

L: I think we should just go around, so we get it on tape, saying who's here and then, lets not worry about the camera right now because who knows what will happen with that, um, we could just do the first part audio for as long as possible. We have plenty of tape then later talk about what we want to put on film.

(Lots of talking and laughing about what to do)

L: You know it seems formal we don't really try, we haven't run any interviews that way ay all. But I think one thing we should get on tape is who's here.

S: Right, when we do shoot we'll probably pan this way.

W1: So you just want us to start in?

S: Yeh who you are, your relationships to Johnathan and what you're doing now.

W2: What we're doing now? What do you mean?

S: Where you are and what,

W1: You want what we're doing in our life, you don't mean,

S: Yeh right, if you would just, when you knew Johnathan and um, your relationships with Johnathan, what ever information you can give us about that and just so we can have it on tape, who you are now and (Everybody talking at once)

L: I think if you just mention your names would be a great way to start then worry about,

W1: That's if we can remember them (laughing)

M1: Your's has changed more than the rest of us.

L: Just say who you are, each person. That would be a great start.

W1: I'm Carolyn Pierce Sturgis.

L: That's all that good, so we know, so we have it on tape and we can refer to it.

W2: I'm Ellen Foxmichal.

M1: Bob Kerry

M2: Doug Sweet

W3: Bonnie Price Beval

L: That's all we had in mind and it took Sullivan forever to get that. (Laughing)

S: Why don't we just go back, you can go in any order you want, just tell us how you came in contact with Johnathan just how we get some idea about how you relate to Johnathan.

W2: Should we, if we're talking about something that's a shared, should we include other friends or make it like it's a sole,

S: No, make it as if it was a normal conversation.

(Everybody talking)

L: There's no way to mess it up. We don't have any plans for this specifically, it's just,

W2: Well you knew him probably first didn't you?

Bonnie: I think so, I moved to Keene when I was a second grader and went to Wheelock School John and I, well he wouldn't have been Whhelock School. We knew him from church in the very beginning, from the time we were 7 years old or so and John and I were in the junior choir. I brought some pictures today from those years, and Sunday school classes. He and I were in the same class in school and even though we hadn't gone to the same junior highs, we knew each other through church all those years and church related groups. And then we were in the same class in high school for 4

years.

M1: I came in junior high school and knew John at school and church. Later years we were, Ellen, John, Bonnie, and Sharon and I, who else was in the back row in junior high?

Bonnie: Gale Ford

M1: No, she played piano for us by then didn't she?

W1: She got promoted.

M1: Anyway, we had a rather old line in the back row of the junior choir. I think John was at one end and I was at the other. The only two males in the back row. I was already singing baritone by then.....John was a serious ah, voice, he took his voice very seriously. I remember when he sang ah, solo or, some, I think it was a recital or something, he used to swallow a raw egg before he sang.

W: They told us that in the Enquirer

(Everybody laughing)

S: That changes everything

M: You wanted us to introduce a little yolk didn't you?

W: Well he was in the band too wasn't he. He played the french horn.

M: Oh, he played the susaphone. Little skinny John with that great big susaphone over his shoulder. Jean Phelps played the french horn, or pretended to play it. But John played the susaphone in the band.

S: You were in the same grade or,

M: No I was ah, I was a year behind John, 1958, um

W: But we all go through PYF, the church was really a unifying factor, excuse Bobby, but they really, for most us, was only the church at the head of the square (laughing) Yeh so it was just something that we had,

S: What's PYF?

W: Pilgrim Youth Fellowship, and it was older grades and so was the junior choir and it was something that we had every Friday afternoon and every Sunday.

M: Junior choir was Friday, well the Action Crusaders was the junior high youth group that we were all in.

W: and it was one way to keep us all off the streets I guess and we all took that rather seriously including the worship service we had to do the whole miniature church service. We all were thrown together frequently in drama club in school and chorus and band. So although we were in different classes we did see a lot of each other.

W2: And a lot of us were in the same class with John.

M: Yeh I was in the same class that he was. He was 11 days older than me so he went by his 50th year and I remember stopping during the day and thinking about it a moment ah, just having had his 50th, but he was, I have to stop and count, like 3 or 4 doors down the street from me. I probably remember him better as a friend from kindergarten years up through junior high school, ~~up until~~ the time these people are beginning to remember their first impressions of John ah, and at that point I became very much a non-student and John became a little more interested in what was going to happen the rest of his life. Interested in doing something about it um.....I do remember him at birthday parties, neighborhood, he was one of the neighborhood kids as it were

to me, ah, more than somebody I remember having been in a club at school or something, ah, there were times, and I don't know if anybody here, I talked to somebody recently about the backyard circus that we had at one time, and I can't even remember which charity it was that we were ah...trying to raise money for, but we had most of the kids in the neighborhood involved and it was in John's yard, ah, but ah, we had quite a selection of events that day to ah, for everybody to take part in. A number of the kids, I know, there was ah, it was supposed to be for little, do you remember.....? now who is remembering that she was 2 doors down Summer St. ah, there's still quite a few of those kids around, neighborhood kids that would remember that ah, and as grade school went on, I think he probably became about my closest friend as a school mate that I had right up into junior high school age. We saw an awful lot of each other through those years, That's probably my best recollection of it. From high school on up I say, our interests diverged somewhat, not that we didn't remain friends and right up to the end if I happened to be in town and knew that he was we might have dinner together or something to catch up and it wasn't a matter of our keeping in constant contact at that point.

Ellen: My dad ah, moved to Keene in 1953 from Winchester and started the Keene Clinic with Dr. ? who's medical bills was the 3rd or 4th doctor that came with the original 6 in the Keene Clinic, and I knew John as a clinic brat from the functions that they had for families to get together, and John's mother Connie was lovely and soft spoken and was a wonderful cook and the messiest house keeper any of us knew and it was something that we all enjoyed, going to John's house because none of us could conceive living in this kind of clutter and yet she was a lovely lady-like person and Connie was one of my mother's good friends and the mothers did things like the latest thing in the church and they were all involved in good works and that sort of thing, because before mothers worked, that's all they were there for. John and I were junior choir friends together, altos together. John had kind of a nasal voice. He took his voice very seriously and unfortunately decided not to become a singer, and he wrote scathingly funny stories and was usually a ring leader if there was some mischief to be made, um.

Practically everything we did in PYF and Crusaders, which were the church youth groups, if there was any twist such as phone calls, John generally had thought of them and the rest of them carried them out with himah. Not nasty stuff, not the kind of things that kids pull today, but just fun things that I don't think anyone took offense at. Equally, got along equally with adults ah, most of his teachers, unfortunately the ones I think John was closest to, or Carolyn might know better than I, were ones that I identified with pretty strongly. Edna Collins, the high school english teacher and drama coach, and Ms. Macushing who was a ball of fire as an 8th grade, I guess 8th grade, and I know these were woman that, John was an excellent student and quick. He was a quick student. I think he was a

MARRITZ
515

delight for teachers to work with, I mean a handful but, when he had his accident, broken leg, there was bound to be as many teachers as students in the room visiting him and very comfortable. At the church there were some old ladies, older ladies, they are probably our age about now, John was genuinely concerned with. He would stop and talk, I remember Ms. Coffin who was a sweet lady and our parents brought us up to stop and have a conversation with these people which most of us would do because our parents would say yes Ellen, say hello to Ms. Coffin. So you chatted briefly, but John would actually have an intelligent conversation. He seemed to enjoy it um, and that always amazed me that he really wanted to sit and talk to somebody who was really so elderly.

Bonnie: John had a real gift for making anyone he was talking to feel that you had his total undivided attention. Whether it be a brief encounter or a long conversation, but you always had the feeling that he was totally engaged and interested in you and whatever the topic was at the time. It was a, it's a real gift, you know, really if you look back through your life, there are very few people who have this gift and he was an utterly charming person and ah, you know, ah so bright and so verbal and so interested in so many different things but he did have that wonderful gift of um, just being able to be totally engaged in whatever, you know, you two might be talking about.

Ellen: Well he was really a warm person, not a boy, one of a few probably that I wasn't interested in as a boy (laughing). Maybe because he got allergy shots from my dad or something. He had, you know, a nasal voice and I think part of it was whatever went on with the sinuses and stuff and maybe that affected my relationship. John was always a good friend and a supportive person and I always considered him a good friend. I lost track with him at the end of high school, other than clippings, I did not keep up with what John was doing. I know he went to VMI which really surprised me of what my opinion of a, a Virginia military academy is, nothing since I've lived in Virginia has changed that impression. Why John went there, whether it was to straighten him up, because he waffled between wanting to be a physician and then wanting to go into the clergy. But both of the more ministering the people I actually thought he'd be a wonderful teacher because of his report. But in some way he wanted to serve and I never thought he'd walk on water as most of us who knew him thought he was just a really great guy but, ah, it didn't surprise me that he would want to go in the ministry and when he was killed ah, my brother, I think my mother was still living, she may have died that year, but sent me the clippings and called to tell me and um, we came, we went to the services.....

Carolyn: I first met John in 1953, in church and we made it several years through junior high and high school. We spent lunch time together, probably too much time because both of our grades dropped in those years but ah,

S: You didn't mind his nasal voice?

Carol: Huh?

use
on collecting
and caring
for others

on serving
and leading

S: You didn't mind his nasal voice?

Carol: It didn't bother me at all, no (laughing), but we even ah,

Ellen: He might have gotten a few B's that year.

Carol: Gee I think he may have even gotten some C's that year, those years ah. But we even used to go on family vacations together. John was a very special person to me but I think the memory that means the most or has meant the most through out the years was the tremendous help that he was to me and my family when my father died. He just instinctively seemed to know that right things to say and do to help us through that difficult time, and he was only 14. I think that's pretty remarkable ah. Religion was very important to John ah, always was, even when he was a very young teenager and he, I don't think he ever missed going to church on Sunday no matter where he happened to be. His favorite church, I recently learned, was up on the coast of Maine called St. Peter's by the Sea, and he used to go there when he was on vacations, and when I was 15 he gave me a bible and he wrote the following inscription: "May he who died on a cross that we might be forgiven, be your friend, protector and companion forever." ah, I found that there were, there were two sides to John, really. One was a prankster, as Rich said and, a fun loving prankster though, but the other side was very serious and sometimes too serious. Like when he was 15 years old he, he thought that major decisions in his life had to be made right then, like what his career would be. Who knows at that age, but it was very important to him and he did either want to be a doctor like his dad or a congregational minister.....)....

S: Why did he ah, do you know why he became an episcopalian? Is it clear why he switched?

Ellen: We were talking about that.

D: I don't know why he switched from the, what's now United Church ah to episcopalian. I know he always did have an interest in church um, we went to different churches, I was a unitarian growing up and I can remember...at least at the junior high stage, the two of us discussing the differences and disagreeing on, and he really was very strong on his belief that he was on the right side of the fence.

Carol: Well he like the ceremony we talked about,

Bonnie: He liked the liturgy very much.

Car: great deal of liturgy and rote and ritual that we did not have.

D: There was a lot of ritual that I know had always been very important to John right to the point of ah, whether I'm betraying one of those childhood....vows that you make amongst 2 or 3 kids together and bond together um, having a club. But I can remember the club that we had is...we dug up the crawl space underneath the dining room on Summer St. and broke a hole through the wall and we would take the bricks out of there and crawl through and put the bricks back so no one would see where we had been and what not, Ellen; We saw that (laughing)

D: It wasn't my idea it was...ah, it was this, Gordon Fuller, who unfortunately is no longer with us also, you

Use
Carol's
in helping
Gordon

Religion

1586

297

not on
pages
Ch. 1

remember, was one of 3 men from this area who went fishing off the coast of Florida 3 or 4 years ago and was never found, ah, and John and myself and occasionally John Mcallister, who is still around here and working in ? ah, at any rate, we had a Ye royal nights of the royal order of the skull and bones society ah, I forget, I did not come up with that name. That was a Johnathan Daniel's original name right there, ah, a lot of, what he had is part of the ceremony, were things that he had seen either of the masonic order or through church or places that held ritual very high in their esteem. He'd always been very proud of his fathers service record, I can remember him talking about it and mentioning it from time to time. His father had been in the army during the war ah, so I can remember ritual and that kind of thing being very impressive to him, very early.

D: Remember he ah, registered and he got an altar in his room.

B: Altar in his room?

D: Yeh he set up a certain kind of religious kind of ah, altar of some kind.

B: I don't recall it. It may have been there and I wasn't aware of it. I can remember his room on the School St. side ah, where his room was. It was out back for awhile but most of the time I remember it being half way down the house there on the School St. side.

Ellen: That's before the days where young ladies went to ?

B: Oh I can remember being up there.

Ellen: Well you weren't a girl Bobby.

B: There was a short wave radio up there that we would go and play with occasionally um,

Carol: I don't remember that though, but he did do that at my house several times. The two of us had communion and he of course conducted the service. But I don't remember anything at his house.

S: So he would just take on the role of the minister.

Carol: He was the minister oh yeh, I was the the communicate. But it's kind of unusual I think too.

S: What?

Carol: Kids that age to do.

D: Carol doesn't want to tell us when she went to his bedroom window. (laughing)

Carol: I think one other thing is that John never failed in his role as a gentleman ah, no matter how inconvenient it might be for him, he always held the door, held the chair or opened the door. No matter what he was always there.

S: How did he get along with all the different types of kids in the high school?

Ellen: He got along with everybody.

Bonnie: Everybody.

Carol: Every class.

S: Dr.'s son sometimes I guess,

Carol: No, he got along with any class of people. He was very friendly. Waved to everone, spoke to everyone,

Ellen: Not condescending to the kids less bright than he, of which there were many, I'm sure, but he seemed to get along, because he wasn't a jock by any manner.

A78
33
cliff

Done 2
for his
fun on
service

Ellen
his room

on
religious
rituals

on as
gentleman

343

B: He wasn't but he wasn't looked down upon by any of the jocks because he wasn't, that ever recall.

Ellen: He seemed to get along with everybody. I can't imagine anyone that he would have spoken to that would have said something really negative because he, because of his approach to life which was enjoyable and ah, what ever basic attitude towards his faith.

Carol: It would be difficult to dislike John, you know the attitude.

S: How do he feel about himself? I know that something, one of the letters that he felt from the 4th or 5th grade that he wasn't as good in sports as some of his peers.

CAROL: He probably wasn't, although he did go out for cross country one year and he didn't do to badly. But I think he had some many other interests, drama and studies now and then.

S: Was that group different from the other group. The ones that were in band and drama.

ELLEN: For most of us it was all the same, I mean you look at the clubs in high school and most people who did the year book and the drama were pretty much all the same.

D: They were pretty much the non-athletic ones. You didn't have many athletes who were drawn on music. That's probably fairly typical from then and now.

L: Bill excuse me, does anyone want a pot of coffee, if you like. In fact maybe would could even stop for a second, people feel relaxed and, why don' you turn it of.

TAPE GOES OFF

ELLEN: Summer, was it a summer or winter.

S: Ah, he went down in March and he stayed until May and then came back to complete some work at the seminary the went back, couldn't wait to get back.

D: This was all in '65?

S: All in '65 yeh, yeh a couple of people tried to convince him not to go back including his mother and a couple of other good friends.

CAROL: I don't think anyone or anything could stop him from going. I think once he made up his mind, that's the way he was. He was going to go no matter what.

S: Now is any of that from the early years when you knew him or is that a different Johnathan.

Everybody: No that's the same Johnathan

B: I wish Judy was here because she is the one that talked to him. He was on his way back the second time when he stopped in and Judy got to talk to him for awhile. He went back out to stop at w---- State Hospital. He'd spent one

summer out there ah, and he, for whatever reason, went out to New York State to head south and we were living in Syracuse at the time and he called, because he went through Syracuse and Judy spoke to him for awhile and I was still at work, ah, about heading back down here. I wish she were here to try and recall what he might have had to say about, you know, why he's heading back down.

L: Who Judy Hubble?

B: No Judy Parish, my wife. She'll answer the question for you.

S: Did any of you guys get involved in the 50's, as did

Johnathan and questions of social justice? You're all very involved and religious people.

ELLEN: Wasn't there a black doctor in Keene?

BONNIE: Yes, Johnston,

ELLEN: There was a family

BONNIE: The film was being shown tonight, the anniversary.

CAROL: Lost Boundaries?

ELLEN: Lost Boundaries, it sort of mentioned that there was not, there was no problem here to see.

BONNIE: It wasn't an issue.

B: There were 1 or 2 black families in Keene and it wasn't ah, there was the O'Niell family and

L: And the Johnson family,

CAROL: I think that's it.

DOUG: No there was Charlie Juninberg

EVERYBODY: yes, yes

L: Was there a Miller family too?

B: Yeh,

L: A man who ran the,

B: Ran the baptist theater for years, George ah,

DOUG: George Miller oh,

L: Grace Miller still comes back to,

BONNIE: Does she still sing?

B: Is that George's daughter?

BONNIE: Yes,

CAROL: It was, pretty much, an innocent age of ignorance I guess you might say, the 50's, it was...

B: We didn't know enough to be prejudice, let's put it that way.

ELLEN: Or if we had prejudices we didn't know what they were until...

D: Well we had prejudices and we knew, some of the stereotypes were certainly there, certainly my parents voiced them and used phrases that, that I would shudder at today um, I think anyway we were quite liberal but I suspect that John's family was much the same.

ELLEN: I know they must have been, I know they must have been. The thing, they were most of the doctor's wives who were college educated and reasonably, say equipped to deal with being a doctor's wife in Keene in the 1950's but even my mother, who was a very fundamental baptist and a good christian she considered herself, she would say things like, "Well she was my best friend, you know, she is jewish," or something like this and these are prejudices that get built in whether you know they are prejudices or not and I would have said my mother was a really a fine person in terms of her dealing with people but there were a lot of things that I realized later as my circle was a music group, to accomplice a great many different people, that I had inherited a quite a lot of these subliminal messages that, and I grew up in Winchester which was an old mill town, you know Winchester New Hampshire and my dad was a town doctor and he didn't serve in the military because it was necessary to be calling into town, necessary is medical. I still remember having a birthday party in the first grade and inviting everybody in my class, including the kid that lived

on 50's

on prejudice

in ? who was the only black and having my mother had quite a scene about this birthday party, having 35 kids including this one black that we had to take home (laughing)

L: How'd that go over?

ELLEN: Well we got through it. We had a stiff upper lip, you know, a WASP approach. It didn't effect us here.

BONNIE: It was interesting. I married, my husband is black and we were married in '62 and Johnathan came to our wedding reception and I can remember the reactions of people in town when I married John. We were married in Alaska and we came back here some months later to meet the community, and ah, and people said to my mother after the announcement came out in the paper, "But of course he's so light that he'll pass" That's okay, that's, it wasn't a question it was a statement, "Of course he's so light that he'll pass."

DOUG: Let me counter that. At John's funeral was my mother's first time she met your husband and I remember this, this was one of the times my mother made me more angry than any other time in my life, she said to me, "I don't mind that Bonnie married a black man but did she have to marry one so dark?" (Laughing)

BONNIE: See what I mean (laughing) that's the kind of pervailing. Maybe it will just go away, we'll pretend, because there was no threatening majority in Keene with black people.

L: Well you must know the Johnson family too.

BONNIE We knew who they were. We lived near them in Keene, geographically.

CAROL: They lived on Washington St. didn't they?

BOONIE: Yeh, now the Miller family I remember more because Mr. Miller, who worked at the Ligas Theater, would take us home Saturday afternoons if it was raining. He'd pack us in the car and take my sister and me home or other kids that lived in the same neighborhood, very gracious gentleman.

DOUG: and yet it didn't come,

B: Nobody was different

BONNIE: He was just always there, George was just always there but he was an individual. I mean it wasn't as if we had a black community the way you do in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, or Nashua, where there are all these people you don't know and you're kind of a little afraid of them because you don't know them.

L: So he came to your wedding in '62?

BONNIE: No, no we were married in Alaska but we had a reception at my home when we got back here some months later and Johnathan and that was last I ever, ever did see him.

DOUG: I regret, obviously I've lost track of John in the last few years. I think the last time I remember seeing John was at his father's funeral. I was 15, 1960.

L: '59, December of '59

DOUG: Yeh, I knew it was Christmas time. I have a feeling that was the last time saw John alive.

S: How did he respond to.....

DOUG: Respond?

S: At the funeral. He would be coming from VMI,

DOUG: He was coming, it was at the funeral home over at ah,

ah,

Everybody talking about where it was.

DOUG: And ah, I was thinking a while ago, you know, John was one of the most outgoing kids I remember, as everybody said, always speaking to somebody and it just seemed, in going to see him in the funeral home, he was a lot more comfortable with the circumstances than I was.

CAROL: He sought to make you feel good. He was concerned.

ELLEN: Yeh, I think John accepted it as a natural course of life and his dad had been so ill, John was like a realist and he did not want his dad to suffer when he had nephritis or something.

L: Did he talk about his dad at all um, I don't think you were there were you?

DOUG: Well I was there at the funeral. I don't remember particularly that he did. I think we were more catching up on the last couple of years or year or so since, I was now away at college as well, but ah

ELLEN: Well most of those clinic dads were doctors first and family second and I know John admired Uncle Bill enormously but all the time we were at Daniels, Uncle Bill was rarely there, ne was called out. Even though my dad's specialty was allergy in general, there were a lot of times they were not there, you talked about your dad, and I know he was an image for John, but he was gone a great deal delivering babies and was not always there. I think Connie was the main influence, in terms of a physical being.

CAROL: He did enjoy going fishing with his father, at Granite Lake I believe. He used to rent a cottage up there and it was one of the things that his father did get away from the job for. John would have loved to have spent more time with his father. Another thing that I happened to remember is, intelligent as he was, far more intelligent than I ever was, he never ever made me feel intimidated by him, which I think, you know, as much time as I spent with him, almost 4 years, I never remember feeling inferior or intimidated by him. There was plenty reason to feel that way but he didn't make me feel that way.

BONNIE: He did not have an arrogant bone in his body.

CAROL: He got along with everybody, everybody, no matter what they had, or how dumb they were, whatever, he saw them for what they were. He could see through some of these things that others put first.

L: Did any of you stay in touch with him when he came back from EMI to New England?

CAROL: I saw him that first summer, after his freshman year I saw him.

L: Well after he graduated from EMI in '61 he went to Harvard for a semester and then he dropped out.

CAROL: He dropped out, I thought he went the whole year.

DOUG: I saw him but, like once or twice a year type thing and we'd get in touch, I can remember going to his house 3 or 4 different times and we'd barbecue a steak or something out on that side porch, spend the evening together getting caught up again and we never wrote or anything but,

L: Emily at this time was beginning to feel the problems.

Use on picture

MAKING 508

BOBY: Emily had been in the hospital.

S: The family was in financial , everybody was having problems. He was a student at Harvard, he was having problems.

DOUG: Did he go to a graduate program?

S: Yeh, Well no Woodrow Wilson to Harvard and the ? so he started graduate school in english and then in '61 when these big problems, financial and psychological problems, Emily's problems, I guess the family nearly went broke trying to ah, deal with Dr. Daniels ah,

L: They had to drive him around from VA hospital,

S: Pretty amazing.

L: and they couldn't get anything accomplished. Emily said she used to sit in the back seat with her dad and curl up in pain while they were driving. The hospital was trying to get some sort of coverage for them, they claim it wasn't service related but this is the bowl that, said that that wound to his kidney was from a piece of schrapnel.

CAROL: That's what Bill used to say, he told us.

L: If it isn't service related, I don't know what is. But anyway, there was a lot of suffering and a lot of financial hardship.

DOUG: There was nothing they could do for him in Keene. He didn't have coverage here to get medical attention?

S: it sounds incredible.

ELLEN: Budding doctors are not very well covered as far as there own, but they probably didn't have the equipment here either that perhaps he needed.

L: Well dialysis, that's what Emily told us, there was no dialysis so it was just...

S: Anyway this '61 in April, I guess that was a bad time when he was being counseled and dropped out of school. That's when he decided to come back.

DOUG: Well that must have been April of '62.

S: Yeh right,

DOUG: He graduated EMI in '65 right,

S: '61 he begins Harvard and '62 he drops out.

L: Then he came back to Keene and worked as an orderly at the hospital and a couple of shops around town. Then he began to apply to more um, entrance at episcopalian and he went on to the seminary in Cambridge and was accepted in that program in September of '63.

CAROL: Is that a 3 year program? Must have been.

S: I think it's two.

BOBBY: Yeh it's 2 years, he took a sabbatical or whatever you wanted to call it.

S: How was he in '62?

BONNIE: He um, he and I really didn't talk a lot at that reception, I really couldn't say. He seemed as charming and jovial as ever but I don't remember any specific conversations that maybe he talked to other people. He had a long talk with my husband I know at that time and ah, I don't know if John remembers about that, except that my John, remembers Johnathan probably as well as he remembers anybody from that, rather intense weekend when, my family, yes he came to all white Keene to meet the town.

CAROL: But John would make him feel welcome I'm sure.

BONNIE: Oh yes and he remembers Johnathan. Johnathan was the one person that he remembers out of all the people he met that weekend.

L: Where are you living?

BONNIE: Exeter

L: Perhaps you could ask your husband if he wouldn't mind talking to us. He could give us a call.

BONNIE: I'm not sure how much specifically he recalls. He remembers the feeling that this was a neat person that he was glad that he got a chance to speak with him.

S: Was there, getting back to that social question, was there any topic um, of social concern that would tended to be in drama or music that he tended to chat about. What did you, did you talk about anything beyond what normal teenagers talk about?

BONNIE: I don't recall.

ELLEN: Big question at the church, was that they painted the walls blue with pink and it was catholic and we just couldn't see a Christopher Red structure with blue behind the alter, and that's all I can remember, was the incredible controversy just tore the church to pieces.

BONNIE: Over this dumb paint color.

S: What were the issues for you, growing up?

ELLEN: Getting through high school, boyfriends. The usual high school stuff. We were expected to go to college. At least John and our family and most of us were expected to do well in school and there were very few great revolts in high school. There were a few pranks, there were a few things that we, we're taking task for um, but college was expected and basically we were just doing the best job in school for the most part. Wouldn't you say Carol?

BONNIE: And as woman, it was expected that within that 4 years we'd get that diamond and retire to the kitchen, those were the 50's.

← Everybody talking

ELLEN: And my father got a draft notice because they needed a doctor so badly and I remember that really shook our family up. He was in his 40's, terrible eye sight and he got a draft notice because somebody on the draft board and my father didn't get along. There were a lot of people. And then of course he managed to get exempted from it but they needed the position so badly. I mean that was just vaguely, I mean Korea was never anything to us. There was some of our friends parents who went to Korea and came back. Norris Robinson, one of the acclaimed doctors, was he involved in Korea.

CAROL: I don't remember

L: World War II he told us, because he met John Ford...

ELLEN: Who Norry Robinson, she's about this tall now.

BOBBY: I can remember one conversation in the living room one night, Judy and I stopped, me and Judy had this discussion more on social issues. It would be very difficult for me to remember specifics of it other than the fact that they weren't agreeing a whole lot on what, they stayed on a very friendly plain but they certainly didn't agree on it. The way they saw the issues.....

on 50's

SIDE ONE ENDS

DOUG: There were certainly drafts.

S: What was John's problem?

BOB: I'd say just allergies, asthma.

S: He had, because when he graduated from EMI he was also given a ? in his junior year, we didn't know why. Because normally when he graduated he would have had to serve at least 2 years or something.

ELLEN: I don't think physically he was, I know he wasn't.

BOB: That's one thing you mentioned, somebody said, why did he have to go to EMI and I was surprised at the time only, I think of it as a rigorous, you know, if you are going to be in that kind of environment you are going to have to go through quite a physical ah, environment that I didn't picture John being in that environment. Intellectually I had no problem with his being able to keep up with, it's a matter of picturing him going through the obstacle course or something like that. I had a hard time picturing John not being just about dead last going through the obstacle courses.

ELLEN: But what else about questioning the military, the whole machine is so absolutely, John was never one to accept something you told him without giving you a run for your money to discuss it, whether it was religion and crusaders or PYF or, we went to visit all these churches and we did that as part of our church stuff and we had some interesting discussions about that. I can't imagine John putting up with the military.

BONNIE: He never understood the military.

ELLEN: I'm not sure it was John's idea to go. When he was twixed in between, he wanted to be a doctor to please Uncle Phil but I don't think he really wanted to be a doctor.

CAROL: I think he had made up his mind what he wanted to do and this gave him time....and I think his mother probably thought he needed the discipline. She talked him into thinking that he needed discipline. But this gave him time to, as I said at 15 he thought he had to know where he went, he graduated from high school and he still didn't know what he wanted to do. I think this gave him more time to decide and I think she thought it would probably be terrific trade for him.

BOB: Well he took on the challenge very well,

CAROL: I think he took on any challenge very well and then to graduate as he did with what, high honors, it was, you know,

BOB: Yeh he was the valedictorian.

CAROL: Yeh,

S: Which we understand is ah, it's like that at EMI. We went down to EMI, we couldn't understand why anybody would enlist at EMI. My son met us down there and ah, they tried to recruit him and ah,

ELLEN: It was a beautiful area, but John was never one to accept without questioning.

CAROL: He questioned everything.

S: But, his own peers elected him for valedictorian.

DOUG: Well intellectually he probably wasn't among one of

on going to EMI

voice over #21

Mon on VHS

✓✓

063

087

the giants there.

L: That's right (Laughing) He probably, even among the most popular students. But they told us people got elected valedictorian because they represented the idealism in class and so forth. They would choose somebody who, who most represented, kind of, the beliefs of the class. That's probably why they elected him. So whatever Johnathan, who told us that General whats-his-face, he tried to make John Wayne look like Arnold Stang(?).

S: He was about 6'5".

L: Oh man, he was huge, what was his name, General, it was hard talking to his belt buckle.

DOUG: Well I have an older brother that went to Stanton Military Academy and went out to the Sinidel a couple of years ahead of that and I still don't understand the, I don't think that was as surprising as john probably but I didn't understand it and I still don't, 30 years later.

S: He never talked it over with anybody?

BOB: I don't remember having any conversations with him.

L: We think, it might have something to do with connection to the south, I mean, he says in one of his autobiographical essays which Virginia and Washington D.C. with his dad,

CAROL: Very young

BOB: Yeh army years

L: Then Emily told us the story about some black ? had grabbed them and pushed them down a man hole when they were in Washington.

S: When they were in Washington, yeh (silence) Well maybe ah, do you have any ah, do you have a particular special story. Do any of you have one that really epitomized Johnathan, a little anecdote that does it?

ELLEN: Holding court in the hospital?

S: Something ah, a story that you'd like to keep, that keeps alive in your mind more than any others?

CAROL: I don't have what you're asking for right now. One of the memories of John is that he was always in trouble with someone. Every day that I think I knew him. Either with teachers or parents or me (Laughing) ah, you know, little things, like he might forget to bring the cranberry juice home to his mother or late picking me up or,

ELLEN: Tardiness was not a day missed,

CAROL: No, he was late for everything and he was a procrastinator also,

ELLEN: He came honestly by the tardiness though.

CAROL: Yes, yes he did, but there was someone always upset with john. Either he arrived late for a class and disrupted the whole class when he walked in, but of course was apologizing all the way in ah, or he didn't get an assignment in on time and therefore took a lesser grade than he could have had, this, this is how I remember...John. One way I remember John.

L: I'd like to know more about that story because I'm so curious, even if it isn't as significant the policeman they ?.

DOUG: Well i don't know, I mean, it certainly was a real event that the ah, this was the Easter Sunday that we were

*John's
Impress
Scale*

going to Cathedral in Pines. It must have been Easter of '56 or '57 and I don't know whether I stayed in town and John, the house that my folks brought me in, because we lived out in Swanzy Center, but we were driving around picking up various members of the group that were going to Sunrise Service somewhere in Rindge. We got stopped up on, near the corner of Washington and Cross, we must have been, didn't Martha Wormy live up there?

ELLEN: No, she

DOUG: Who lived on Cross St.?

CAROL: Julie Canfield.

DOUG: Maybe we were going to pick up Julie. I thought she lived over on Court St., but, I'm not sure. Anyway, we had come over from West Keene and maybe we, I don't know if it was Betty Ann or Martha we picked up out there but the cop, I was way in the back of this station wagon. It was John's father's grey Ford station wagon I think and I was way in the back sitting on a mattress that was back there, probably that had born many babies, I don't know, but ah, cop stopped us and I remember him telling John that they had first seen us going from West St. to Roxbury St. at 60 to 70 miles an hour. We were coming to pick you up no doubt,

CAROL: Probably.

BONNIE: Very early in the morning.

DOUG: Oh yeh, it was 4:30, 5:00 in the morning, we might have been picking you up

BONNIE: I never went to one of those.

DOUG: I assume then that you've talked to the cop that stopped him that he got a ticket. I don't specifically remember that he got an actual ticket for the event I, I guess that my assumption would be that John talked himself out of it.

(laughing and talking)

BONNIE: About the lords work.

ELLEN: Well then he was glad he was coming back from somewhere. He was in Connecticut with Connie and got stopped for speeding and they took his license right there and Connie had to drive the rest of the way. I don't know whether it would have been coming back from EMI or where it would have been but I remember that. John was a terrible driver, I thought. Carol, you rode with him a lot more than I did.

CAROL: He had a real heavy foot, heavy brake.

ELLEN: Not what I recall a tremendous driver.

CAROL: He had a buick,

ELLEN: Yeh his mother's big buick is what we, those are the cars,

CAROL: When we were lucky enough to have a car. We walked most everywhere and I guess, come to think of it, he was kind of heavy foot and kind of jerky perhaps.

L: So Doug you didn't burst into laughter in the back,

DOUG: You mentioned that. I don't remember doing that but it's certainly quite possible. (Laughing) I mean I can't, for the sake of the film. If Bob said I did, I did

(laughing)

ELLEN: ...when John broke his leg with that car accident. I just remember holding court in the hospital room when the

Story but
OK but
too long

hospital
room
incident

teachers and the students parked, the limit was 2 in a room and the nurses would come in and there would be at least 20 people in there, at least 2 adults and god knows how many kids that would rotate and the nurse would come in. Of course it was Uncle Bill's son and they weren't going to be too nasty about it. "Some of you will have to leave" and we would get one person to leave which would leave 24 people there sitting on the bed and, just, it's always been one of the funniest things I can remember.

CAROL: And the room was full of smoke, remember that.

L: How come so many people came to visit him.

CAROL: people liked him.

BONNIE: Everybody liked him.

CAROL: He was fun to be with.

BOB: John's father's garage was always full of smoke too (laughing). There were times when the space I was talking about underneath dining room was full of smoke.

DOUG: I never got into the weed, but he smoked a lot of that in his father's garage out back.

BONNIE: Did John smoke?

L: Well we have pictures of him smoking a pipe. I don't know if he smoked cigarettes.

BOB: I don't know whether he did a whole lot later on as a kid thing.

S: What about drinking, first?

CAROL: Not, I have a license, a fake license that John made so he could drink before he was of legal age.

DOUG: Now I can attest to him having a drink in a bar in New York City at the age of 15 or so on a churches fellowship.

L: I'm starting to go with my estimation the whole time.

EVERYBODY TALKING

DOUG: I think we were the only males in the youth group, remember that trip to New York, you were probably there, we stayed on East 29th St. in some sort of rooming house.

BONNIE: What was our goal,

DOUG: East Harlem Protestant Parish maybe. This would have been '56.

ELLEN: Was that with Ray Chamberland?

DOUG: I would assume Ray must have gone on that trip. I don't remember that specifically.

BONNIE: He's someone to talk to. Did you ever talk to him, the Rev. Lord Chamberland.

S: I don't think so.

BONNIE: He's, I can remember, I could fill you two in.

(Meanwhile everyone else is trying to figure out where they were)

S: How did you get a drink in New York?

DOUG: We just walked in a bar, sat at the bar, ordered a drink.

BOB: They always did with 18.

DOUG: You only had to be 18 in New York so it was a lot easier to look like yourself more.

BONNIE: John could certainly sound like 36.

DOUG: I don't remember ah, being,

CAROL: But not as an abuser. Nobody went out and just got...

BONNIE: Stinko

DOUG: I looked old at the time and I could go into some of

the grocery stores outside of Keene and could usually buy beer, though I did not like beer. It was terrible tasting stuff and ah, I was quite often the buyer, I don't remember Johnathan being involved. Well see I could always, if they asked me for a drivers license I would always embarrass them telling they didn't give blind people a drivers license (Laughing).

BONNIE: They'd get so close to you

DOUG: That they hadn't realized I was blind..

ELLEN: I don't think John ever abused substances that way. He had too much...

DOUG: He didn't do much drinking. Very little.

BOB: He was infatuated with part of our ceremony I was telling you about because we did find a case of wine in the cellar that we worked on but, you know, that much at a time and it was only because it was part of ritual and ceremony and it was used for,

BONNIE: Part of the holy purpose.

ELLEN: That's part of why I like the episcopal parish because we used grape juice.

DOUG: Did you use wine at your communion at the house Carol?

CAROL: I think, yes we did and it was ? My mother used to have that in the refrigerator and that's what we used.

S: What about rock 'n roll?

CAROL: He hated it.

BOB: He was classical.

DOUG: He was very serious.

BONNIE: I don't even remember him coming to the dances, did he?

ELLEN: Oh yes

BOB: He was always dancing with Carol (Laughing)

BONNIE: That's right.

BOB: He took piano lessons for some years and was in, progressed a lot faster than anybody.

DOUG: He went to Mrs. Lane.

ELLEN: Lily played at Bill's funeral and she did Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring. That was a specific request that John and Connie had made.

L: Was he a good dancer CAROL?

CAROL: Average, coordination was off.

BONNIE: Yeh, coordination was not his strong sweep, mental coordination was his strong sweep.

BOB: I remember boxing with him one time. That was impossible, I wasn't a boxer.

CAROL: Neither was he.

BONNIE: What was that?

BOB: I remember boxing with him one time, that was, it was strictly arms flying all over the place. There was no method to it. I had beaten him I feared for my life, not because he was skilled, it was just the arms..

L: We have a picture of him about 13 or 12, hunched over a football helmet out on a football field,

DOUG: Strictly posed.

ELLEN: that wouldn't be John.

BOB: That must have been a joke of some kind because he wasn't, he just was not into the athletic scene that much. I think he admired people who were well coordinated and could

on
Communion

on
athletic
football

do it but ah, he himself was not a participant to a great extent. Even in the neighborhood football games,

CAROL: Robert, would I be putting my foot in my mouth if I said most of the jocks, when we were in high school, weren't in a,

BONNIE: They weren't in our crowd any way.

CAROL: Phi Beta Kappa crowd

ELLEN: Well there was Chick Bridge but he went in the military so what does that prove. Athletes, for the most part, were kids, that was all they had going for them and most of the rest of them.

BOB: John was, we were in the serious music crowd, I mean we would go down to the Met when it came to Boston 1 week a year, go to a couple of ah, operas and we would go down to the ah, I think we went down to the Hendel Hyden society Messiah once or twice and that was our, we were very seriously interested

CAROL: Keene concerts too.

BONNIE: We had a good community concert service.

DOUG: Just to show my side of music, I wrote a column, I was a music columnist for the Keene High School Enterprise, and whatever year Elvis Presley went into the military,

BOB: '60

DOUG: No, it was earlier than that because I was still in high school, I wrote in my column that that would end Elvis Presley's career.

ELLEN: Well that was foresight though.

BONNIE: It really was Doug.

DOUG: It was wishful thinking really.

CAROL: Most of our generation, I mean our class didn't like, he was so alien to our life style and he was kind of scuzzy for what we grew up with. It's like step/ said, "Did you like Elvis Presley?" it wasn't discussed, it wasn't a question of liking him. It wasn't something that you watched or, we were so sheltered.

BONNIE: He played Ed Sullivan once in a while and,

CAROL: Now I understand all, I mean being in music understand these influences. We were so blissfully unaware of a lot of things happening, Chuck Berry.

BONNIE: Incredibly isolated musically, I mean there just was, you just weren't aware of the blues or anything like that.

CAROL: No great artistic....

BONNIE: Johnny Ray singing Cry, you know, was a big deal when we were in the 8th grade.

L: Were there any cases back then, can you remember, of him being involved in an issue, not even social justice, it doesn't have to be that far, was he an underdog sticker upper.

BONNIE: Oh yes, and in our english discussions, you know, of our readings and stuff, John always played the devil's advocate too, which is a different issue, and ah, and never took the party line so that Ma Collins, the english teacher, was beside herself. You know, she's trying to get the discussion to go down the avenue she understands, John's off on tangents and asking her questions and driving her up the wall because he was so much brighter than she was and had

on serious
music

on Elvis
and
sheltered
experience

read so much more probably and you know, he was a delight to have in class, well he and I were together I think of all of us and we were the 2, because Bob had left and gone to private school at that point. But he and I were in english class together and I can remember what a delight it was to have John because he was always throwing monkey wrenches here and there and questioning. He would, he'd ask, I don't remember any specific instances of course but he would.

L: So who would he stick up for in the matter of literature and so forth, I mean,

DOUG: I don't think he really found fault in a lot of people,

BONNIE: He was a little stunned, you know really because,

BOB: would tend to try and step in. I do remember that kind of thing that he was not one to necessarily find fault with Elvis Presley or something. He may not have cared for him but he wouldn't have been trying to tear the whole thing down, it wasn't his preference.

L: Was there ever anybody in school who was, in his opinion, picked on or judged unfairly and he would feel bad for them and that kind of thing, see what I,

CAROL: You can say anyone

BONNIE: I can't think of a specific thing.

L: Well some people seem to have an easily ruffled sense of justice and some don't.

DOUG: I don't think we got real excited about those issues generally.

BONNIE: I just don't think we did.

DOUG: People didn't get treated unfairly in school. I mean if they got some sort of punishment or, I think they deserved it.

ELLEN What about Annie Cohen or Bradley Beito, no, John would have stuck up for them while the rest of us would have laughed ourselves silly. He would have said leave them alone or change the subject. He wouldn't have joined the crowd.

BOB: Well maybe so but he was a year or so ahead, those two were in our class,

ELLEN: Yeh but ah, when the band went places and stuff those guys would be there and the chorus when we went to New York and stuff they were all together.

DOUG: Eddie played the piano didn't he?

ELLEN: I don't remember, well Eddie was about 4 feet tall and he drove behind a wheel.

BOB: Yeh I saw him riding around on his bicycle.

ELLEN: And Bradley was kind of a, unusual person.

DOUG: Bradley was weird.

BOB: For the 50's, Bradley ah, is, would have given,

ELLEN: We don't want to get sued for,

BOB: Today they would have called him gay, he would have been gay, and he was not a member of the jock crowd.....

ELLEN: And he also drew breasts all the time.

DOUG: Did he really?

ELLEN: Yes, he was a very good artist,

BONNIE: Very good artist.

ELLEN: Like Varga, strictly Varga girls, he'd draw nude breasts and rather beautiful, luscious, bare naked women all

over everything. Of course he was so strange.

BOB: Did he carry a picture of you around? (laughing)

ELLEN: But he was very, very feminine. Tight pants and the walk.

CAROL: He was in my home room and you sort of left him alone, you sort of had to snicker a little.

BOB: I don't think he had a whole lot of friends himself.

BONNIE: But John would never pick on him, and probably,

ELLEN: John would have gone out of his way to say something and talk to him.

BONNIE: Say something nice.

DOUG: I don't remember him in high school, I only remember Bradley in junior high.

BOB: See we got much more segregated in high school. He was in my shop class I can remember in junior high school.

CAROL: Shop, Bradley

L: Well, take a break for a minute

S: Yeh we'll shoot a little film.

L: I was just wondering how it would work if we, you can turn it off Bill, did you (Tape goes off)

S: They are upstairs now, we can send for them after.

CAROL: Yeh, why don't I send it back to Ellen when you're through with it and then I'll see if there's anything that I want to have copied.

BONNIE: I use the paper and stuff for my kids.

BOB: I don't know what else there was, the only interest I really had

EVERYBODY TALKING ABOUT WHAT TO DO WITH THE PICTURES

Tape goes off

L: We'll just start the sound, we can use all the tape in the world.

DOUG: Now we have to start talking clean.

BONNIE: That's right.

L: That's right. Put on the headphones for a second Florence and let me know. Can you hear us all right, all of us?

BOB: Are you hearing us through the phones or are you hearing us because you, we are on the other side of the room.

L: Well we have a monitor on, so she can hear us,

BOB: I can hear you, I'm sitting on the other side of the room, what do you expect laughing

L: These are called isolation headphones. They don't let in the sound.

ELLE: They shut you out.

S: Why don't you talk a little bit about why you think it's important to come together and share your thoughts of Johnathan, just why you all came up and did this sort of thing. Just begin anywhere.

DOUG: I don't know if it's so important as it is pleasurable to remember together and share what, our common experiences and enhance those.

BOB: Yeh, it necessarily just ah, for the good of making a documentary, it does a lot of good insight to bring all that back and see people who were part of not only Johnathan's history, but my own past so, I don't want to sound selfish

Camera
on

Group Interview 21

but it's a lot of fun to do it for that reason also, as well as to sit here and remember a very good friend. SILENCE

S: And ah, let's think about the high school business one more time and ah, maybe that night in the hospital and why that's a good memory.

BOB: Well what caused it to be in the hospital (Laughing)

CAROL: Oh, well I don't remember the details, but I know he and Bill Parot and Nat Young,

BONNIE: Who's father was president of the college.

CAROL: Yeh, the college, they were sneaking out for some reason I don't know why.

BOB: Just to take a joy ride in Max's new truck.

CAROL: To take a ride in the car and John got out fine I guess, out his window of his bedroom, and,

ELLEN: Second story.

CAROL: Second story, and they went for their ride and then getting back in apparently, there was ice on the roof and he slipped and fell and hurt himself all over ah, bones and whatever,

DOUG: I thought it was a broken arm.

CAROL: And he somehow made it up to his room, but he was hurting and suffered for most, for the rest of the night until his father heard him the next day, moaning, and went to see what the problem was and, took John to the hospital.

That's all I remember.

ELLEN: And then everybody went to visit him everyday and everyday teachers, every night. He was very entertaining. The room was full of people holding court. He really held court and ah, kind of an incredible thing to see, your teacher joking with this kid in bed, that you were in the same class he was but, they were very comfortable and they stayed and um, John sort of crossed generations that way.

BOB: I don't think it's part of what he, an important side of John that isn't seen in quite a lot of the research people today will read what John wrote and remember that John went south to help the civil rights movement and was an idealist and that kind of thing, it points out a lot more human side than the Johnny Daniels as we were just all saying we remembered ah, more than John Daniels.

?: Scene one take one (image goes off)

L: That's great, wonderful, what do we have left of the tape.

S: We used to do that, what do you call that, tailing where we cut it at the end. We used to start it off doing that and that immediately, (laughing)

L: That's about a 4 minute take. *very long*

S: Okay, so we've got enough for the others.

L: Oh yeh, I think what we ought to do is turn off the lights and go over to John's house.

Tape goes off

L: testing one two, turn on the microphone, is it on, good, testing, test, test, testing....

L: Want to do tails later,

S: Test tails

L: You'd be doing this later.

Window
escape

Crossing
generations

S: Yeh, I'll just come in at the end of it, scene at Daniels.

L: Okay. hook the thing upside down then we'll know it's a tail.

S: Okay

L: Okay, what do you have in mind Bill/

S: Well if they get down low um, can you, let's see, can you shoot to get.....TAPE GOES OFF

S: So we need them in the window Larry.

BOB: Up there and came across this roof onto this narrower roof along here, and the ladder was here because the garage was between here and the rest of the house and you put the ladder up against it and you go up here.

L: What window?

BOB: Okay, you stand back here and you can see it straight on, that goes into the bathroom.

L: Okay, I'm going to start on that and zoom down.

CAROL: Are we going to do the event in the hospital too?

S: That might be a little more difficult to arrange.

BOB: Along these 2 back up to here, down the ladder offers joy rides, back up here, down to here in a big hurry and then back up into the house.

L: I don't know if i got all that but,

S: How about if we have um, Bob on this side, everybody on this side but Bob and have Bob tell the story,

BOB: As I best remember it. I was not here, I was asleep 4 doors up here.

L: Now Florence and you will have to get his voice.

S: That's right, that's the only,

L: Yeh, we should have a pin on microphone for this.

CAROL: Okay, well let them out, or something or other, that was John's idea to sit in the church office and call.

BOB: yeh, all of those things.

DOUG: No it wasn't in the church office it was out under the stairs.

CAROL: That's right, Doug what a memory.

L: I think that's good. We have plenty of tape right, we're all set. There's a lot of room.

ELLEN: John Daniel's Adventures, one of the John Daniels adventures.

S: Just a quick run through, try and do this as naturally as possible, Bob will TAPE GOES OFF

ELLEN: Johnathan set out on his car venture right, his parents wouldn't let him but a car right,

CAROL: He really couldn't even drive the car, even though they had 2 cars. but apparently Max Young had received a car, he bought a car and they went for a ride late one night ah, early one morning oops, TAPE GOES OFF

CAROL: Did not want, I don't think he wanted to be. He is a free spirit for somebody who liked rituals and stuff, don't you think. That was the whole thing in high school too.

BONNIE: So tell us about that night Carol, they took there joy ride early one morning.

CAROL: Apparently they rose one morning, John was probably 16 because they didn't have their license then, and it must have been 1 or 2 o'clock in the morning that he, Bill Parot and Max Young decided to go for a ride in Max Young's car

~~and it had to be in the winter because they got out fine, ELLEN: which window is that window and down across the roof,~~

John got out through this window and down across the roof,

which window is that?

Car
episode
Parot

Group Interview 23

BOB: The bathroom window up here as best I can recall.

ELLEN: So the ladder was here?

BOB: NO the ladder was down on this end and the whole object of it was to be able to walk across these,

S: Let's cut it one minute if you would, you are going to have to speak louder, we are picking up, we are getting too much noise. Sorry

ELLEN: You are getting wind noise aren't you?

S: Yeh

L: We don't have a wind filter.

BONNIE: Why don't we move over here

L: Florence you rolled, okay let it go, now we'll do a tail splice, which means you won't know when I start.

BONNIE: We'll just pretend he's not there.

CAROL: Well early one morning, John and 2 friends decided they wanted to go for a joy ride in Max Young's new car and,

ELLEN: Did John have his license?

CAROL: I think John did at that time, probably just received it and the other one that went with them was Bill Parot and so John went out through the window,

ELLEN: Which window?

CAROL: the second floor

BOB: Up this bathroom window up here facing this direction.

CAROL: and came across the roof and down a ladder and they went for their ride and then when it was time to get back into the house without his parents hearing anything, he went back up the ladder and was on the roof of the garage when he slipped on the ice and fell down here to the driveway.

ELLEN: Didn't he break his leg or something?

CAROL: He broke several bones, I don't remember exactly ah, he somehow got himself into the house and into his bedroom,

BOB: Back up the ladder.

DOUG: OH yeh.

CAROL: Did he go back up the ladder?

BOB: Yeh, he went back up the ladder and along, back in the window and back into bed without his parents knowing a thing about it, it was, when it came get up time for school the next morning that John was unable to get up and,

CAROL: His father heard him moaning.

BOB: the whole problem came to life at that point.

CAROL: They took him to the hospital.

ELLEN: Ended up in the hospital for quite a while.

CAROL: Yeh, he was there quite a while, yes but he had loads and loads of friends come and visit every day. Every afternoon after school and every night.

BONNIE: You'd pull somebody out,

L: Now get in here in front of Carol and tell the story

TAPE GOES OFF

End of interview