor roll except Sue. Sue would come home, if she got a B, I really gave her great praise because I felt this was really something for Sue. When she was about in

the seventh grade she got an F on effort I was just kind of flabbergasted because, here is this ideal child of mine in every other way except the good grades and I thought, what in the heck is going on

I went and talked to the teacher and she said, "You know Mrs Foley, we tested the kids and your Suzanne is every bit as smart as Jim " I was kind of flabbergasted She said, "You know, I think that Suzanne does not try because Jim has gotten all of these awards and just been smart She just did not try " We never knew that I said to the teacher, "You know, I have read about people like this and I tried not to compare the kids or to talk about Jim's accomplishments in front of the kids because I did not want that to happen." She said, "You know, that is all very well and good but you did not have to talk about him because she could see it and she knew She knew what he did It was not a matter of talking about him, it was just a matter of she could see it." And you know what, Sue went on and did better in high school and was on the dean's list in college It is so funny Then she was the one that wanted to be the teacher I remember people saying at that time, "Do not be a teacher That is the craziest thing you can be No, no, no." And Sue had always wanted to be a teacher and she was the oldest girl in the family She played school with the kids and taught them.

So by the time Donny went to school he could multiply in the first grade But Sue loved that and the kids used to play school all the time She wanted to become a teacher and I said to her, "Sue, what do you care what they tell you You want to be a teacher, you like being a teacher No, teachers do not get paid the best money but that is not what its all about. What you get paid is not what it is about It is what you want to do and if you love to teach, you teach." So she did. She went to school and got her degree and she taught for one year, got pregnant and had to quit [laughter] But still, that is good. I am glad she did it She had the experience and at the end of the year, all those little kids went together and had a shower for her because she was going to have a baby.

P. What grade did she teach?

F. Oh, it was a young grade, like second or third. It was a fun grade to teach She is a real dear But anyway, then she stayed home and they had four children and she was home Then we started Family Home Medical Actually, I take that back, Butch did and he needed help It just was kind of slow at first and so on, so they did not want to hire anybody so Sue went And it is so funny because she did not want to do that but she did She has stuck with them because then Don bought the company from them and she stayed Now she only goes in twice a week She is very happy with that. That is funny, how things work out I do not know how I got off on that

Jim was smart When he was in high school he applied to different colleges and he was accepted at Notre Dame At the same time he was accepted at Notre Dame, my brother Dick said, "Jimmy, you should try for Georgetown You know, you love politics " And Jimmy did Our whole family

does. The whole family was kind of involved and he said, "You know, you really love that Jim. Because you love it, you should go to Georgetown. When you go to Georgetown you have someone come in and speak. If you go to Youngstown you have someone, maybe a president of a company, come in and speak. When you go to Georgetown and have someone come in and speak, it could be the ambassador from Iran. It could be a senator, a congressman."

You know, it is really exciting being in Washington, so Jim did not send his acceptance back to Notre Dame and instead in June he wrote a letter with Dick's. You know, Dick wrote for Jim and applied to Georgetown. We did not hear until August. The school said, "We were very impressed with your background. We would love to have you." Then they said how many applicants they had and how many places they had and it was just, you could not believe it. They had already picked the kids to go by the time Jim sent the letter so he was out. And, of course, the same thing goes for Notre Dame so he was out there. So he went to Akron University. He was kind of really put in his place. He was very unhappy and I even got a letter from the dean saying, "Watch your grades or you are not going to make it." I said, "I do not believe this." That never happened in his life. I said, "Jim you see one thing, you cannot take it for granted. Do not think just because your not going to Notre Dame that some other college is going to be a breeze. It is not and you have got to work." I think he was just kind of disappointed.

P: It was not where he wanted to be

F. His heart was not in it. So he went there for a year. Don's brother Bob knew Jim's background and he said, "I would pay for his way through Notre Dame if he wants to go to Notre Dame." That was why he even applied to Notre Dame, because we could not afford to send him. But he got accepted. Then he had a dear friend who's grades were not as good, who was not involved as he was. He got help to go to Notre Dame. He said, "You know Jim, if you had sent your reply back, you would have had help to go to Notre Dame." But that was water over the dam at that point. Probably a good experience for Jim, that he had to go to Akron University, and he did that first year.

The second year, football season came around and he started watching that team and he said, "Oh boy Mom, I would just love to go to Notre Dame. Do you think that Uncle Bob would still pay for that if I go?" I said, "Well, we could call him up and ask him." So we called Uncle Bob up and he said yes he would. So we called Notre Dame, or he wrote a letter to Notre Dame, this was in October. He wrote a letter to Notre Dame and it got an answer in December. And in December, can you just imagine this, they said, "Yes, we will take you at Notre Dame as an exchange student, but in September we are going co-ed so most of our exchange students will be girls. If you want to come in as an exchange student you better come in for the next quarter." So did we rush around and get him ready for school [laughter] I was crazy. So he left in January and went to Notre Dame and just loved it. He just loved it and did very

well that first year. And because of that first year he did so well, he got a scholarship for the rest of his time at Notre Dame. That first, from January to May, his Uncle Bob paid for it but then the rest of it was all Notre Dame. He got a scholarship, which I thought was unusual, but I am not going to complain.

P Never complain about scholarships

F No, then of course he did get a scholarship to the law school. The dean came in and said, "Jim, we have two awards. One is the top student and you will get," I do not know what he would get. Or the other would be his tuition to law school plus every year 1,500 dollars. That was pretty good. He was getting married right after he graduated and he thought, "Oh man, I will take the scholarship to the law school because that is what I need." So that is what he took and he did very well. He really did. Now he is just a nice, nice guy. He is not a nerd, he is not a smart, smart kid. He is just real nice. The whole family, I mean my whole family, everybody likes Jim. He is just a nice kid, although he is forty. Oh dear, he is forty-one [laughter]

P Not a baby anymore

F Not a baby. I do not want you to put that in.

P What was that?

F About Sue.

P Oh, okay

F I would rather not. I do not think she would like that.

P She was the one that became a teacher for year, right?

F Sue

P Okay

F Yes, she is. She is a real sweetheart. You just missed her. She was just here.

P Oh, really?

F With her little boy. He is five. That is her baby. Now did you have any questions about any of this?

P Yes. Not too many, just a couple. In fact you answered some of these. On the first page I think it was, about the seizures, one per month. You said it was both

grade school and high school When did they finally subside? When did the medication actually work that you did not have them anymore?

F You really do not want to know [laughter] You will die When I was forty. I had eight children, yes

P Oh my, not until you were forty?

F And you know what it was When I went to the Cleveland Clinic, like I say, they examine you from top to bottom and they talked to me about my medicine They said, "You know, you cannot miss one day with that medicine Because if you do you will have a seizure " Well, I would miss days but I would not go days without taking my medicine Instead of taking three a day some days I might have taken two Just because maybe I would forget So when I came back from the Cleveland Clinic, what I started doing and I have been doing it ever since, in the morning I take out my medicine and I put it in a container And you know, that was a real smart idea because many a day, not so much now that the kids are gone, but many a day when the kids were still at home, I left it in the kitchen because that is where you spend most of your time I would open the kitchen cupboard at six o'clock fixing dinner and see it, and I would see an empty jar so I would just double up on the medicine

After that the seizures stopped, so that must have been it because there were enough days I would open the cupboard and I would see that empty container and I thought, "Oh boy " So now I just always do that But as a result, like I said, I had one miscarriage because of a seizure but when Kevin was born we came home from the hospital and I picked him up around ten All the kids were in bed and Don and I were there alone and we had the buggy for him in the living room. I fed him, or it was time to feed him, one or the other, I am not sure But I went over to the buggy and went to pick up the baby and I dropped him and I had a seizure. Now I dropped him in the buggy.

P Oh, thank goodness

F Thank God Another time Don tells me, of course, I do not remember this This was when we lived on Suzanne Circle. I was holding one of the kids in my arms and I turned around and I guess I was beginning to have a seizure and I gave him the baby Is that not funny? I gave him the baby so the kids were never hurt by me having a seizure Sometimes they tried to play horsey with me I hear Of course, I do not remember that but the younger ones that did not know what was going on. Jimmy at age five, I know there was something in the paper You see it was on 911 Jimmy, at age five, called Trescon Steel and asked for his father because I was having a seizure

P Five years old

F. And he called Trescon and they had no push button telephones or no memories then either. He got it and he called Don and Don called our next door neighbor who ran over, then he came home That was pretty smart of Jimmy.

P Yes, at five That is wonderful

F. And like I said, I told you about having one after I had my heart attack Kevin had never seen me have one because after 1970, I did not have them He was born in 1967 I had one once when I had the flu, and I threw up and I had diarrhea, so I had nothing in me and I called up my daughter. I could just feel it and I said, "Peggy, I know I am going to have a seizure " Of course I was in bed, I had the flu There are two kinds of seizures There are many kinds but I had two kinds, a petit mal and a grand mal A petit mal, we used to call them, I had a daze I could be talking, "What was I talking about?" The would say, "You were talking about this " That is all it was That was called a petit mal. The grand mal, of course, was the seizure and you fall down on the floor. Your whole body goes crazy Those I used to have once a month The petit mal, I probably had everyday Those were very common. I had those all the time But the seizure was just once a month

Another time I remember I picked Kevin up I was going down to pick him up from basketball practice and I was driving at that point I did not get my license until I was forty-seven because it was not controlled before I was forty I wanted to take the lessons, there was just a lot of things that stopped me Anyway, I finally got it when I was forty-seven But I was driving Kevin home and I started having petit mal and I thought, oh dear God I remember going up Fifth Avenue, I was a wreck I went in the house and I told Don He said, "Oh my gosh Jeanne, just lie down " I did and I had a seizure. I did not have it immediately, but I did have the seizure I did have a warning I always had a warning I even had a warning when I was young because I would have a lot of those dazes, and I knew it was going to happen and it did Boy is that another century ago

P I could imagine. A whole different life

F Yes, a whole different life

P Okay, just a couple other things You were talking before about your father gave up the garage so that you could play house You talked a little about that and you also mentioned there was a little girl in the neighborhood that had a heart condition that you played with

F Yes

P. But there did not seem to be any other children around that seemed to be your age Most of them were older

F Yes

P Does that mean that you were lonely as a little girl?

F No

P It was okay to play by yourself?

F Yes

P You knew there were other people around so you were never really lonely

F No, I was never lonely I played with Jerry a lot -- that was her name -- but her family really watched her Talk about how different it is today, if you have a heart condition you make sure you exercise better Back then it was, "Do not move " She went to a school for special children She really could not do too much. It was just kind of funny, there were not just too many people around

P But you never really missed it.

F No.

P Always found enough to do

F Even when I was young my older brothers and sisters were around and they would be playing games and I could watch them and I had a real good time just watching them play. Everybody was always real good to me I think probably because I was sick and they thought, "Oh boy," they felt sorry for me, I don't know I seemed to get a lot of attention that

END OF TAPE THREE

F Once I was old enough I had my school friends and I did a lot with them

P They were very active in school, especially high school

F Yes, and so once school started, I do not mean first grade I mean when I was old enough that took care of that At home, no Like I said, my friends always used to like to come down to my house because they could sit and watch my older sister dance and have fun and everybody would just like to come and they enjoyed that, watching my older sisters That was during the war None of my sisters got married because all the boys were away fighting, so we had a good time

- P. You had mentioned that you were runner-up for prom queen
- F I never should have mentioned it.
- P Oh no, that is interesting I was curious how the whole system went I know when I was in high school there was a court and the winner was the prom queen then the rest of the runners-up were in the court
- F. Right
- P Did it work the same way?
- F Yes
- P. Okay, so was there some kind of a big ceremony type thing? I do not know too much about that.
- F I cannot even tell you What they did was we went to the prom and then in the middle of the prom we stopped and the court with their dates walked up the middle of Stambaugh Auditorium We walked down and the king and queen from the year before were standing up there and they had big chairs to sit on The king and queen from this year came and they sat down on the chairs Then they were crowned by last year's king and queen That was all, and it was fun
- P Oh look at that. Look at those crowns Look at the dresses And this is you.
- F That is me. You recognized me
- P. Yes, I do
- F Even with black hair
- P Yes [laughter]. Is this your yearbook?
- F That was our yearbook
- P That is great
- F. I have had all this stuff out because of the reunion
- P Sure
- F But that is about all I remember really
- P Was the prom kind of the highlight of the year, the big dance of the year?

- F Probably, oh sure Like it is today although, as you see, the boys did not wear tuxes then and we did not go out to dinner either back then
- P And it was usually held at Stambaugh?
- F Yes.
- P Rather than at the school?
- F Yes, well that was Ursuline's It was fun
- P Okay, we are just jumbling all over here, back and forth, old an young. I was curious, when I was listening to the tape, you talked about becoming pregnant with your first child. When he was a year old, Don bought the television, and you had the little apartment on Rayen Avenue I am thinking of all these things and I am putting them all together, and I am wondering what it was like to find out that you were pregnant for the first time?
- F It was really exciting because I wanted to be pregnant I had all these nieces and nephews and they all loved Don, too We were just really excited. We thought this was going to be real terrific. That was it, it was just a lot of fun. Like I said, we were just two happy kids Then we had Mary and she kind of settled us down [laughter] When I was pregnant with Jimmy, my first, we moved out of Rayen and we moved into this house on Evergreen. It was just a regular house, but they had divided it and made two apartment from it So the dining room was now our bedroom and that is also where Jimmy slept So we had that house Oh, we loved that house You were renting but it was just so much fun We enjoyed it We had a party there, a couple parties for our friends It was very nice
- Then I got pregnant with Mary and so we had to get a bigger house We did not buy, we rented a house on Dewey, three bedrooms. Of course, I never knew that there was anything the matter with Mary and either did the doctor until I was in delivery I believe I told you this, did I not? I had the regular labor pains and I went to the hospital Don said later, "Everything was fine We went in to sit with the people who had someone in delivery. Pretty soon they came out and said they had a baby and those people left Then there were other people that came " He said they never came out It was over an hour for me, you know, once you are in delivery it is because the baby is about to be delivered. They waited an hour and they were really getting nervous They did not know what the problem was The problem was the baby could not come out because the head was too big, so the doctor finally put the forceps in and turned the baby around while it was inside of me and had it come feet first. Then it was able to be born Of course I was out I did not know any of that because most people were out those days That was the way you had babies.

P When you saw her for the first time, could you tell?

F Yes

P Or was it not noticeable right away?

F Yes, it was noticeable right away Not too much, but her head instead of being round, it just went out a little in the back When I took her home from the hospital I put the little bonnet on and the bonnet fit okay, but it just kind of stretched in the back because the head went out just a little bit. Actually, the average head size is fifteen inches and her head size was seventeen It was just those two inches, I guess I did not tell you about Mary then

P Yes, you did tell me most of that

F So at first her head was okay but then I wanted to have a picture of her because I knew she was going to die, and I got it in December You know, the man came back and he was just so upset about this baby. First of all, he tried to make her head look smaller and in doing so it kind of took away from her actual face, the way we knew her Then he did not charge me He was just so upset about it, he was a very nice guy Did I tell you, the doctor came in after I had the baby and said, "Jeanne, I wish this had happened to any one of my other patients People think this is because you are an epileptic and it is not." I always believed him and that never gave me any problems, obviously because I had all those other kids. There was a lady on television in the past month and she had a five year old girl who was a hydrocephalic She started out exactly how I did The baby was supposed to die, it did not and so on

But there was one difference They told the mother that the baby had no brain. Somebody told her, "If you keep suctioning water off there " I do not know why they did not use a shunt because that is popular now but it was not around when Mary was born Anyway, they used to spend their night and day taking the water off this head, off the inside of the head and eventually that baby started looking around and so on What they said was, "The brain is like a sponge The parents doing that, getting rid of that water eventually got the brain to open up When it did, it started functioning " And that little girl was on television She looked real cute Her head, if it was any bigger, was not too noticeable She was just unbelievable They said, "What happened that you had a baby like this? Do you know?" She said, "The doctors always said it was a freak of nature That is what they told me until two years ago. Two years ago the doctors told me that my baby was like that because I had the flu when I was pregnant " How do you like that? After all these years

P: For heavens sake.

F Mary was born in May I very well could have had the flu during part of her pregnancy because I went through the whole winter. And I do not remember now. I cannot remember if I had the flu or not, but I thought that was pretty interesting

P Yes

F To hear that things happen for a reason

P. Well, I guess so.

F Like I said, Mary was a blessing to us. Don feels that way, the kids know I feel that way and they feel that way They feel that it was a blessing I always thought it was lucky and that they have seen this. That was kind of interesting to hear that

P Oh, yes

F. Gee, is that something

P That is amazing Well, okay I wanted to get a little more clear on all the moves that you made I understand from Rayen to Evergreen

F We kept moving when I got pregnant [laughter] So actually we lived on Dewey and we had four kids when we lived on Dewey We had Jimmy when we moved on Evergreen While we lived on Dewey, Mary was born, then Sue, then Peggy on Dewey I had a baby-sitter, a young kid who used to come He loved Jimmy and so did his mother His mother used to come up and visit with me, and they loved Mary strictly because she was a sweet little angel and they could come in the house and they loved Mary Then Sue was born and they said, "All Sue does is stare at us " Sue had real big blue eyes She still has real pretty eyes She tried to figure them out and they said, "We do not know about Suzanne." By the time Peggy was born, Peggy was born and we moved. We moved to Suzanne Circle Then Donny and Katie were born on Suzanne Circle That was why we kept moving, because we kept having more kids

In 1956 when I was pregnant with Peggy, we decided we better buy a home Peg was born in 1957 so we moved in shortly after she was born, although she was baptized at St Patrick's That was fun because that was a house that the whole neighborhood is new All of Kirkmere was all new. It was 1961 The people at St Christine's, I told this many times I think the oldest person was forty years old.

P Really?

F Everybody was young in that church I loved St Christine's The kids in the

neighborhood used to come because I had the youngest kids and they would all want to play with the kids and they would all see the babies. That was how Katie got her nickname. I named her after my sister Kay, but I wanted to call her Kathleen. I loved that name. They would call her Kathleen and they all started calling her Kathy. I said, "There are ten thousand or so Kathy's around. How about calling her Katie?" So they did. Katie, that name is just perfect for Katie. It is just perfect. I loved that.

It was a real nice street. Everybody was young and so on. Jimmy and Sue started St. Christine's and they did well down there. [They] went to Kirkmere for kindergarten. Of course, we had Mary and Mary was there. Then we were getting ready to leave to move. I told you that story, I believe. We were moving and I think I told you that, too. Don was on strike for six months after Donny was born. Then only worked four days a week. So anyway, we moved and eventually Mary went into the home. So in Akron we had all the kids at that point that we moved in with five kids. There was an old man and woman that lived next door. They were away for the weekend. Boy did they get a surprise when they got back. It turned out really well because they were more like grandparents to the kids. They loved the kids, so that was real nice, too. I wish I could think of Akron. Of course, as far as all my older kids are concerned, that is where they grew up. Depending on asking their childhood memories, they are mostly of Akron.

When we came back to Youngstown Jim was a sophomore in college, Sue was a junior in high school, Peggy was a freshman in high school and Katie and Donny were seventh and eighth grade. As a result, my older kids did not go to St. Ed's at all, but Katie and Donny did. Kevin and Michael were young enough that Youngstown is their hometown, and that is fine. Of all the kids, Peggy was the only one, besides Kevin and Michael. Of my older kids, Peggy was the only one that went to kindergarten and all through one school. When we moved there she started kindergarten. I do not know if she started right away, but anyway, she went to kindergarten there through the eighth grade at St. Sebastian school. The other kids, like Sue, started at St. Sebastian's in the third grade and she graduated. Jimmy was in the fifth grade and Katie and Donny did not finish at St. Sebastian's, so Peggy was the only one who went all through in Akron. So when she came home she started as a freshman at Ursuline.

I cannot think of too much about Akron except that my sister Anne always used to come over. She was such a dear. She would bring things to us because she knew we could use it. Every once in a while I said, "Oh, I just saw this and I thought how darling it was so I just thought I would stop and get it and bring it over." She was really very, very nice. Then at Christmas, Aunt Anne and Uncle Frank always had presents for the kids. They were so excited. They could not wait until they saw Aunt Anne and Uncle Frank. Then we would go over to their house on Thanksgiving and Christmas for dinner. When we moved back Anne felt bad because she has had family for the holidays and now she did not have that. So now she comes into Youngstown all the time. She used to come in to my house all the time, but now she divides her time. Now she goes to Sue and

Lenore's house also. We had a lot of happy times. Then she used to always come to our house for Christmas, even after Frank died she came. Then last year she went to Susie's house, her daughter's house, and that was nice, and she is going to do that again. That would be nice for Anne to be with her daughter. Those were good happy days we had with Anne and Frank.

P. You moved to Suzanne Circle and then Don left when you were living in that house? Don left for Akron?

F. Yes.

P. He moved to Suzanne Circle with you?

F. Oh yes.

P. Then he moved?

F. We moved to Suzanne Circle in 1957. We lived there until, like I said, Donny was born in 1959, and right after that they went on strike for six months. Then after that they worked four days a week. So it was in 1960 that we decided we had to do something. That was when my brother-in-law said, "Why do you not come to Akron and get a job up here?" I did tell you that story too, did I not?

P. Yes.

F. And Don got the job on his own and he was very happy about that.

P. Right.

F. It made him feel like he did it himself.

P. Oh sure.

F. Which was great. Then, while we were in Akron, did I tell you much about Don?

P. You mentioned a little bit about some of the jobs and working and DePaul. That was not a job, right?

F. No, that was a volunteer, strictly volunteer. The jobs, well he had two jobs. Like I told you, he got home around four thirty and then had to be at work at six, so he was not home very long. He had supper and was gone again. On Wednesday nights he did not have to work. We also remember *Car Fifty-four Where Are You* because, going back to Suzanne Circle, that was when he left to go back to Akron. He came home for the weekend and *Car Fifty-four Where Are You* was coming on. And I remember when we finally moved we watched *Car Fifty-four*

Where Are You because we were so excited. You do not have to go any place! Oh is that great! And that was real nice And every time I see *Car Fifty-four*, every once in a while they mention and old T V. show and if that name comes up I just think, "Oh those days, those sad days " Yet they were happy days, too Just some things that happened during that time The kids on Suzanne Circle, Katie fell down the cellar steps, Donny took Aspirin I woke up in the morning and he had taken it and I did not know when he took it I do not remember Katie being around, probably somebody took her Anyway, I had to get some of the kids off to school Donny, I saw the empty bottle of Aspirin and I thought, what am I going to do So I gave him about four different remedies to throw up because he would not throw up I did four different things to try to make him throw up and he would not throw up. So I called Bob Foley who was studying to be a doctor and he was home on vacation, spring break or something. I do not know what it was I could not drive so I could not take him to the hospital and Bob said, "Jeanne, let me come over and I will take you to the hospital " He came over and when he pulled in the driveway Donny threw up and threw up and threw up He just did not stop, so when he came in I told that to Bob and he said, "Well let us take him to the hospital anyway. I think we should take him to the hospital "

So we took him to the hospital and all the way over from the hospital do you know what Donny was doing? Singing. He was in great shape He was singing and I said, "I hate to go in there." He said, "I think you ought to Jeanne " So I did Then about six months later I found another empty Aspirin bottle. I thought, "Oh dear God, Donny " And I happen to look and all the Aspirin went into the window sill between the storm window and the window sill

P Oh for heavens sake [laughter]!

F On Suzanne Circle Donny also, you know, that was all one floor and we had the Christmas tree up and, of course, we were up real late because I made doll cloths for the girls dolls We set the table and we had a table and chairs My mother did that for me and I did it for my girls We had the dolls sitting at the table with the cups and sausage and the whole bit. We were up late because Don would be putting some toys together. Got to bed and we heard a noise early, early morning and it was Donny He was opening the gifts Now Donny was only two, he did all this when he was two

P Talk about the terrible two's

F Yes, the terrible two's And you know what we did? We put him back to bed and we put a chair against the door so he could not get out [laughter] Oh my gosh, many a mornings I would wake up and Don would be up Our bed was right next to the kitchen Donny would be sitting on the floor with a box of cereal and just eating the cereal from the box He was crazy He was a funny baby Sue, like I said, always played school with the kids She loved to play school and the kids

really learned because she was the oldest one and she would teach them what she knew. As a result, they knew what she knew. It was funny. Peggy was a tomboy and today she is such a beautiful lady with her five children, and this week she has an exchange student.

P. Oh, really?

F. Yes, from Belgium. He is a senior at Liberty. Peggy is really something. People say that Katie is more like me. I have to laugh because Katie is crazy [laughter]. I think everybody in the family is crazy, truthfully. A lot of our friends, and by our friends I mean people that my other kids do not know that we happen to know Katie, she does advertising for different companies. She does not do the advertisements herself. She gets the ideas then she goes to an advertising agency and they do it, so she is not a broker. I should have Katie tell me what she is. She could tell you a lot better. She could tell you her job better than me. And everybody that sees her says, "She is so funny. She is so much fun to be with." They were going to have a party. Michael Keaton is my legitimate second cousin to me, although I do not know how.

P. That is on your father's side, right?

F. Yes, someone already told you that.

P. Yes.

F. Kay's son was -- you heard this too -- the one was studying to be an actor and the other son went to visit the one that is studying to be an actor. One of the friends of the kid that is studying to be an actor, now these are Kay's grandchildren. One of the friends who is also in acting school with the boy was going some place. The one graduated from high school and was over there visiting his brothers, "Could I go with you?" He said, "Yes, but I have to stop at my agent's first. Would you mind stopping with me?" He said, "No, that is fine." So they went and he is in the car and he said, "Look, it is hot out here. Why do you not come wait in the office with me? I am not going to be that long." So he did and he is in the office just walking around waiting for this kid and the agent said, "Who is that kid out there?" He said, "Oh, he is the young brother of a friend of mine." He said, "I would like to talk to him." He talked to him and after talking to him, he got the lead in CBS movie of the week with Richard Chamberlain.

P. Really?

F. On the credits it had, everybody was in it, it said, "And introducing Dennis Seames," and that was my great nephew. He was in the play. It was a play you might remember, a true story. A doctor and wife had about four kids, five kids,

something like that The mother went to pick up the sons some place and they were being robbed and they killed the mother and they thought the son was dead also and he was not They poured Drano down the mothers throat, just burned her insides But there were other people there, too They killed everybody there and they thought the kid was dead When the police came the kid was not dead and it is the story of that, plus him getting better Dennis played the part of the young man who was ill

P How long ago was this?

F About three years now.

P Is that right?

F It was really exciting Dick and Betty were going to have a party and they were debating whether just to have the adults or whether also to include the adult children Betty told me later, "We had to have the adult children because it would not be a party without Katie being there [laughter]" So the kids went We were not there, we were out of town so we could not go, but that was very exciting. Katie did not tell you about that?

P No.

F Then he left He never tried for anything else. In fact, he is up in Canada now. He had no interest in the theater

P Is that right?

F Yet in the meantime, his brother who took the acting lessons plus went through the Shakespeare, the whole bit, every once in a while you will see him on a television ad But he has not done anything nation wide

Kevin and Michael, I have not told you anything about Kevin and Michael They were not around until we moved back to Youngstown I am trying to think I told you everything about Akron There is just so much to say Coming back to Youngstown, everyone was there so that was where everyone go married, excluding Jimmy He married someone from Akron, so that wedding was in Akron She was actually from New England but they moved to Akron and lived there like one year before Jimmy met her, and they did get married

P Oh, I see

F At our house, everybody used to come to our house

P When you moved back here, you moved to Selma?

F: To Selma Avenue We had six bedrooms and five baths and my mother lived with me She lived with me because she loved the kids She wanted to be by the kids She loved Don, too, I know that She just liked being with the younger family Then she got sick and she was in the hospital and the doctor said, "You cannot go back to that house. There is too many kids and there is steps You cannot go back " So she went and she recuperated at Sue's, and then she just stayed at Sue's She stayed at Sue's for a couple years and then Jeanne's marriage broke up and she came home and she needed the bedroom. So at that point, I do not know why she did not come back to our house Maybe that is when Katie moved in with us for a while Maybe that was when Katie moved back in and I did not have the room, but she moved with Dick and Betty She was with Dick and Betty for about six months and then she came back and stayed at our house and she died She lived at our house when she got ill and died Here I go again

P Okay, Kevin and Michael

F: Michael, you know, I had the six kids in seven years. Then five years later I had Michael. He was the doll of the family and the kids loved him They used to rap a towel around his neck and it would hang like a cape and they would, "Here comes the king! Here comes the king!" And he would walk down the steps with this towel hanging down his back [laughter]. The kids loved Michael, oh and they played with him all the time. That was just a very nice experience for Michael, though he did not realize it It was just a nice, nice thing

P He did not grow up spoiled?

F No, he did not grow up spoiled because he had a baby brother They were not quite two years apart When he was baptized he was, let me think, September of 1964 and February of 1967, so it is really 1966 He was two months and two and a half years He is about two and a half years older than Kevin. When he was baptized, Kevin that is, we went to church and all the nuns wanted to see the baby We went over to the convent to show the nuns the new baby and Michael sang *Row Your Boat Ashore* He was not quite two and a half years old But that is how much the kids played with him They just played with him all the time, taught him things that no other two and a half year old would know He was a real cutey We called him Michael, he is named after my father He is Michael Vincent So is my dad, Michael Vincent I wanted to call him Nikki because I thought that was real cute, but nobody else wanted to call him Nikki so he got called Michael

But Michael heard that story and when he was a little kid, probably three years old, we were out swimming at the lake It was just a small lake You could see all sides of it, but we were at the lake and I was in the water with the girls and over the loud speaker it said, "We have a blond, curly-haired, blue-eyed boy here," which he was. "He says his name is Michael He sometimes goes by the

name of Nikki [laughter] " Michael was just so cute, he really was darling. And he was a blond, curly-haired, blue-eyed little boy. I immediately went and said, "Don do you have Michael." He said, "No, I do not." You know, it was Michael He was having a ball sitting up there eating ice cream He was in fine shape Kevin was two and a half years younger and when Kevin was born, like I told you, all of a sudden Michael did not have all this attention anymore and I told Sue, you know, "You make sure Sue that, he seemed to be left out, you leave Kevin and go over to Michael " And she did Michael and Kevin were great buddies and they still are They could not be any closer if they were twins, I do not think They are just so close They were darling and it was just so nice to have them after everybody else was getting older I still had Michael and Kevin And all the kids that came to the house played with Michael and Kevin Like all of Jimmy's friends Jimmy was a freshman when I had Kevin. His friends would come to the house and they played with Michael and Kevin and they loved those two little boys The same with the girls I remember the girls said, "Man does he have a physique Wow, wait until you watch him when he gets older " They were so funny We moved to Youngstown and, let us see, I do not know if he went to kindergarten in Akron or not, I forget. Anyway, they went to St Ed's, stop it while I think, I hate to have spaces

P. Oh, that is okay That is no problem.

TAPE STOPS

F. You know, when I had the other kids we did not go anyplace. We came to Youngstown and we brought the kids with us and if there was a big dance going on someone baby-sat that night But that was for a big dance, maybe twice a year We did not go out for New Year's Eve, we did not do anything We stayed at home. When Kevin and Michael were born, they had a completely different family because we were going places then, we were not staying at home In fact, I got a job when Kevin was about ten I worked for the Red Cross I just was not to happy about it I said to Don, "I do not know, I have worked here a year and I see spring come and cars going up the street and I am thinking, Oh darned, why am I working? You know, Don, we are not making enough money " I was only working at the Red Cross and I was not making that much money I said, "We are not really making money on the deal I do not know why I am working "

Kevin said to me one day, "You know, Mom, I wish you would stay at home " I would be home and four thirty you know, and he was at school then But still, just that little time. He was used to me being home and he did not like me working and I said to Don, "That is it, I am telling them I am quitting." I did quit and, you know, I am really glad I did because a lot of mother have to work and I know that and that is fine That you have to do I will tell you what, I think if you can stay at home it is better for the kids, I really do I just feel, hey I am glad I was poor when those six were growing up because what is somebody said to

me, "Hey, I can get you a job " And I thought, "Oh great, I can sure use the money," and I could have I really could have used the money. But I did not, I stayed home and I am really glad that we did and we did without I do not think that is all bad

P It did not really hurt you any

F No, it did not hurt and I really feel it is much better to do that then to go out and get a job Anyway, with Kevin and Michael, we were doing better financially, we just did well Michael I remember was about, how old was he? In 1974 he was about eleven, so he was about eleven going on twelve It was in that area that Don started here That was his first business It was summertime and they were redoing the building Michael went up there everyday from eight o'clock in the morning and he would come home at five o'clock at night. He worked with those men and those men liked him. One of the men said to me, "You know, he is a smart little kid and he catches on. It is nice having somebody like that around " So Michael was their gofer He would run and get things for them but they also taught him how to do things and, boy is that fantastic, because to this day, Michael is our handyman. Michael then went on into looking into electrical things He did our basement for us on Selma Avenue Now he did not do it all We did get some people in there but he came up with ideas and I sometimes think he should have been a carpenter He just has these great ideas and he does such a good job Then with the electricity, but he did. He put in lights, he would do things And Michael to this day does stuff He does stuff for his father-in-law, for his own house and, if I am lucky enough, every once in a while I get to see him He is in Columbus now, so it is kind of hard But that is how that happened He loved it

Then after the business opened, Michael and Kevin went up there and worked They worked, you know, we rent wheel-chairs, on top of many other things, and they would wash the equipment. After Kevin got out of high school he got a job at the Mahoning County Records and he said, "Kevin, I have never seen these wheel chairs as clean as they are now [laughter] " And it was because he had come from a place where you had to buy them, not from a place where it was just run by the county That is so funny He was so pleased and I said, "I am not surprised " Kevin and Michael were great Notre Dame fans with their dad and their brother Jim But as they go older they kind of goofed around and so they could not make it to Notre Dame and they went to O S U [Ohio State University] Now they love it and all they do is kid about O.S U versus Notre Dame all the time But they love it, and that is what is important They went to school there and they loved it

They were involved up at St Ed's Now Kevin was very involved in sports Michael was not involved in sports, but Kevin was He was on the parochial football team and the basketball team, and he is a short little kid. He was on the basketball team, he was on the first team because he is so fast He was just so aggressive Well, Michael was the prom king Kevin was an officer They just

go involved Like their dad, their dad got involved in everything

It was just so great to see these two little boys that I never expected having. And you know, today's world I never would have had them. I probably would not have had Donny and Katie either, you know, in today's world. Yet it is so nice to have these kids. I am so lucky to have my family I feel kind of sorry for this next generation, I really do because they do not know how nice it is to come from a big family I came from one, my kids came from one Katie said to me once, "You know, I just kind of took our family for granted I felt all families were like ours until I started working and talking to people and I realized, you know Mom, our family is special. You know that When you grow up like that you think this is the way everybody is but it is not the way everybody is We were lucky " And boy we are lucky. We really are, and I thank God for that

Now Kevin and Michael went to O S U , and Michael now works for his dad He is a salesman That is all he ever wanted to do. He wanted to go to Y S U [Youngstown State University] so he could work there after school. I said, "No way are you going to Youngstown State I want you to get away Michael, there are other things in the world besides dad's business and you have got to know that so you can get involved in other things " So he went to Dayton University for a year and he was very involved down there He worked on the paper, he worked for Hospice, I was just real proud of him. He was doing real great but he had a girlfriend he left behind in Youngstown Dayton was too far away, so he moved up to Columbus and went to Ohio State That is why he went to Ohio State It is so funny because when he moved from Dayton, he went to Ohio State and took up accounting. I was trying to get him out of anything that had anything to do with the business because I wanted him to know there are other things in this life So he graduated with an accounting degree but he came home and worked for his dad, and that is what he wanted to do. He always wanted to do it and that is what he is doing now He is married to Mary Beth Thomas and Mary Beth just got her law degree this year. She was sworn in about two weeks ago

P· Wonderful.

F So they are down in Columbus and she works for, she has been working for the, not the justice department but the law I cannot think of the title, but anyway she has a good job down there She got it before she got her degree. She worked there for a couple years but now she is doing a little bit better because she is a lawyer Kevin married somebody from Youngstown, Betsy Arnamen, and she came from a family of seven Now her mom and dad moved to Hilton Head so we do not get to see them as often but we see Betsy and Kevin more often because they cannot go to Hilton Head that often They go there twice a year, but all my in-laws, all my daughters and sons-in-laws, are real great They are real nice kids.

P· That is good

F· They have all done well and the children are nice. You know what the kids are going through, you know what you go through with kids They are having that, but basically they are all good kids and they are all nice to me [laughter] I am the grandmother.

P They have to be nice

F Which is so great about being a grandmother Peggy married Tom Pool Tom's family also was from St. Ed's. They have moved to Texas, Tom's family Tom is very active. He is a great guy He is a C P A and he is involved in rotary, he is involved with Catholic charities, he works for them He reminds me of Don, really, when Don was that age He also is head of the finance committee or he is doing something on the finance committee. I hate to say the wrong thing but I know he is; if he is not the head he is close to it Peggy and Tom with their five kids They are the ones that have the exchange student and he is seventeen years old He is a senior at Liberty. I am very proud of them I think they are just doing great things Peggy is a nurse She used to work, obviously, every day but after she had a couple kids it was weekends, and now it is one day a week It is down to one day a week

Donny, I never finished my story about Donny, did I? I said, "Hey Donny," I told you about not making fun, and I said, "Now I have a question. Are you serious about Lisa?" He said, "Yes," and I said, "Do you think someday you will marry her?" He said, "I think so " I said, "Don, then marry her Do not live with her Please do not do that. Get a ring and get engaged now. You do not have to wait for anything " Then, I do not know if this came up before or after, but I think it was the same conversation. I said, "Before you do any of that, Don, I know Lisa cannot have children because Lisa was aware of that fact You know, Don, before you do anything, I know that you are one of the favorite uncles," because he was young and unmarried He would give things to the kids and they would say, "Oh, Uncle Donny " The loved it And he had fun with them. Donny is a nice guy. He is just kind of a laid back, easy going He would play with the kids and have a good time with the kids I said, "Donny, you know if you marry Lisa you are not going to have children I think this a real important thing for you to think of very seriously If after you really feel that is not going to bother you, then get engaged You know what it is like to have children You do not know what it is like but you know your around You see your brothers and sisters." He said, "I know, Mother "

Pretty soon after that he got engaged. I said, "Don, you know what your doing?" He said, "I know, Mother " Now he seems, they are very, very happy I know they would love to have a baby and they were going to -- her sister was going to carry the baby It would be Donny's and Lisa's, but the sister would carry it because she did not have the womb to carry the baby They went up to Cleveland and they were really going to go through the whole thing. The sister and her brother, find out what you have to do and so on. Then the doctor

discovered that they could not do it. There was more damage done to Lisa than she had realized.

P Really?

F So she cannot have any children. I will tell you what, I do not really know what the damage is. I do not know. Maybe some day she will say. I think Donny knows. They cannot have kids but they are nice kids. Donny is my wild guy. He is the one that beats to a different drummer. He was the one that I was always going up to school talking to the teachers. The teachers would say, "You know, he is a nice kid but he is the one if we say walk down the sidewalk, he will run down the grass or slide down the banister."

P. He is the one that took the aspirin too, right?

F And he is the one that took the aspirin, exactly. He started at a young age. In the first grade he was so darling. He had blond hair and blue eyes. Peggy is having a little trouble with her blond hair, blue-eyed kid. The teacher said, "Oh, but he is so cute." I said, "Oh Peggy, do something. Do not go through what I went through with Donny." But Donny, you know what happens with kids like that, they get a reputation. Then everything is blamed on them, a lot of things that they are not responsible for and it is not fair but it happens. I saw it happen to Donny and that was too bad. I felt so bad. A lot of times he brought things on himself but there were some other times that he, maybe there were ten that were involved and he got punished. Or something happened and they could not understand and they would be calling him up and questioning him, "Donny, what were you doing?" Stuff like that and it's just too bad. It really is too bad. Anyway, Donny finally graduated and he went down to Ohio State. When he went down to Ohio State he went for a year. Then he would come home and one of my dear friends said, "Oh, I saw Donny last weekend." I said, "You did? Where?" They said, "Oh, was not I supposed to say anything?" She said, "I saw him at the store." He was home. He was not going to school and when I called his friend would say he was out living in an apartment. When I finally realized what was happening, again, I had a talk with Donny. He came home. He stopped going to school. There were times that he and Don would be getting into it and I thought, "I am going to end up getting a divorce if something is not done." Finally, one day I sat down at the dining room table and I said, "Donny, I am kicking you out of the house. I have got to do it and I do not want to do it but, for my sanity and for my marriage, I have to do it. And maybe to help you along I do not have to tell you why. You know all the craziness you cause in this house. I am going to tell you something. When I kick you out I am telling you, you have to leave town. I do not want you in Ohio. I am telling you I want you to go west, young man." I kept thinking of the Ohio State thing, you know, where he was some place and pretending he was somewhere else.

I wanted to make sure he was gone and I drove him up to the bus stop

and put him on the bus and he went to Colorado. He lived with a kid who later turned out to be gay [laughter]. But that kid went to school with him from Ursuline. When he heard that Donny was in Colorado he went out and joined them. I do not know when he finally decided he was gay because I knew him as a little kid and he played with all the boys and so on. You never thought anything like that. But he went out there. He never tried anything on Donny because he knew that Donny was straight. He had somebody to live with who could live with him. Donny, they came home or his sister got married I think and they hitchhiked home, or was it one of Donny's sisters that got married. Anyway, he was home and he had quit his job because he just had a two bit job, nothing big. Like working in a gas station. He came home and I said, "When are you going back?" And we talked about it. He left. What he did was he put an ad in the paper. I do not know if he put the ad in the paper or if he looked for an ad in the paper, but we had heard that you could drive somebody's car out there and you would not have to pay. So somebody paid him to drive their car out and we took a picture of him and he went back out and he got a good job. He was working for a medical company.

He had some wild experiences while he was out there. Wild enough to make him realize that he was not so wild but man, there are some crazy people in this world. He went to Phoenix. He lived with my sister for a while but he realized it was not working out. Kay really felt, "I will get him Jeanne." No way. Anyway, he finally went to California and was working for a medical company and Butch wanted to leave this company, Family Home Medical and we had not got anybody to take Butch's place. Butch is Sue's husband and he was working in the warehouse of Foley Medical. We wanted somebody, and it was December. Don, of all people, called Donny and said he wanted him to come home. Donny said, "Oh, Dad." He did not want to come home. He wanted to stay. I about died. I could not believe that Don was actually doing this after all the trouble we have had.

Then Butch finally said, "Dad, I have to go. This is going to be it." And two days before Christmas Don called up Donny and told him to come home, that he had a job in the warehouse. He wanted him and he said, "Dad, I cannot do that. Even if I wanted to, I would have to give two weeks notice here and, even if I did have to give a two weeks notice, I could never get a ticket. I could not get a ticket because it is two days before Christmas, all those tickets are taken. I cannot come home." Don wanted him home and he said, "You go in tomorrow morning and tell him that you have to come home, the job is over. I will get a ticket to you." And he did.

P He did?

F And Don got home, Don junior got home Christmas Eve around midnight and everything was fine after that. He just kind of settled. He had his fling. When he was about eighteen and he was in the middle of his fling -- he does not remember this but oh do I remember it -- I can remember standing at the

doorway and he was at the kitchen. This is in the kitchen. This is the door way going into the dining room. I said, "Donny, why did you do that?" He said, "Mom," opening the refrigerator door looking in, "Mom, do not worry about me, I am like St. Augustine. I am going out and I am having my fling then I am going to come back and settle down." I could have shot him. I could have killed him.

P. Now exactly that.

F. He did and he is so easy to get along with, so nice. He works his tail up at work and like he worked up there before, he fooled around and so on. Half the people did not work there then, but if the people that work there, the couple that knew him at the beginning saw him when he came back, they were very impressed with Donny. He has really swung, got all the way around. He has a good job up there now and he has people working under him. He is going up there early in the morning and late at night and working hard.

P. Wow.

F. It is kind of interesting.

P. Yes it is.

F. I went to school, did I tell you that? I do not think I told you that. I went to college when I came home from Akron.

P. No, you did not mention that.

F. When I lived in Selma.

P. No.

F. I went to college. I always felt I needed a college degree. That always kind of held me back. I felt I am not as good as other people because they have a college degree and I do not.

P. That is not true at all.

F. Of course that is not true. It is so funny how you get these things in your mind. And I thought, "I am going to college. I have to get a degree." So I did, in the 1970's. I do not even know when, but it was in the 1970's I went back to school, or was it the 1980's? I went back twice. I went in the 1970's and I went back in the 1980's and I took a couple courses each time. The second time I took English because I always felt I would like to write a book. Whenever you take any kind of test to figure out your personality and all that they would say I should work in a library, I should work with looking things up and all that kind of stuff. I

guess that is what I wanted to do I just wanted to do that and, in fact, I took this one English class with Mrs Budge You know Alice Budge

P Yes

F And she called me and she said, "Now Jeanne, I am having a special class next year I would like you to be in it." But I was not going to be taking anything the next year I had decided, this is kind of stupid What happened was I took Anthropology. I loved Anthropology Are you a Catholic?

P Yes

F What is the teachers name It is the teacher that went on a break and taught in Ireland.

P Dr White?

F Shoots

P Mark Shoots

F He was talking about people and their customs and he said, "You know there are people on an island in the South Pacific and when people die, they do not do anything to them They just bury them very lightly They just cover them with dirt, very lightly. Then they tell all the friends, anybody that knew this person, they tell them of their death and they have a big celebration. I forget how much longer, but after they get them all together they have a real big celebration. They all get together They cook the body, they do not burn it They cook it and eat it, so everybody has a little bit of this person that died and that is their explanation for it " Everyone was going, "Uh, uh, uh, uh " He said, "All right, your making fun of that, but is that not what Catholics do " He said, "Jeanne " Naturally he would get me "Jeanne, you are Catholic." "Yes." "Is that not what Catholics do?" I said, "With Jesus Christ you mean? Yes, that is what Catholics do. We eat Jesus Christ " I think he was a little taken back He did not expect me, I was going to stick up for the Catholics and then he was going to come back So he looked at me and said, "That is right. [laughter] "

Then I took history The first time I went I took history with Domonkos He was good, I really liked him He was really good I like him Then I went back and I took it with my old neighbor and I cannot think of his name Tall, skinny, blond with a beard He lives on Coronado.

P Satre

F Satre, Lowell With Domonkos I took ancient history, something I always wanted to know, and I loved it Then with Lowell, I took European history because I

really did not know much about Europe, and I remember after talking with Lowell, I said, "You know Lowell, I have a complaint " This was privately He said, "What is that?" And I said, "You know, they are talking about Europe and they do not have very much in there about Ireland You know, there are about three paragraphs on Ireland. You know, I know you cannot do much about it, but in case you can, I think they ought to look into that because they do not have that much in there. They do not have that much in there on Spain, either I do not care about Spain, I care about Ireland " He laughed because we were talking like neighbors He said, "Jeanne it might be because you know, they do ask you every once in a while what you think about the books I could mention that." I said, "Well, you know, Ireland has quite a history and it is a shame I know people taking Irish history at Harvard " Vince Gilmartin did I dated Vince He was one of those kids I dated when Don said, "You did not date anybody " I said, "I did [laughter.]" He went to Harvard and I do not know if he had a major in that too, but it was Irish history It is around and so when you said you are getting European history, get a little bit of all of them Do not just pick, like they had that much on England

P· England and France.

F And France, you know, loaded. I just thought I would tell him that The reason I did not go back is because at the end of the semester, I could not finish either one, either course With Lowell, all I had to do is go back and take one test and at that point, it went on and on, and I finally just dropped it and I never took it I did not even care because I had learned and I knew I had had it and I did not care With the Anthropology, the last couple times he was absent and then he was absent for like three weeks, and then I had to go someplace. But again, that was a fascinating class and I loved it I learned it and at that point I felt I did not need a degree That was so stupid That was me ten years ago, which is now twenty years ago But you know, when I was about forty I thought I needed a degree I need this. I did not I told that to somebody once and they said, "Oh, my god Jeanne " I told it to Betty McLaughlin when she was counseling She said, "You know what a counselor would say to you?" I said, "What?" She said, "Look at your family Look what you did Look at your children." I said, "Well Betty, you know, it is nice to have that degree " I look at my family and I feel I have got a lot more than a lot of those people that went to college did

P I am sure, absolutely

F It is funny, but I did go and I loved it, I really did Every once in a while I think of going back, but if I go back, I will just go and take something and not get credit for it

P Something that you enjoy

F· Just something that I enjoy. Now I took those classes because you have to when you start out and you are going to get credits for it and so on. I thought, "You know, I do not have to do that now I will just go back and take what I want " Is that not funny? I left that out Well, I never did finish it. Anyway, Jimmy married Vicki Smith They have four kids Do you want stuff like that?

P Yes.

F· They got married when he graduated from Notre Dame then went back to law school, and they lived in part of Notre Dame that is strictly for law students with children That was a great experience for them, that was real nice We used to love to go up and see them there They have four children now, and their oldest is a senior in high school. He was born out at Notre Dame Then Sue has four children Sue married Butch Palooga He started working for Don. He worked in the warehouse, then he decided to get into the home care because that was getting real big at the time His dad was able to help him. After a couple years, though, Don wanted to put them together He thought it would be good for business Butch said, "Okay." So now Butch is president of it, Don owns it, he is C.E.O , but Butch is president

P Oh, I see

F Of the company There are two businesses under one roof now. That is why the two names. They have four children and their oldest is in the eighth grade Then Peggy, let us see, Peggy is next and Peggy has the five kids. Her oldest is a freshman at Ursuline My oldest granddaughter, oh dear I cannot believe it. She has been asked to the varsity. You know, this is so exciting Then after Peggy there is Katie. Dear Katie You know, Sue always wanted to be a teacher She became one. Peggy wanted to be a nurse, she became one Katie wanted to get married and have children She got married and had one little boy and then got a divorce and she had to work So she only has the one little boy, and he is a little dear Actually, he is a gifted child, which has been kind of hard on Katie because she did not know it for a long time They did not tell her but he should be going to a special school He is in the seventh grade now. She works with Susan Russo with her business, she used to Somebody else, she went down there to Y S U She knows more teachers down there than I do, I think. I thought I knew a lot But her son, he is finally coming around For a while he was just going nowhere but now it is all coming together I do not know if he is a genius. He has got a high I Q I mean high. He is not just smart, he is smarter than the smart That can cause problems

P That can be a problem

F And it did. But then Katie has since remarried to Mike Reveck, and he has two children So they have those kids every other weekend and those kids are about

Matthew's age and that is real nice. And those two kids are like grandchildren to me because they come to all our parties, they get their birthday presents and Christmas presents, so they are part of the family and they like it. We are expecting our eighteenth.

P: Oh my

F: Well after Katie is Donny, and I told you they cannot have any children. Michael, Mary Beth has been going to school so she is just starting her law practice. Kevin is also a lawyer. He became a lawyer last year. They have a little girl, Mary Kate. She is the baby of the family. She will be a year and half when the baby is born. The new baby, they are expecting, that will be in May. She was born in February. Wait a minute, turn that off.

P: Beautiful

F: I have down the dates so I will know when they were born.

P: The year they were born. That is a good idea.

F: So two Christmases ago I got seven of these and I filled them in with the dates and gave one to each one of my kids.

P: Good idea.

F: Oh, they love it. They say it was the best present they got and that was just a side present. I got them other presents.

P: Right, right.

F: I got them the calendars and, oh, they are just delighted with the calendars. But anyway, February 10th, 1993, and she is darling. She has red hair like my father. I waited for a red head. I wanted all my kids to be red heads. Donny and Michael were blonde and Donny is kind of a dish water blond, but Michael's hair is like mine. I was a blonde when I was born but by the time I got married I had black hair. This is the way Michael was. He was a blond and it kept getting darker till now, his hair is black. Except he has grey hair. I mean it is getting grey. He has grey in it. Kevin, I thought for positive he was going to be a red head. He had a lot of red in his hair. But he did not. He turned out to be brown but he has a red headed daughter and we are all excited. I mean, she is really a red head and I think she is going to stay because the hair is a lot redder than his ever was. So it is kind of exciting.

P: Yes

F And they are expecting in May That will be eighteen grandchildren That is including Mike Riveck's, Mike's and Katie's two Like I said, they are part of the family I do not know what else to say

P How about if we stop there because it is after four

End of Interview