

?:pas the corn, you handed over your glass
(laughing)

M: Lexington, I mean Kentucky is really a great place.

S: They still do it I understand

M: Sure they do

S: Do they chase them still for it?

M: Yeh and on court day you can see them running down main street you know, just pouring it all out (luaghing)

L: Sounds great to me

S: Okay

L: Probably the best sound we've had in 3 days

M: You tell them about the whiskey, it tastes terrible

L: The quality of your voice is good, it comes across the tape real nice.

M: I sound like a fog horn. Where I used to work I'd answer the telephone and they'd say yes sir.

S: Let's start, maybe you can just tell us your association with ah, VMI and,

M: Well, I've been associated with it for hum, 50 years because I was the married first to the husband who taught here, I was married to his brother first and so then I was with him for 4 years and I married Herbert who was then ??? and he had directed the glee club for years and he, just been a real great professor, one of the best if I, I don't mean to be biased but he was.

S: What made him one of the best professors?

M: He cared about everybody. I mean he cared about all of his students whether they were rich, poor or indifferent and he put a spark in the life of them to ah, he just wanted them to learn everything they could possibly learn and then all the nicer things in life like good music, good books.

S: How did he do this, do you remember at all? Any stories or detail about that?

M: Oh I could tell you a whole lot but I'm stage struck now.
(laughing)

S: We have a lot of time

L: Did you explain to Mrs. Madden what we're trying to do?

We're trying to find out what, we never met Jonathan so,

M: Well ah, I met him one time, was all. See, I married Herbert, Col. Herbert Nash Dillard in December of 61 and Jonathan had graduated the June before. So I saw Jonathan one time and that was when he and a friend stopped by and spent the night with us on their way to Selma, or on the way to Alabama, period. Not particularly Selma. And um, I guess it was when they um.....designated that a lab in the English department would be named in his memory that ah, his mother nad sister came down here. I think his father had died at that time and I remember meeting them and we had them for lunch, very sweet.

L: When he came through that time was he traveling with somebody?

M: He was traveling with a friend but I could not tell you a name to save my soul.

L: It must have been Judith Uppam. We've talked with her. She lives in Syracuse now, she's an episcopalian minister.

M: I'm not surprised

L: She has a huge collection of photographs of Jonathan.

M: Really, isn't that great that you found them
L: Yeh she's real, we're going to interview her probably this summer.
M: How did you find her?
L: How did we Bill?
S: Well we knew she was an, somebody knew she was an episcopal minister and they have a registry of who they are and where they are.
M: Oh, I know, but how did she tie in with Jonathan because,
L: We knew her name
M: Oh I see, I see. Well he was probably friends, ah, they were friends up at the seminary together.
S: Yeh right
L: And we've talked with his childhood friends and we actually found one fellow who just 2 years ago became, Jonathan stood up at his wedding for him in 64 and ah, this guy because of the influence Jonathan had on his life, decided 2 years ago, he must have been 47 or so, decided to become an episcopalian minister himself.
M: Isn't that marvelous
L: he said, "I thought about it for 20 years and I think it's probably because of Jonathan that I decided to do it" He affected a lot of people. After all these years, people would keep his letters and think about him a lot, it's very interesting.
M: If I had my wits about me I would have looked up his file here.
L: Well I think we
M: Maybe you have
S: Yeh, got quite a bit. Do you remember anything about that visit, when he came with Judith?
M: I really don't see, that's been 25 years ago.
S: Aha, yeh
L: ??????? was a real important influence
M: Oh he was and ah, I think um, Herbert was a father image to a lot of the cadets too
S: How did that work?
M: Well....this is not very complimentary but ah, you would be amazed at how many fathers said, "You go to VMI and I'll pay your way or else I'm not going to pay your way anywhere" So a lot of boys were here because of that reason and everybody's not for VMI and somehow or other, we always had open house. Especially for the rats, the freshman, because they couldn't go up town for say 6 weeks or 2 months when they first got here. But they could visit a faculty member on the post and he kept a lot of boys here and my eldest daughter after he died in 76 wrote a book about him. Coming Hither Going Hence is the title from one of the Shakespeare plays.
L: I'd love to see a copy of it.
M: Well we've got some
L: Do they have some for sale at the bookstore here do you think?
M: Ah, we had some for sale at the foundation office which is right down the street.
L: Well you see, I don't know if Bill would agree with this, but I'm beginning to think that Col. Dillard was the

influence at VMI on Jonathan.

M: Oh I'm sure he was

L: And so it's real central with what we're doing

M: Yeh, I'm sure he was um....I can't remember when um, his father died.

S: 59

M: Well, the you see he would have been here without a father and Herbert just fit right in.....I know he was so fond of Jonathan.

L: Did he ever tell you anything about him or talk about him?

M: Just that he was such a wonderful boy all through and through. You know, just studious and dedicated and brilliant....

L: What did Col. Dillard teach? Was it English?

M: English and Shakespeare

S: How would he ah, these freshman coming in during their rat year and they'd come and visit him, what would they do in the house?

M: Well....first of all we um, well we lived on Lecture Ave when Jonathan was here in school but then we moved to the parade ground and we built this great, we called it the rat room in the basement and so they could go down and there was a refridgerator close by and kept all sorts of soft drinks, cookies and brownies and things like that and they could take their blouses off and relax. And Herbert would hand out to some of them shirts to put on. They's just chew the fat and if any of them had difficulty with his studies why he would take them out one by one and talk to them.....

L: Pretty dedicated man.

M: Well he was. They say he was one of the greatest teachers that VMI's ever had because he gave his all. He really did that and of course that made for jealousy on, with some of the faculty.

L: That's bound to happen.

M: But there was another great one um, that um, in fact I think Doc Carroll is still living. Dr. Robert P. Carroll, he and Herbert are the 2 that I remember vividly. Not just cause I was married to him, cause I said I wasn't married thim I was married to the whole core cadets. That's what I felt like (laughing).

L: You know I'm beginning to feel as we're talking to Mrs. Martin, that there's a real sense of dedication. It's not just a job to people.

M: No, no ah, Herbert ah, got his Masters and his PhD at Harvard. He was offered to stay on and teach there but he declined. He wanted to come back here.

S: Was he from

M: And he didn't stay here for the money because we're a state school. He was from Rocky Mountain, Virginia, what Julie said, it was group legging county, Franklin County.

L: Is that where you met him, in Rocky Mountain?

M: Well I went over to Roanoke and taught school for one year and met his brother who was 10 years older than Herbert and so we married and then I had 3 girls and they are all by Herbert's brother. Although when I married Herbert, he adopted all 3 of them.....and Betsy, the one who wrote the

book, really was the closest to him and she's a professional artist in Dallas and, he really, well half of the book is her remembrance of him as a child from say 3 or 4 years old on up, you know, and he saw that she had some talents so he, I think he bought her her first paint set. things like that.

S: I'm wondering, what was it like for a Harvard graduate in the Liberal Arts to teach and live at a campus like VMI?

M: I don't know.....it was quite different I'm sure but um,

S: And he had no military background did he?

M: yes he was in the navy during WW2.

S: Was he comfortable with the military?

M: Oh yeh, oh yes, you know, everything had to be just so.

His boss, his boss always had to be signed just exactly right.

L: You know that's interestint. He went to school in New England where Jonathan went to school for a semester and a half later on. It might have been Col. Dillard's influence, it might have been that yankee connection in a way. I mean here you have a yankee boy coming down here and a fellow who was born in the south studied in New England. It might have caused another bond, you know. That's just a guess though.

M: Do you all remember the ah, notorious, what, Willy Sutton?

L: Oh yeh

S: Umhm

M: Well, Herbert had gone up there, I guess it was when he went up to study for his Masters and he had an attic apartment with an episcopal minister and he caught the flu. So he was sick as a dog and one day he went to the grocery store and just um, bought a whole lot of fruit juices and things like that you know, just wanted to hold in, poor liquid in him. Well he got in the car and these 2 policemen came up and said, "Willy come with us" Well I don't remember, I can't even remember what Willy Sutton looked like, but Herbert was not, he was not very prepossesing looking. It was his personality that got everybody. But anyway, so he told them that he was staying with this episcopal minister you know, so they went home with them and the minister said, "Well I really don't know whether this is Herbert Dillard or not but he says he is. Now he could be Willy Sutton" Finally after I think the police called down at VMI and they verified that he really was Herbert Dillard and not Willy Sutton. (laughing) Did you know about that Julie?

L: Did you know about that?

J: No, I didn't hear that story.

M: I guess it was when Herbert was getting his master's he went up to Boston and had this attic apartment and this episcopal minister's house and got flu and went to the grocery store and bought all these cans of fruit juices and things and the police thought he was Willy Sutton and tried to take him in.

L: Willy Sutton is a little guy with a mustache.

M: Well Herbert didn't have a mustache but,

S:.....change his appearance.

M: I guess he could. Smart enough to.

L: But isn't he the one who made a sole and put shoe polish on it and got out of prison like that.

S: Yeh, he checked out of prison so many times.

M: We certainly are off the subject of Jonathan Daniels aren't we.

L: I think this is great. I don't mind.

M: Julie, you know they said they'd love to see a copy of Betsy's book.

L: I wouldn't mind buying a copy.

M: Well the Foundation, I can get you a copy.

L: I don't mind buying one.

M: They have um, I think they're \$15.

L: See that may give us an insight. I didn't know that Col. Dillard studied at Harvard, because he studied up in New England.

S: Well somebody said that he was the one who convinced Jonathan to turn down the Woodrow Wilson and go to Harvard on the Danforth because I guess Col. Dillard said there was only one place to go like a typical Harvard graduate.

M: Oh certainly, yeh, it sounds like him.

S: Yeh, that that was the place to go.

M: I wonder, I've often wondered who got, I can't remember who, if anybody ever said who got Jonathan interested into going into the seminary.

S: Well we're trying to,

L: we're working on that

S: Working on that

J: Do you remember Joe Pierce?

M: Joe Pierce? The band director?

J: I think so. He taught something in the ah, english department and ah, somebody told me one time that Joe Pierce said that he had always been made out to be the heavy in trying to talk Jonathan into going to seminary. I can't rememeber.

S: Yeh, I think the story is, if I remember it right that um, he ah, Jonathan was saying that he was going to go into the seminary and this fellow asked him well why for god sakes are you going to do that and so that forced Jonathan to reconsider if he should,

J: He had that one year right

S: Yeh and so he delayed his entry ah, into the ah, then he went to Harvard rather than the seminary.

J: ????? talk just like John McCinna

S: John who

J: John McCinna the football coach of in Massachusetts.

C: Close my eyes and hear your voice I think I'm hearing John McCinna, the accent.

S: Well, Irishman from Massachusetts. But Jonathan went to Harvard to become an English teacher and like Larry says thats very much in the role of what Col. Dillard,

M: That's exactly right umhm.....

L: So Jonathan's father was real sick. Failing kidneys from scrapnel in WW2, according to Mrs. DeBold

S: Who was his nurse.

L: Right, she worked in his office when Jonathan's father was a physician in Keene. So Jonathan's father's health was at steady climb, it wasn't something quick. So by the time

Christmas of 59 came around he probably was expecting the worse. By this time, maybe Col. Dillard had taken that over. It's just a guess.

M: Well...I'd say the kind of things now from 1 to 10 that Herbert taught, well hundreds of cadets. Didn't he Julie. At least, well he taught for 38 years, if you can imagine and from 1 to 10 I would say if he had 10 students there weren't 10 like Jonathan Daniels. I can remember some of the very outstanding ones like Sy Bunting whom you met and he was one of Herberts. And I feel that Jonathan was the same way.

S: So he'd pick out these people and really,

M: Well these people might have picked him out too you see,

S: Ahha right

M: Because they saw that he cared and he would listen to them.....

J: And he made his home so welcome

M: That's right. I told them we had a rat room over there.

L: So what is a rat daddy?

M: A rat what

L: A rat daddy, is an upper classman who looks after freshman and kind of helps them out?

M: No, you're talking about ah,

J: What he's saying is more of a dyke system.

M: oh yeh

J: A rat daddy is someone who is never hard on rats.

L: But that wouldn't apply to a faculty member because they were expected to help out.

J: Oh yeh, no rat daddy is just an upper classman who aren't tough on rats.

S: Well how many people on campus would do what Col. Dillard did in terms of being accessible and really caring to students to that degree. Would he be the lone figure here or were there other people.

M: Can you think of anybody that ever did that?

J: Not to the extent that Herbert did it.....

S: I wonder what motivated him to do that

M: I don't know he was just very generous, unselfish,

J: And caring

M: Yeh.....

L: Did you yourself ever meet Jonathan's parents Mrs. Madden?

M: I had lunch with his mother and sister.

L: That's right you said that.

S: And you think this was when they might have been dedicating,

M: I think so. It must have been.

S: We're going to visit Emily, we've done this big circle from New Hampshire to Parkersburg, West Virginia and then we've come this way and now we're going,

M: Isn't that wonderful though. Aren't you all having a good time?

L and S: Yeh

S: Then we're going to Baltimore, that's where Emily lives and then back up to New Hampshire. Oh and we went to Lawrenceville

L: Lawrenceville to see Sy Bunting, had a nice visit with

him.

M: He's something else isn't he?

L: Oh eyh..... I think his red suspenders are going to look good on film.

S: One slipped over his shoulder though (laughing)

M: Oh lord have mercy (laughing).....

S: Well do you want to repeat any of this.

L: I don't know, how do feel about it Mrs. Madden?

S: Yeh we don't want to push Mrs. Madden

L: No not at all

M: How do I feel about what?

S: Well what our normal procedure is, we usually chat with you and then we kind of pick out something and film that part of it.

L: Just for a couple of minutes

S: Just for a couple of minutes

M: I guess (laughs)

L: I think myslef after listening, the part Bill that I would suggest would be um, maybe the rat group in the cellar. If you could just talk about that again and not even subconsciously, it doesn't have to be the same just, S: Tell us what that was all about. It may be if you want, how special Col. Dillard was. You knwo, if you could do those 2 things.

M: Well that sounds like I'm bragging though you see

L: I don't think it would because it's true.

M: I told you I wasn't married to Herbert I was married to the core of cadets (luaghs)

S: Particularly the business of how he might have been a father to some of these people. Those 2 things.

L: That's important, we're not trying to slant it but that seems to be a thesis that's emerging is that Jon was searching for a father. I mean his dad wasn't home at all. He was a real, he was one of those doctors who everybody, he would get phone calls at 3:00 in the morning and go to people's houses, and in fact his friends were so worried about him they'd go along with him in the middle of the night just to help Dr. Daniels out. And he would go out and he would come home exhausted and he was a little man. I've got his pictures right here and ah, he apparently worked himself to death.

M: Well a lot of dedicated people do

L: Let me show you some shots I've got here in the bag

S: Well that might be another thing that attracted him, that dedication. Same sort of thing, as a teacher this time rather than as a physician.

J: Interesting, fascinating, entertaining individual.

L: Here's Jonathan's dad, i think they were fishing. There he is with his doctor's briefcase.....we're giving these to Emily that's why we have. That's Mrs. Daniels and Dr. Daniels and this is Jonathan on a cart when he was about 10 years old. Let me give you some light here.

M: I don't need it. Good heavens

L: i'm sorry, now you'll need it (laughing)

L: Ah, see that's Dr. Daniels. He used to love to go fishing. That would have been in the late 40's. He used to love to go fishing and he um,

M: I can't see a resemblance to Jonathan.
L: I can't either
M: Not at all
L: And there he is, his Dr.s outfit.
M: I bet he was a lovely man.
L: That's what they say
S: Still up in the corner of Keene I guess
L: Yeh, all the babies in Keene
J: I was outside but did Jonathan stay over night with you?
Did you ask her about that?
M: Yeh, he and ah, They've all ready talked with his friend
that was with him. She's the episcopal priest in New York
State.
S: It must have been the same time he visited ah, Professor
Roth. He visited him at that point too. So it must have
been the same time.
L: Of course we;re not sure because he passed through here
more than once didn't he.
S: Well with Judith just once.
L: I see, did Col. Roth say that that was the trip with
Judith?
S: umhm
L: Two more pictures, this is ah, bridge party, they used to
love to play bridge and that's Connie Daniels and Dr.
Daniels, Phil
M: Well that's right up with Herbert and I too because we
loved to play bridge.
L: And these are real hard to make out but these are shote
of Jonathan and his sister when they were little and this is
the birthday card, probably 1949 or something like that.
M: Isn't that adorable. Where on earth did you find all
these?
L: Oh we've been doing research on this for quite awhile.
M: You certainly have.....
L: Well (Tape goes off)

M: Bates was playing with Charles Miller, Bates was playing
with Gus ?????? and Herbert was playing Charles Miller and
Charles and Herbert went down and he started cussing for
Charles and of course Charles was old enough to be his
father. Well the next day, everywhere that Charles went
everyone told him "Herbert Dillard's looking for you
everywhere he wants to apologize" He got so amd he went to
bed and wouldn't even finish playing with him (laughs)
S: Okay I;m going to turn these on, I'm going to warn you.
M: oh gosh, well I'm not going to look at them them,
L: No, is that a problem
M: No, good heavens
L: I know, we try not to beam them at you.
M: Okay
J: You look gorgeous
M: Oh I'm sure I do. you ought to put make-up on people if
you're going to do this.
L: Bill is just going to be sitting there and I'll be over
here and um, you can just look at Bill. Bill why don't you
just park yourself. Tape recorders on so we don't need to
worry about that and I'll just get everything set up. Let

me get a light reading.

M: What's this a speaker?

L: No it's just a microphone

M: Well that's what I meant.

S: Yeh, so that goes in there and then with this tape recorder it syncs your voice to the film. So otherwise we'd have a problem. The way we were doing it before, it was just a regular.

L: Same thing, it doesn't change anything. Let me make sure everythings running and we'll give it a test here.....oh good

M: What's the matter?

L: No it looks great (laughing)

M: Well I put on a green dress and 2 buttins were missing so I think I better????

L: And those books behind you too. The whole thing, this is a grat place to do this.

S: So you'll be ready for a drink after all this.

L: Who Me

M: This early,

L: Oh you mean Mrs. Madden. I'm all set

M: It's a little bit early.....

J: Never too early for a bloody Mary

L: You know that's true....okay.....I'm all ready. I'm just going to let it run then I'll come in a slate it and then just take your time.....

M: What's, since this is about Jonathan shouldn't I say something.

L: Mrs. Madden Take 1 (click)

S: First of all if you would, just tell us about the rat cellar that ah, you had in your house.

M: Oh, we moved into one of the big houses on the parade ground and it had a dirt floor in the basement, in fact it had 2 dirt floors. Enormous rooms though we cemented one for storage and then we carpeted the other one and paneled it and we had sofas down there and a pinball machine and a player piano and a television and the boys could come down there and take their blouses off and relax. And we had a refridgerator close by stocked with all sorts of soft drinks and always managed to hace some cookies or homemade brownies or something like that for them. And that was really a haven for them until the were allowed to go up town which was not about six weeks, 2 months after they got here.

S: Cut

M: And they could also talk to the parents, talks to their girlfriends, anybody they wanted to call.

S: Okay good

L: Want to try another?

S: Yeh another segment. This time I'll ask you about, you can bring in Daniels name here, how the Col. might have acted as a father figure for Jonathan and other cadets. Any way you want to say it

M: All right

S: okay....he's going to do another.

L: And we won't use anything that would be in any way embarassing. We just want to,

M: Please, if I use grammatical error, just please blank it

out because I'm not an english major.

L: No that's fine. I understand exactly what you're saying because you're not,

M: Not a Shakespeare scholar either.

L: Let me slide this down

M: I didn't tell you that the other half of Betsy's book is interviews that she had with former students

S: Oh that would be great

L: I'd like to see that

M: Former faculty and ah, former friends

L: I'd like to have a copy of that

M: All right, I'll see that you get one

L: Okay, I'll rush in with my slate here, if I don't trip over the wires.

M: PLease don't

L: Mrs Madden Take 2 (click)

S: Could you tell us about how Jonathan might have been helped in a kind of surrogate parent by the Col.

M: Well Herbert ah, was very close to Jonathan. I know that and ah, even though I didn't meet Jonathan until after he had graduated and Herbert and I were married, but he spoke so fondly of him and as I said before, he was one of the, he taught hundreds of students, hundreds of cadets but I feel as if Jonathan was way up there at the top of his, one of his favorites and since his father had died, I'm sure that Herbert filled in a lot of times where a father's advice was needed.

S: okay, cut

L: Great, got it all

M: That's it

S: That's it

M: How much do I get payed an hour

L: Well if we get an Oscar we'll let you know.

S: You get a finger on the Oscar

END OF INTERVIEW