

020034 Interviewer: Can you tell us your name and where you grew up?

020036 Corilla: I'm Corilla Kelly, and I grew up, I was born in Aurora and grew up in Bear Branch. We moved in and lived on a farm in Bear Branch, and uh, after a while we moved to Harrison, after a good many years, after I was married and everything.

020056 Corilla: This is my son Kenneth Kelly, and this is my daughter, Teresa Ann Wilhelm, and I have two other children, Jeff Kelly and Minette Kelly. Minette lives in Florida and Jeff lives in Toledo. Uh, we moved here in 1962, my husband and I and uh...

020132 Interviewer: Can you back up a little bit and tell us how you and your husband met?

020133 Corilla: I was at a ballgame and had my two brothers with me. Uh, they were I think they were probably about 16, 17, maybe, maybe, no, my oldest son, my oldest brother, I'm sorry. My oldest brother was 15, and my other brother was 13, when we got, went to the ballgame.

020218 Corilla: And we was at a ballgame in Bear Branch, little town of Bear Branch, a one-house town. And we was up there, and it was a Sunday afternoon, we went there for a Sunday afternoon after church, and we was playing ball. Well, they drew up, somebody was called the captain, and he drew names of who he wanted on his team. And my husband was there, it was the first time I ever saw him, and he drew me, he draw my name. And of course I was interested, too. So we played ball, and in the afternoon, after that, after the ballgame, Kelly and his friends came to my house, which I didn't live, I mean you had to drive to get there, 'cause I lived on the creek.

020307 Corilla: And he came down there and he says, "Do you know where any watermelons are?" And I said, "No, I don't know where any watermelons are." And he says, so anyway, they all piled out of his car, all of the kids that came with him, and we played ball down on the creek. Down in Daddy's alfalfa field, and that's, that was the day we met, and then after that, why, it was just, every night he'd come and see me. And so, we went together for, well you count it up, we started going together in July the 27 and we got married September the 16. That was quite a whirlwind romance.

023055 Corilla: But um, we lived, we continued to live, and my dad had a farm with another house on it, and we moved into daddy's other house. And uh, we stayed there, and Kelly went to work at uh ..., he worked for the county, he worked on the roads, then after that he went to work for the foundry in Aurora, and from there he came to Fernald.

020427 Interviewer: O.k. Tell us a little bit about how he got his job at Fernald.

020431 Corilla: Well, he just heard about it. It was common knowledge that there was something going on up here. And it paid good, and that's the reason he came up there, to get a better job. The foundry, it was a terrible job, you know, he got dirty and everything, and then he came to Fernald.

020451 Interviewer: What year did he begin working there?

020457 Corilla: I think that was possibly '53, 1953.

020508 Interviewer: O.K. Do either of the kids remember moving here? What ages were you guys?

020511 Kenneth: I was in the third grade. But I do remember moving up here from the farm.

020518 Teresa: I was five, so I don't remember too much other than always living here.

020524 Interviewer: Okay. And the other kids would have been ...

020528 Teresa: One older, and one in the middle.

020533 Interviewer: So it was a range. When you first moved here, do you remember, what did you think your husband's job was, what did you think the plant was?

020540 Kenneth: Well, I thought they made dog food over there. They would have a company picnic, and they'd invite all the family, and we were just little guys. We'd always have to go past the place, going to Lesourdsville. And, the water towers were painted red and white like checkerboards.

020601: Teresa: Like Purina dog food.

020603 Kenneth: And I always thought they made dog food over there.

020606 Teresa: That's what I thought too. Cause it was called the feed plant, instead of Fernald. You know, I just always took it as a kid growing up that that's what they did.

020615 Interviewer: And that's what the kids told each other? And what about from the adult perspective, Corilla, do you remember what you thought your husband did?

020624 Corilla: I didn't know what he did, 'cause he wouldn't talk to us about it. He always just said that he couldn't talk about it, and that suited me, if that's what he felt like he couldn't do, why I just. He brought a good paycheck home, and so, that's what I was looking for.

020643 Interviewer: Do you remember how you described it to family members or friends. Like if they said, you know what is Kelly doing now? Since you guys have moved there? How did you describe it then?

020654 Teresa: In older years, when we grew up, and probably my teenage years, we just told them that we really didn't know what dad did because it was top secret, it was always confidential. You know, he was never allowed to talk to us about it or anything, and so it was just a hush-hush thing. That uh, nobody spoke about almost, you know, you didn't ask too many

questions. You just knew he went to work everyday and made a living for the family, and we didn't know that he was sacrificing his life at the time.

020730 Interviewer: Do you remember, did he answer the same way? Like if somebody said to him "Herb, what do you do?" Do you remember how he answered?

020740 Kenneth: I don't remember any conversations.

020743 Corilla: I remember one time my dad and his brother-in-law came up here and they were quite domineering people, and uh, they thought that they would get it out of Herbert Lee what was going on over there. And they said, "Now you can tell us, we don't know anybody up here." But Herbert Lee wouldn't tell them, he would not tell nobody what he was doing.

020811 Interviewer: In general, can you kind of describe the community? What kind of community was it like to raise kids in, and to be children in, how would you describe the community?

020821 Kenneth: I would just say it was just a normal community, I mean, I mean nobody was really aware of what was going on over there because it was so hush-hush. And uh, we just went on about our everyday business and went to school and did our chores, or whatever we needed to do. Fernald kept dumping in the pollution, and we didn't know anything about it. Do you remember anything?

020852 Teresa: I just remember the same thing. The community was a close-knit community, very family-oriented. And that you know, nobody really knew what went on over there, nobody, not even the next door neighbors over there.

020909 Corilla: I remember an incident where my neighbor over here, she told us about this after the fact that her dad had had an accident on that. On that road over there, Cros ... What is that road? Willey Road. And um, had an accident over there, and she told me that the police got them. I don't know if it was the police or the guards, and they confiscated his camera and stuff that he had in his car 'cause they thought perhaps he was doing something illegal. Uh, that's about the only thing incident I can remember were I really heard about them doing something to anybody. But, that had already happened, I think, probably before I moved up here, I don't know when it happened.

021003 Interviewer: Now, Corilla, you've talked a little bit about after Teresa was in school you worked. Can you kind of describe your work during those years? The kids are growing up, Herb's working at the plant, what is Corilla doing at this time?

021018 Corilla: I was working at a grocery store, Padgett's Grocery. And uh, I worked there for about five years, and then I went to uh, Campbell Hospital, and got on down there. We were, I was one, along with Sadie Gardner, Ethel Noble, Wilma Wolfe, and Dottie Wright, were the first five ladies, and we all started the same day. It started in that factory down there and we worked down there, and uh, as time went on, then we moved down to Campbell Road where Campbell

Hospital relocated down there. And we was down there for a while, eventually I went into uh, management down there, which I think that was one of the biggest mistakes I ever made, but uh. Anyway then I got terminated in uh, 19..., 1980, I believe it was.

021125 Corilla: I'd worked there 13 years, and uh, well, I was terminated because of the, it was a crunch, you know, get rid of the, a nutrition, they called it. And so, but I got good recommendations from the company when I left there. And uh, I went to uh ... from there I went to Rink's, it was a little department store here in Harrison, and I worked there.

021155 Corilla: And from there, I went to Van Leunen's. And the reason why I worked at Van Leunen's so I could get insurance. 'Cause Kelly had already been, got ill by this time, and I needed a job because we couldn't buy insurance, or nothing. We tried desperately because we had to have insurance. And uh, I was given insurance up there, and I told them that my husband was ill.

021227 Interviewer: Let's go into that a little bit more. Now tell me about the day that he got sick at work and was sent home. The very first ...

021237 Corilla: O.k. It was Nov. the 27, 1984. And he was at Fernald, and he was working, and prior to that he had told his supervisor or his foreman that there was dust leaking out there and that it was coming down on him. And his supervisor told him: "You go on and go back to work," and said, "There's no sense saying anything about it because they won't do nothing about it in the front office." So he went on back to work, and then after that, that's when he got ill. Not immediately thereafter, but he did get ill. And he was hurting in his chest, and the foreman told him, said, "When you get off work, you'd better go see a doctor." And so he did, and he was a very sick man at that point in time.

021338 Corilla: Of course we didn't know he was that sick. And uh, I think, see Thanksgiving was just prior to this. And Kelly wasn't eating right at that point in time, I knew he wasn't. And he was kind of grumpy a little bit, but that's because he was feeling bad, and he didn't tell us. See, November the 27 is right after Thanksgiving, and I don't know what Thanksgiving was that particular year. But uh, anyway, he, and then after that, he went, he come home from the doctor that particular day. And uh, they told him, just take some rest, and that he would be alright, you know. The doctor thought he would, and give him some antibiotics. Well, he didn't get alright, he kept getting worse. And so, was it the next day, or a couple of days later. (To her son:) Do you remember? (**Kenneth:** I don't know, I don't remember, Mom).

021438 Corilla: That they had to put him in the hospital. And then, when they got him in the hospital they started running test on him. And they couldn't find anything. They couldn't find out what was wrong with him. And uh, that's how that all started.

021454 Interviewer: Did you suspect at that time that it had anything to do with work?

021459 Corilla: No, no. I'll tell you what, I remember when I was working at Rink's one time, this lady, a very good friend of mine, uh, came into me and told me, said, "Is you husband still

working over there at Fernald?" I said, "yeah," and she said, "Well you had better get him out of there, no wonder he's not glowing." And I really was upset at her because she had said that to me. Because I couldn't believe there was anything wrong over there. And uh, it was a tragic thing really, and she was right. I mean not he never did glow, but I mean he did get really sick after that. And I remember Maggie saying that to me afterwards, you know.

021550 Corilla: But uh, we, uh, did the best we could for a long time, then they canceled his insurance. (In background **Teresa:** Terminated him) Terminated him.

021608 Teresa: Took away his pension. Took away the life insurance, everything. Robbed him of his life and everything he had worked for.

021616 Interviewer: Tell me a little bit about how that happened. Like, how did he find out it was terminated? Um, describe that moment.

021626 Corilla: Well, I really don't remember how he was terminated. I don't remember if he got a letter to such. But I do remember on the insurance, when they canceled his insurance. That they wrote him a letter, and he got the letter in January. But if you wanted to pick your insurance up, you had to let them know by December the 29th. Well it was already January. So the day had come and gone, and uh, so we couldn't do that. And uh, things like that was what would happen. I mean, he was always a day late and a dollar short.

021710 Interviewer: Did you all do anything about it then?

021712 Corilla: Yeah, we did. We chose to sue 'em, and uh, so Kelly sued them. We had some attorneys out of Toledo, I mean (in background: Cleveland). I mean Cleveland. And uh, they uh, took the case, I never met those people. Kelly, they came down and met Kelly while I was working one day. And uh, so then, uh, after such a length of time, uh, I was working this particular day, and Kelly gets a phone call from 'em and tells him that they're gonna have to either drop the case, or that we was gonna have to pay them \$16,000 dollars which we didn't have. I didn't make hardly any money at Van Leunen's because I, all my money went for the insurance. But I was tickled to death to get the insurance. And I think that was, I think that was an unusual thing that they would take us on, and knowing that my husband was terminally ill. And I thought that was worth a lot to me, and he had so much medication he was on and all of this. So ...

021835 Interviewer: How did the lawsuit turn out?

021836 Teresa: It was dropped.

021840 Corilla: Well, we dropped it because they said we had to give them \$16,000 or else settle on the fact that they would get him \$30,000 worth of life insurance. Well, he had a little more than that when he left Fernald, on his own policy. But he lost all that too. Well, I told Kelly, I said, "Where we gonna get the \$16,000? And if Fernald has agreed to pay the \$16,000

to the attorneys and plus you're gonna get the \$30,000 life insurance restored to you." Uh, I said, "I think we're gonna have to settle." He said, "Well, I do too," he said, "that's the way I feel."

021925 Interviewer: Did you ever attempt to go, you know, to the site and talk to them about it. Say, the letter came after it was too late.

021935 Corilla: Yeah, it was strange, how that, you bring that up. You know, during the time that Kelly was going for radiation. And with the bills was mounting up, you know, and Kelly still supposedly had insurance with Fernald. They hadn't terminated him yet. This is back, going back from where we was at, uh, he went in, and I sat out in the car. And he came in, out back to the car, and he says: "Well they said they'll take care of all of those bills." And I said, "Well, that's wonderful, you know the Lord does look out for us, don't he?" And uh, so anyway, we thought. Then pretty soon he was getting notes from them, letters back, uh, this is not, uh this is not applicable, you used this on worker's compensations, put this on, 'cause we had filed suit, I think by this time, that we was wanting to have worker's compensation. And uh, but here they had guaranteed him, while he was in that place, that had insurance man over there had told him, "Yes, you'll be insured, our insurance will cover it." So, you know, it was a big relief to us, but it didn't happen.

022110 Interviewer: Let's go back a minute. Um, I kind of want to hear from the each of you. Do you remember the day you found out what the site actually did? And can you recall where you were or what you learned? You know, when you actually learned what is the Fernald site, and what did it do.

022126 Kenneth: I think it was probably after daddy got sick and stuff, we learned that they were making, uh a fuel for nuclear submarines and nuclear power plants. But I really didn't know what consisted in doing that until I started hearing of thorium and stuff like that there. They had like a name for something else, little like a hat or something. Do you remember what those things were called? But I remember that my dad had to wear a badge and that supposedly if he got hot at work after, after the fact that this badge would turn a different color or something. But uh, I think that's probably the time that I found out what the place really did. I really didn't know what it consisted of though, how much danger was involved.

022226 Interviewer: And he was already sick?

022227 Kenneth: Right.

022828 Interviewer: Did you make that connection?

022230 Teresa: Yeah, that's when I think we made the connection. Um, that's where it came from, my dad's sickness. Uh, we had several doctors tell him that's where it came from. And uh, after you go back and look at the people that's lost their lives there prior to my father, there's quite a few evidential things that show that that's what caused it. And they've secretly done this to each and every family besides ours. And, that's, you know, my dad meant everything to us. He was our sole supporter, and uh, a lot of other fathers were their sole supporters. And they

took their lives, and they knew what they were doing. And uh, yeah, I'm bitter about it, and I probably always will be because, it's our government, our trustful government. And they really just would like to do away with everybody if they could. And I'm sorry, but that's probably the way I'll feel 'til I die. I can't believe anything they say, and I don't believe they're cleaning the place up. I believe they're dumping more stuff and hiding it, and they can say whatever they will, but it will never change my mind on it.

022405 Interviewer: Corilla, do you remember where you were? Where were you the day you heard what the Fernald plant does. And do you remember what you were told?

022413 Corilla: Well, I think um, that Kelly was in the hospital at the time. And I think that the newspaper came out. I don't think it was on the news, but I think we read it in the paper up there in his room. Where, uh dust, there had been a leak, and the dust had sifted down on them. And that's, I think that's where I heard it first.

022439 Interviewer: Did you talk to him, or, you know, was he more outright about it then? Did he talk more? Was he happy that you all knew, or, you know, how did he react to that?

022449 Kenneth: I think he was still skeptical about talking about it because he was afraid he'd be in trouble, get in trouble.

022458 Teresa: And I think he was actually shocked, too, at the point. I think he couldn't believe that that was really, you know ...

022510 Corilla: I thought back to the time where Maggie had already ... She'd been in this FRESH thing, she'd got involved in FRESH, and that's how she told us about Kelly was gonna be sick if he stayed over there, better get him out of there, he would start glowing. And I thought back to then, well, Maggie wasn't wrong, there is something wrong over there. But, you always wanted to believe the best you could, you know.

022544 Corilla: But I don't feel like Teresa does. I feel like they are cleaning up that place, I really do. 'Cause FRESH, I've been going to some of the FRESH meetings, not very many, but I feel like they are cleaning it up over there, I really truly do. Well, they've taken down so many buildings over there, trying to get it cleaned up. So, I'm confident that they are cleaning it up. But my husband said, "They'll never clean that place up," he said this before he died, "'til Jesus comes back." I remember him saying that so many times. You remember that kids? (**Kids:** Yes.)

022623 Teresa: The ground is contaminated. I mean you can take down, hall off, do whatever you want, it's still not going to take the contamination out of the ground.

022635 Interviewer: Let's go, go back a minute too. Tell me a little bit about when Herb was diagnosed with the cancer. Can you tell me, we were talking about when the newspaper reports came out, we were about he'd already been in the hospital. Now, how did it progress from there to a diagnosis?

022653 Corilla: Well he, he was seeing other doctors all the time. See they wouldn't let him go back to work. Even after he got out of the hospital, he wasn't allowed to go back to work. He would always go for a second opinion, to find out what was wrong with him, because they just wouldn't let him go back to work. And he really wanted to go back, and uh, he, he went to an industrial doctor. And that's the doctor that told him, at one time he says, "your genes have been altered, and you'll probably get cancer.". And that, I think it was somewhere in that time that they told him he had Fancone syndrome, which is a, is a ... it will kill you, too. But he said it's not progressed, you know, but you've got it. Well, anyway ...

022757 Interviewer: We were talking about uh, the diagnosis, the process from the hospital and how did they realize he had cancer.

022805 Corilla: Okay, June the 16th, 1986, he was in the hospital again. And they chose to do a needle biopsy on him. And they've done this before, but this particular time they did it, and he did have cancer. They come back with a prognosis, that he had cancer. And of course, it was just like doomsday for us, it was a terrible day. I'll never forget that day. And uh ...

022841 Kenneth: They gave dad a year to live after the diagnosis, wasn't it?

022845 Teresa: Six weeks I thought, wasn't it, to start off with. Six weeks or something like that.

022849 Corilla: They didn't give him very long to live. And uh ...

022854 Teresa: Dr. Cormier?

022856 Corilla: Yeah, but they sent him home and they told him, they said it's too far along. There's no surgery that will help you, you might as well just go on home. And we can't treat it. But that was on a Wednesday, we come home, and that was a terrible day too. Then on a Saturday, they called us up and said, "Tell Herb to get, be at the hospital at uh, on Monday morning." This was on a Saturday, and be in here on Monday morning, we want to measure him. And what they were going to do, they were going to measure him for his radiation treatment. And you've seen people marked for radiation, and that's what they did with uh, that's what they did with Herbert Lee when we went in. Then they started, he took 35 treatments and uh, that's about what I can tell you about that. **(Tape change)**

030036 Interviewer: Um, tell me what the diagnosis was. Can you describe to me again, we were talking about the day that he was diagnosed, and you're explaining those feelings, can you tell me what the diagnosis was.

030049 Corilla: It was carcinoma cancer. Now that's what I heard, that was the first thing that we heard. And they was going to treat it. But they found that, we found that, they sent him home, as as no he couldn't be, he wasn't operable, nor could they give him anything to stop it.

But then on a Saturday, they called and said to bring him in on Monday. That they were going to try to give him treatments.

030119 Teresa: In short, that's lung cancer, if you don't know what that's was called. And uh, they were going to do radiation treatments on him. See if that would help.

030132 Interviewer: Do either Teresa or Kenny want to talk about that day. We've heard Corilla talk about it a little bit. Do you remember, you know, where you were when you heard the news, or how it impacted you.

030141 Teresa: I was at the doctor's office with them when they told us, and I remember that ...

030146 Kenneth: I was, I was probably at work when you guys called me. But I remember dad coming home, and that's, I don't know if that happened that day, but they marked him, it was on his left side, on his left lung. And uh, after they treated him and stuff, the radiation from the, the treatments burnt a hole in his chest and went all the way out his back. His back was caved in, and his front was caved in, there from where they burnt him so bad, trying to get the cancer out. And then they diagnosed dad, they gave him six weeks to live, and uh, he lived, that was 1986, and he lived eight years after that. And uh, I don't think the radiation was a help. I think it was the power of prayer and believing in God that, God could extend his life to put the message out to the people of what damage the government was doing to the community and the fellow workers. And that's when they started cleaning up the place really. I'm real proud of dad.

030307 Corilla: Well, you know, Kelly always said, that he wasn't doing that for him. He said my life here is shortened anyway. But he said, "I want to do this for this community, and my family, my kids." And he always said that he wanted something done about what was going on.

030330 Interviewer: So pretty much, from about the time he was diagnosed until his death he was talking out about it and telling...

030327 Teresa: He was an advocate, fighter for the people that worked there, their families, and for the future generations of the world.

030347 Kenneth: Yeah, and dad, he was so sick that usually one of us kids took him to the doctor or to a workers' comp hearing, or whatever it needed to be done, I had to mow all of the lawn and uh, do all of his automobile work. I mean Dad was a good mechanic and he could not, he could not get down and bend over anymore because the damage done to his lungs and stuff, he could not breathe. And dad would get out of breath, he couldn't even walk here to the mailbox without getting out of breath, he'd have to stop and rest. But uh, he was a fighter, and he fought for ten years, I guess.

030427 Teresa: Yeah, it seems like after they did the radiation treatments on dad, that he was never able to lay down and sleep at night. He always sat up, he sat on the corner of the couch or, and slept, and that was the way he slept for the rest of his life it seems like and. But, he was determined, and the Lord gave him the power and strength to go forth and fight for the

community, and uh, the people, the workers of the plant. To bring some good, and that's probably the good that will come from Fernald. Um, you know, getting the word out that the place was. Because they lied to him, they just barefaced lied to him and took everything that he had ever worked for. And not only did the cancer kill him, but that really killed him, too.

030521 Interviewer: Let's walk through that struggle a little bit. Um, we've talked about his diagnosis. How did he tell NLO and the union and, and what were their reactions? Let's kind of start there, and walk through, you know his, his journey. How, how, do you remember how he first told work that he was diagnosed?

030544 Corilla: Well, I think they sent uh, after he was diagnosed the doctors sent them that he was, that he had the cancer. I don't really remember what happened. Uh, but anyway, um, he went there ...

030606 Teresa: Well, you remember, he went to the doctor and they sent uh, a thing back to the company saying that the company sent back word to dad that he had to go to their doctor and get an examination because they didn't believe his diagnosis. So he went to that doctor, and I can't remember exactly, do you remember from there what that doctor said. Didn't they fight him like on three company doctors he had to go to, I think it was. Three company doctors, and then dad had also gone to other doctors just to get second opinions, because, you know, he wanted to make sure, that you know, everything was up and up, because he didn't, he doesn't want to be lied to, he didn't want to be lied to. So, he, you know, he never lied to no one. And he wanted to show them that what they had done to him, and their company, you know, tried to fight him by saying that it wasn't their fault. They fought him tooth and nail, that it wasn't his fault.

030709 Corilla: That was during the worker's compensation when we uh, we filed for worker's compensation, see. And uh, I went uh, Kenny went with him the first time he went, didn't you. Uh, anyway, they, they uh, they talked to him like he was a dog, like he was, like he had set this up. I mean it was so terrible. They said it was from his smoking, which he's quit in '73, and the doctors had, 'cause he asked about that if the smoking had done that to him and they said, in ten years time, you ought to have, your lungs should be cleared out, you know.

030757 Corilla: And I don't know if that's the truth, but that was what the doctors told him. So he, they would fight him, in these workers' compensation things. They talked to him so badly, I couldn't take it. I told him, I said I cannot go through this, I cannot stand the way these people are talking to you. And uh, so then, I didn't go with him anymore. I think I went to about two or three hearings, and they would just put everything off. It was just a put-off, put-off. Well, he got, uh, what do they call, temporary workers' comp which that runs out not too long after you get it, seem to me like. And so, that uh, that's what happened, that he got it for a while, and then it quit.

030852 Interviewer: What happened to his claim then? So you filed a workers' compensation claim, there were hearings, there was a temporary, um, what was the hold up, and why didn't he get permanent workers' compensation?

030903 Corilla: Well, you have to re-file, the way I think it is, I think you have to re-file for uh, to get your workers' comp on ... on a permanent.

030914 Kenneth: Wasn't, wasn't dad one of the first people to ever receive workers' compensation from Fernald?

030920 Corilla: Well, there was another one that was going to be allowed, but he had already died.

030927 Teresa: And they were trying to do everything to keep him from going ahead and doing this. That's all it was, they thought he was, you know they'd, they'd already heard that he was sick enough to die within a certain amount of time. And they thought well he'll die before he ever gets the full workers' comp. Well, the Lord proved him wrong, you know, proved them wrong. And it's only by the power of God that it happened. That, you know, my dad was just used as an instrument there. And I thank him everyday for having the courage to go forth like that. But he did finally receive workers' comp.

031010 Interviewer: And what point did that happen?

031012 Corilla: I think that happened in uh ...

031017 Kenneth: Like '91 or '92...

031019 Corilla: More like '92 I believe.

031022 Interviewer: And he had filed in the late '80s.

031025 Corilla: Yes '84.

031027 Interviewer: Oh, '84, wow. And what was NLO saying, uh, do you remember what their arguments were to deny the claim or to appeal it?

031039 Teresa: Well, they have all the money, they have the power. It's the government, they can prolong it, and prolong it, and prolong it. They were trying to run dad and mom out of money, they almost lost everything through all this scenario. Uh, because they've got the power, they have the money, they have the upper hand. So why not beat down this little old worker and his family? And that's what they were doing, and my dad's will power and the grace of God kept him going until he finally won.

031109 Corilla: See, he, he says that that's what they ... 'cause we'd come home, and I said Kelly, I don't know how you stand it, I don't know how you go over there and put up with that. And he says, "I want to tell you Juney," he called me Juney, and uh, he says, "I wanna tell you, I'm gonna fight this as long as I can, because that's exactly what they want me to do is give up and just let it go," but he says, "for you and my kids deserve better than this." And he was very concerned about his family.

031144 Interviewer: Did any of the kids go to the hearings too? Corilla, you talk about going to the hearings.

031150 Kenneth: I went to the workers' comp hearings and stuff, but I don't ... I know they was, to me, the impression I got that they was thought dad was just trying to buffalo him or bull him. He thought it was all uh, he was just trying to get something for nothing. And uh, by that time we all knew dad was sick and stuff. They was just fighting us tooth and nail, just trying to outlast dad, and hoping dad would pass on. But, he hung in there. (microphone trouble.)

031244 Interviewer: Okay, can you describe to us a little bit about your father's diagnosis, Ken?

031249 Kenneth: Yeah, he was diagnosed with uh, lung cancer. And I remember dad coming home from the hospital and showing us the marks on his chest and stuff, where they marked him where they was going to treat him at. And when they treated him, I remember it burned him so bad that it concaved the, the uh, front of his chest in, and sucked the backside in, where there was scar tissue I guess, where they was trying to treat the cancer. And uh, I think that the radiation didn't help him. It was just due to the power of prayer and the gift of God that he lasted as long as he did.

031337 Interviewer: Do you all remember how other workers reacted to him after the diagnosis? Maybe he didn't talk about that, I don't know, but if he did, that would be ...

031346 Kenneth: There was a few, a few of 'em that came here, and called, and stuff and uh, I don't know if they wanted to get on to support dad, or try to get in on the the lawsuit that was gonna come down in the future. I mean there was a lawsuit that was gonna, a class-action lawsuit that was gonna happen, and they was trying to get on. And dad was more or less a spokesman for 'em, because dad was a, he knew what he was talking about when it came to Fernald. And uh, I guess the other people just weren't a good speaker more or less.

031424 Teresa: You know, I remember people uh, coming up to dad in the mall and uh, being very against dad and my dad always let them say what they wanted to say. And he never did say nothing back other than the truth, but he never said nothing mean and harsh. He tried to explain to 'em through love and kindness uh, about what it did to him and other people, other friends that had passed away. Uh, he kept a list of everybody that passed away, that had died of cancer from that place. He knew exactly how many people and what kind of cancer and, and that. But those people that came up to him, you know, he more or less, really prayed for that they would see come to see the light, to see the truth, because he knew that he couldn't change their minds and that they were still human beings. And he wanted to treat everybody with respect, every human being he treated as equal. And uh, you know that's something to be proud, you know of my dad, of all the things that Fernald did to my dad and the government did to him, he still treated everybody out there with equal respect, with dignity. And uh, that's all he asked of people, and and, a lot of his friends didn't treat him like that. They shunned him because they thought that he was doing the wrong thing, that he was going to jeopardize their jobs, I think. And um, my dad did it for the past families, and for our family, and for the future generations to come.

031558 Interviewer: Do you remember, like we were describing the mall people coming up to him, what was their issue, do you remember what their problem was?

031608 Corilla: Well, they, excuse me, (to Teresa), they had heard that there was something coming down. And I remember one, this one particular night, we met these gentlemen, this gentleman up there and he would tell Kelly, he says "There's nothing wrong over there, and I cannot understand all of this." And Kelly just stood there and listened to him. Well this was, uh, uh, that was on a Saturday, I believe. On the following Thursday, now I can't swear it was a Saturday, but on the following Thursday, we seen this same man at Arby's in Lawrenceburg. And by this time it had already hit the papers, that the lawsuit had been filed, and he, he came up and told Kelly, he says, "You know, that isn't a good place to work, you know, I'm not well myself," and he changed his whole ... the way he was talking (**Teresa** in background: Disposition) Yeah, from the time up at Northgate to the following Thursday. I mean, Kelly says, "Well, can you imagine somebody not feeling that bad, that quick." But anyway, that's what she was referring to, I think.

031325 Teresa: Well, other friends, you know, local people didn't think that there was anything wrong over there. And I can remember dad, you know, trying to be very kind, and very considerate, and just telling his story, you know, and people not wanting to believe it. I mean, we really didn't want to believe it when we found out, you know, uh, 'cause it's like a devastation, it's like a big kick in the teeth, if you want to put it, that you've been lied to and, and all this. And it's, you know, pretty soon, you've got to turn around and face the facts, that this is what's happened, this is what's going on, and this is the way it is.

031805 Interviewer: And it sounds like one way that workers had of dealing with that is the lawsuit. A couple of you have mentioned the lawsuit. Uh, Corilla, could you describe to me the lawsuit, and was Kelly involved in it?

031816 Corilla: Yeah, the lawsuit was filed by Dave Day. He was, uh, I think he was the union man over there at that time, and he filed this lawsuit, about the workers, and about the company not uh, warning the people about the problems. And eventually, uh, well of course there was ten people that were involved in this lawsuit, ten that had signed the papers that they wanted to be involved. And Kelly was one of them, I remember, Hillary Webb was one, and Lloyd Davis, and I can't even remember who all they were, but, uh, and I didn't know what the outcome of this was going to be. I mean, I didn't know whether this was another lawsuit where we were going to have to pay big money, you know, when we got done with the lawyers, or whatever happened, you know. But uh, anyway, that lawsuit, uh, Kelly went up there every day for seven weeks. Now this man could hardly walk to the courthouse, 'cause I went with him a time or two, and he'd, we'd have to stop and take a break. And never, when if I didn't go, there was always men, the workers there that would come and get him or take him and they'd see that he could walk to the courthouse, and stand and wait while they, he took his break. So he, 'cause he just couldn't walk that far, and he was there every day. And uh, I think, he, he was very active in the lawsuit, I mean, they questioned him just like they did the rest, and uh, but that was not settled until after Kelly died. And then they did win a portion of that in that lawsuit, now I can't remember the

figure, but it was like 80 million or something like that. But, and there was, how they distributed that was a joke almost, but it was, it was better than nothing. And I said this, I said Kelly, "I do truly believe that he would be very proud, that no matter what the thing, they finally had to admit that Fernald was a bad place, they finally proved them that they were bad." And uh, but anyway, uh, it was, it was hard on Kelly to go, but he was determined.

032051 Interviewer: Now didn't he also testify in Congress?

032054 Corilla: Yes, he went to Congress.

032056 Interviewer: Yeah, can someone explain that to me? What was that?

032101 Teresa: Go ahead (to mother).

032102 Corilla: I can't tell you what he told up there in Congress, I really don't know. But, uh, he did go to Congress and testified about Fernald and uh, he spent a day up there, or a day and a half. He, he was gone over night, wasn't he?

032123 Kenneth: Didn't he go with John Glenn, when John Glenn was a Congressman, and he met John Glenn up there?

032129 Corilla: I think he went with Stan Chesley, the attorney.

032132 Teresa: I think they all went, I think they were all there.

032136 Corilla: Uh,

032137 Teresa: I remember taking him to the airport and dropping him off. You remember that, and picking him up the next day? And that's when we seen that famous wrestler too. One great mean guy.

032151 Corilla: That was Boomer Esiason.

032154 Teresa: Yeah, we did meet him there too, I got his autograph for the kids.

032157 Interviewer: Um, I've seen a lot of the articles that he has been interviewed, uh, you know, several times on national media, 48 Hours, Geraldo show. Can you kind of describe um, how that impacted your family? You know, he became more vocal, he started to get more newspaper coverage, you started getting interviews. How did that impact your family?

032219 Corilla: I don't think we changed that much. We's, our concern was, do you think we did? (to her son).

032225 Kenneth: No, I ...

032227 Corilla: Our life just went on as usual. But we, we were very happy that Kelly was getting his, his two cents in. You know ...

032237 Teresa: Yeah, we wanted to support dad in anyway, because he'd done lost a great portion of his life. His manlihood, his livelihood, and everything, they took that all away from him, and so, we chose as a family to support him in all ways that he went. And this is the way that dad chose, is to be a big advocate for the people, for the community, for the future generations. And uh, so we supported him. And we were there when the interviews came, and they were tough, we did a lot of crying, and a lot of, uh, you know, you have to bring back. It's just like this, you have to remember back of all the things he's gone through, all the sicknesses, and all of the trying times, and there has been lots of trying times, um, you know, and bringing back his whole life, and his death and everything. And it's, it's, you know, a loss that we all experience every day, it's just something that you don't forget. Uh, you can kind of heal and, and go on, but uh, you haven't got your father there to do that, you know. But, we all stood behind him, and we went through what he went through.

032359 Interviewer: Kenny or Corilla, do you what to talk about that. The question was, how did the media attention, the interviews, the newspapers articles, how did that impact your family? (Somebody walks in front of the camera).

032413 Interviewer: Okay, so we were, we were talking about when the newspaper coverage started and the interviews whether one of you wanted to talk about how that impacted your family?

032422 Corilla: Well, I was proud of Kelly. I was proud of him, I never did get so I wasn't proud of him because I felt sorry for him, but I was always proud of him.

032435 Kenneth: Well, I thought that my dad had a lot of courage and stuff to be a spokesman for the whole community, and even for all the workers that were over there. For, it changed my family. I don't think it changed our family, the only thing it did to our family, it probably pulled us all closer together, and made us stronger as a, as a whole, and uh, dad was uh, the main spoke of the wheel, kept us going. But when we lost dad, I mean, I think our families kind of broke up a little bit, to a certain extent, but we're still hanging in there.

032523 Interviewer: Do you remember the neighbors' reaction, when the media coverage started.

032527 Corilla: Oh, our neighbors, our neighbors loved ... When the media started I don't remember anything about that hardly, do you? (to daughter). But I do know our neighbors loved Kelly. Uh, they were very concerned about him. And uh, the night Kelly died, well our neighbors were here just about as soon as the life squad got here, weren't they? And they, they just always are good. I've got good neighbors, that's one thing we can say, I've got good neighbors.

032602 Kenneth: Didn't they, dad was considered the governor of Flora Road.

032608 Teresa: And the doctor.

032609 Corilla: And the doctor.

032610 Kenneth: They always talked about the governor, and that was dad.

032616 Corilla: But he was, he, this, these kids that lived next door, of course they're men now. Uh, if they'd get a sticker in their hand, or get uh, something would happen to them, anything. They'd go, they'd go into their mom, and say, "Uh, this is hurtin'," they'd say, 'I'm going to go over and get Mr. Kelly to, to take that out.'" They were, there was, really, there was a lot of love on this street, there really was.

032645 Teresa: Dad didn't know a stranger. Our dad didn't know a stranger. If somebody was broke down, he'd be there to help 'em. If somebody was hurt, he'd be there to help 'em. If somebody needed a dollar, he'd be there to help 'em.

032659 Corilla: Or their lawn-mover brake down, he spent more time fixin' people's ... hanging pictures, he'd even hang their pictures for 'em.

032708 Interviewer: A couple of times you guys have referred to him as a spokesman for the community. Uh, did he work with FRESH, or the more active groups like that, did they coordinate any of their efforts?

032720 Kenneth: You better speak on that because, I know he was part of a spokesman for FRESH. He went to all, almost all the meetings.

032726 Corilla: After he was able to. After he got out of the hospital, those women over there just loved him. I mean, and I'm glad they did too. I mean Maggie Merrick was there, Lisa Crawford, I mean they was all so sweet. I mean, and they were all, came the night he passed, I mean when we had his funeral, they were all there. I forget what the question was.

032758 Interviewer: Oh, just how did his efforts to speak out about what happened, how did he coordinate them with FRESH, and it sounds like he did.

032805 Corilla: Yes, he did.

032807 Teresa: Lisa Crawford kept in touch with dad, and the whole family, all the time.

032815 Interviewer: How do you think the site has impacted the community, like let's say over the last 20 or 30 years? How would you describe, let's go with Corilla first.

032826 Corilla: You want to know what?

032828 Interviewer: Oh, how has the site impacted the community?

032833 Corilla: Well, at first, I don't think anybody was concerned, it was just a job or ... That's where he went to work, and then as it came on, and then people started getting sick. And how Maggie Merrick found out about this thing was such a, it had to be through FRESH. 'Cause they was already getting organized. But that's the first I heard that we were supposed to be glowing in the dark.

032905 Teresa: Well, I think the same way as mom. At first nobody thought anything was wrong with the place. And I'm sure there's people still in the community that doesn't think that there's things wrong over there. And there'll be people think that years down the line. But for the majority of the community, it has absolutely devastated them, and wiped them out. It's made people relocate, and do away with things that they had worked on for their life, their home bases. Uh, it's destroyed families. Lives have been lost over it, and not only the workers' lives, but people in the community there have come up with cancer and different kinds of things. And um, the water is contaminated. And so that's very devastating, where is their water supply coming from. How can they trust people that say nothing's going wrong, and it's going to be that way for years to come.

033007 Corilla: They redid, they put a new water system in over there and uh, since all this has been happened. And uh, in fact, Lisa was one of the people that first filed a lawsuit for the residents because she found uh, ... **(tape change)**.

040035 Interviewer: Um, Ken, we've heard your mom and your sister talk a little bit about how the site has affected the community, what's your impression of that?

040044 Kenneth: It's definitely affected the surrounding area of the community. And I uh, think there was uh, a lawsuit involved where everybody that lived within an eight-mile radius of the plant, and for the amount of years that they had lived, they was compensated a certain amount of money. I mean the closer you were and the longer you lived there, the more you received. And uh, there was people that lived in the community that had moved out of the area. And it was just the talk of the town more or less that they moved out and didn't receive anything because they were no longer in the area. But, there, there, they, there's still talk about Fernald, the way they're cleaning up. And there's things, I, I don't know, I go past the place all the time and I see a lot of the buildings are gone, and I see big piles of dirt, and I try to figure out, what the heck, what they trying to bury over there now? Because dad said they never could clean that place up until Jesus come back, and uh, I just hope their not trying to uh, leave it to our ancestors to worry about the mess that we've created, and continue killing people, like they killed my father and stuff.

040208 Interviewer: And that kind of brings us to, Ken's answered it, my next question was what is your impression of what's going on at the site now? Corilla ...

040218 Corilla: Oh, I think they're cleaning it up, I really do. And I think that they've torn down a lot of buildings, I know they have. I've seen 'em on TV, where they take those buildings down. Other than that, I don't know anything more about what's going on over there.

040240 Kenneth: Well dad, dad always said that uranium, or plutonium, whatever it was, the older it got, the hotter it got. And if it's in the ground, sooner or later it's just going to continue getting hot and hot. And I don't know where they can move it, move it in the United States. If they move it to Nevada, don't you think the population one of these days is going to move it out in that direction? I mean, we've created a mess, and I don't know if anybody knows how to get out of it.

040317 Teresa: Well, I'm glad that my mom feels that way, but I feel different than that. I don't feel like they can do enough to get the place cleaned up, like Kenny says. I uh, believe that today they dump things there, still today. And I believe that they'll continue to do that. They might say that they're cleaning it up, but it's hard for me to believe that, uh, because they've lied to us so much already. And I feel sorry for our future generation, cause they're gonna be the ones that's going to be stuck with it. There's no way that we'll clean it up.

040355 Kenneth: I heard or read through the ... that they was trying to turn the site into a state park of some sort. And I thought to myself, my gosh, that's gonna be a park for our children to plan in, and stuff. I think they just ought to fence it off, and just condemn the land, and ... That's my opinion, but to make it a state park, or an animal sanctuary, I don't think that's a good idea.

040418 Teresa: Well, you see the people that work there today, they're in the big white suits that the moon people wear. And, and uh, they can only stay in the plant for five minutes at times and then they're out for an hour. And uh, you know, when my dad worked there, he ate inside the plant, he drank inside the plant, he did everything. Yes (to mother), dad said he ate his lunch right there.

040442 Corilla: No, what they had to do, they had to bathe before they went to lunch. Come out, take their, their work clothes off, and put 'em down. And then they, they uh, had uh, put their clothes back on when they went back.

040459 Teresa: Remember about dad making the popcorn, right there at the job? He made the popcorn there, and all that stuff.

040503 Corilla: Well they probably did a lot of stuff like people do on the job that was not really right, but I don't know.

040510 Kenneth: It was still on site. They was maybe, what, 200 yards from where they manufactured that stuff. I mean, they was still on site.

040519 Teresa: Do you know when they came in and cleaned up the plant ...

040522 Corilla: Oh, I understand what you're saying...

040523 Teresa: They painted the cafeteria. The cafeteria was so hot, and they painted over it, and that was their cleanup on the cafeteria. And that, I thought, oh yeah, we're doing a good job here now, that's our government again. Uh, what other kind of good cleanup have we got?

040542 Interviewer: That reminds me of something that I meant to ask, uh, that I'd like to go back to a minute. Uh, I thought I had seen that Corilla went to Washington, D.C. and met with Al Gore, for workers' Memorial Day. Uh, I wanted you to tell a little bit about that, 'cause it kind of gets at this, how do we protect the health and safety of our workers.

040602 Corilla: Yes, that's what that was all about ...

040604 Interviewer: Okay, can you describe that.

040606 Corilla: Yeah, I went there, and uh, while I was there to tell a story about Herbert Lee, about how he was dying, and uh, he, I met with Al Gore and talked to him briefly. This has been, four years ago, I don't remember when it was. But anyway, it was a very interesting, it was a very touching ceremony too, because there was people from all walks of life there, was everything. But I tell you, I really thought Kelly's story was the worst of the lot. I mean, of course the other people probably thought their loved one's was the worst of the lot. But uh, that's, it was very moving, and I met with John Glenn. And uh, but, but, I want to tell you, you know, John Glenn and Tom Luken really helped us out in the fight to get all of this settled. I can, really believe that. Of course, John Lenn, I mean Glenn, is no longer in politics, and neither is Tom Luken, that I know of. But uh, it was quite an experience for me.

040734 Interviewer: How did those two get involved in, in Kelly's issue?

040739 Corilla: That's a good question, and I really don't know the answer. Uh, Lisa Crawford did a lot to get those people involved. In fact, we went to Lisa's house and John Glenn was there, and we met him there. And uh, I don't know, it just kept, it, it just kept snowballing. One thing would happen, then another would happen. And perhaps it was the attorney that, that helped. Dave Day was the one that got me that trip to uh, asked me to go on that trip to Washington. And I said, I wouldn't go on a bet, because I hate to get on the planes. I'm not scared of the planes but I'm scared I'm gonna get lost in the airports. And uh, but I, so he got someone to go with me. His wife went with me, and it was a nice experience.

040838 Interviewer: Uh, Ken or Teresa did you want to share reflection about, it could be the Al Gore meeting, or the contribution of Luken or Glenn, kind of these high profile politicians, and how you feel like they helped, and what did they do with your dad's story?

040855 Kenneth: Well, I really don't know if it was John Glenn or uh, Tom Luken. I think dad was the prevailing factor by being such an outspoken person and putting the story out and, and telling, it was either the media, people like you, that come to the house to visit him, or phone calls that he did interviews over the phone with people. From all over the world, I mean from Germany, from ... But uh, it was just, I think it was more, more dad's doings than it was them to get the ball rolling. I mean they've got the clout and the power to do it, but dad had the first-

hand experience. And I really think it was my dad that got the ball rolling on a lot of the situation.

040948 Teresa: Yeah, you know, sometimes when you're making the news, you know uh, big people run after you to jump on the band. And um, I'm not saying that they helped him or hurt him. I think it was more of dad being the outspoken person that brought it to full light for the community. Um, and I think it was, you know, the grace of God that gave him the will power to do it, the strength to do it, to carry on and to go through with it. And I still wish dad was here to um, to talk to you and everybody else, because I'm sure that he'd have a lot more to say than we can say. We can only express and say what we feel and how we've seen it. But dad lived it first hand. And uh, I'm proud of dad and proud of mom, and proud of my brothers and sisters. And I think that everybody that's ever helped him. I appreciate all the help that they've gave him, all the support that they've gave him too.

041055 Interviewer: That's kind of a nice lead in. My last question is, if you were to write a memoir describing this time period in you life, what happened to your family, and your experiences, what would be the most important thing that you would want future generations to remember from this time?

041115 Corilla: I think that I would like for 'em to remember that, that Kelly was, had done what he did because of, of the other people living around him, of his children, and of his grandchildren. Oh, how that man loved his, his grandkids, I'll tell ya. He couldn't get enough of 'em. And uh, I remember, we'd go on the, on the creek, go back down to the creek, used to take picnic lunches, and, and uh, we would uh, just throw rocks in the creek. Skip rocks, we taught the kids how to skip rocks. Mark was there, Phillip, Angie, and we had, and we'd just go down there and carload it, and we'd go stop at that little old country store down there and get lunch meat and bread. But that's who he was concerned about was the grandkids, and the, and the great grandkids. Hey, we've got a great grandkid now. But uh, he just wanted to help some other people too, not only himself. Because he was wanting to help himself and wanting to help his family. But there were a lot of times that I've heard him say, "it's not only for me, that this is going to do some good if we ever get anything done. But its gonna be for this community, and for the people around us." That's what I want them to remember him with.

041254 Kenneth: Well, I'd like to have 'em remember dad as uh, being a spokesperson for pollution, more or less. Fighting the pollution problem in the, in the United States and in the world. Like how they can destroy the ground and stuff around 'em for future generations. How they can cut our rain forest down. They create oxygen for us to breathe and for the medicines to heal us. That's part of our rain forest and stuff. And if we allow this generation and future generations to destroy the ground that we live on and create, uh, powerful toxins that we release into our air to kill people like my father and stuff. That it cannot be ... people need to speak up like my father did to put a stop to it, and not let this happen. And that's what I hope that they remember my dad from about being a person who fought for not polluting the country.

041404 Interviewer: Teresa, what would your one lesson for future generations be?

041409 Teresa: Uh, to always trust in God and to believe in him, that he will help you in all things. Because my dad believed in God, he trusted him through this whole ordeal. He let Him guide him. Um, that each person is to be respected and have human dignity about 'em that they're all equal. And that we must look out for our fellow man, our brothers, our families. Uh, that you can be speak up and be just a mere co-worker, a mere weak human being. Um, and be very, a very strong person in that. Uh, there always is a way, there is somebody there to help you. The Lord makes sure that you have the right way to go. Um, because dad was, he was a living example of that. He was a witness that with God you can do all things and all things will come through Him. And uh, it has come to that, you know. Uh, people finally realized that the things going over there, what was going on there. And uh, they just, that's a proven fact now. And that's what I would like them to remember my dad.

041535 Interviewer: I guess the last thing would be is there anything uh, that you can think of that's like a major uh, area of the story that we have not covered? Is there anything that you wanted to say or anything that you think is really important that we haven't touched on in our conversation? Maybe we'll start with Corilla.

041555 Corilla: Well, I think we just about covered this whole thing as much as I can think of.

041600 Kenneth: I agree.

041602 Teresa: I agree.

141604 Interviewer: Thank you all very much.

041606 Teresa: Thank you.

041607 Corilla: Thank you.

TAPE INTERRUPTION: Andrea gives Jennifer additional questions to ask.

041634 Interviewer: How did you feel about living so close to the site. Did you ever suspect that it impacted your health at all? Your health?

041642 Corilla: Well, I never did until uh, then my kids got things wrong with them. Now, Kenny got Lupus and uh, Jeff had nodules in his throat, and then Teresa got a uh, a disease in her head. (laughter)

041710 Teresa: Thanks a lot, mom.

041711 Kenneth: Like a flesh eating disease or something. It'll eat your brain up.

041715 Interviewer: Yeah, why don't you describe it for us ...

041717 Corilla: Okay. She had like a ringworm in the top of her head.

041720 Teresa: It was not ringworm. It was called pemphigus and it's an autoimmune disease.

041726 Corilla: Well, I didn't know, that's what I thought it was. I thought it was a ringworm. And she went to, I think, five different doctors, got seven different diagnoses, or seven doctors, and got five different diagnoses. And uh, she, she got so sick, it was pitiful. I mean, this not only got in her head, then it went to uh, her uh, her mouth, her nose.

041756 Teresa: Alright, you've told enough.

041758 Corilla: Alright, and she was a very sick girl. And I, I went to see her that one. It was a Sunday night I went down there, and this girl was so sick, she couldn't get out of bed. And she was laying in a fetal position. And the only person I'd ever seen laying in a fetal position was somebody ready to die. I went and I told her husband, I said, "You'd better get her to the hospital, doctor, she's going to lay right there and die." So uh, she went to the hospital, and they ... was a team of doctors come in on her and started working on her. And they, they diagnosed her then the next day, I believe, wasn't it, with, uh, what was the name of it?

041849 Teresa: We didn't hear anything for more than two weeks.

041851 Corilla: What was the name of it?

041852 Teresa: Pemphigus.

041854 Corilla: Okay, that's what she had. And see Kelly was relat' all these things that was wrong with him, and Jeff, and her...

041903 Teresa: And Kenny.

041906 Corilla: Yeah, (points to Kenny) to uh, the Fernald thing. 'Cause he said, "Well it could be that's what's going on with these children." And so he was really upset about that. Now that's what I remember about that.

041921 Interviewer: Now Kenny, what about you, how did you feel about living near the site? And did you think it impacted your health?

041927 Kenneth: In my younger days, I didn't think it was bothering me or nothing, it was just, until after the fact that dad passing away and stuff, and the things that occurred. Uh, a subject I don't like to speak about was, I was married to some lady that worked over there. And that, the time we were married I was diagnosed with a disease called discoid lupus. Uh, we was married approximately one year, and I would break out in sores all over my body. Usually if one was here, one was there. Well, when she left, the sores left, so I thought she was radioactive myself. I didn't know what it was at the time. A weird feeling, but, after she left, I was not sick any

more, or have any of the sores or anything. But anyhow, one other thing I like to touch on, after dad passed away, somebody come here to the house and they brought a Geiger counter in, into this house, and they found dad's badge, I think here in the hutch, and uh, it was hot. And they found some other objects here in the house that was considerably hot.

042038 Corilla: His safety glasses were up in the attic, wrapped in a bag, in a plastic bag.

042044 Kenneth: And this was quite a few years after dad had not been working there. I mean, so it was just sitting there, cooking.

022052 Teresa: Yeah, and we were all raised in this house, we all played with the badge. Dad would lay it on the hutch when he came home, we'd all pick it up, and we'd all play with it. Minette, I think, is the only one that never really had anything ...

022108 Corilla: She was always studying.

022111 Teresa: No problems ... Then at one point, uh, I lived about a mile and a half away from the plant. And it was like when it was all starting to come down and unfold. And my kids were uh, 7, 8 ... 6 and 7, and then I had a 3-year old, I think it was. Jake was 3. And uh, when all the stuff came down about Fernald uh, I would call dad, and I would say, "Dad, um, our yard has this white stuff out in it." It looked kind of cob-webby, uh, frosty white things, patches, I mean. Lots of patches throughout the whole yard. And uh, my dad would say, "Don't let the kids out until the grass is dry". So I'd have to keep the kids in until late afternoon. Uh, we lived right on the corner of 128 and Paddy's Run Creek. And my kids would go up to the neighbor's house over on Paddy's Run and the kids would always play in the creek. And I never knew that this stuff was dumped into this creek until after the fact. And then, you know, it was like "keep your kids out of the creek." And uh, at the time when the uh, class action suit went through for the residents there uh, I was so bitter, and so distraught and hurt, that I wouldn't even fill out for my kids or my husband. I filled it out for myself, um, and what we received was nothing uh, but my kids never received anything from that. I wanted that period in our life to be gone, to never existed. It had already devastated my family, with my father and my mother and my sisters and brothers. And now it was going to tear up my family with my kids, and my husband, and me. And um, so I wanted it to be gone, and still today, I would like to not recognize it, for it to be all gone away, that it never have happened in our community. But, let's face the facts. It happened. And that's why I'm bitter with our government. I don't trust our government in anything. Uh, they can send our kids to war at 18 and kill them, but the kids aren't allowed to drink until they're 21. Now I don't agree with drinking, but I look at that, too, you know, as another thing. Our government, our government, our government, they are ruining everybody's lives. They've got control over everybody's lives, and they're gonna tell everybody what to do.

022358 Interviewer: Can you describe the point at which that view of the government, this was very strong in you ... like how did your view of the government change over time? And at one point did you feel the way you do now?

042411 Teresa: Uh, I guess when I really found out about my dad, and all of this came down. You know, I trusted the government up until then, and now I have really no use for 'em. And I'm sorry, political people, I don't believe their words that they're saying to the people. It's hard for me to trust anybody outside my own little realm. Uh, I could trust a beggar on the street before I could trust a politician or the government. I believe that their word would be more honest than a politician's or the government.

042456 Interviewer: Corilla, what about you, how has your view of the government changed over time and through this experience?

042502 Corilla: Well, I don't think it's the whole government, I don't think that. I think that uh, Al Gore is a very plain-spoken man about pollution. He has gone, that's the reason why he was at Stricker's Grove, when we met him down here, because he was concerned about the people. Stricker's Grove is just a short piece from Fernald. And uh, I don't think it's all bad. I think that we need controls on things. But uh, we have to have drivers' licenses and I'm glad we do. I mean, it's just another phase of them being in control, I mean, and I think they should have some control.

042602 Interviewer: Well, think back, maybe contrast also the time period in your life where you and your husband were starting a family. And before you moved to Fernald, and how you thought of your government then and then contrast it to today and how you think of your government today.

042622 Teresa: Mom still trusts the government. She has never really not trusted them, I don't believe. The way I've seen mom. Have you ever mistrusted 'em?

042631 Corilla: I think, I think, I really got upset with workers' compensation. I mean I really got upset with those people. I think that, and I know that there's people out there that always want to use that as an excuse to get some money, free money. But let me tell you, the way they treated my husband, I was very upset. I can't say that I was really ... I think that I was upset because somebody had misled the people at Fernald. That is a known fact, that somebody wasn't taking care of business. They had left something out. And I can't, I can't say that anything other than there was somebody not tending to business over there. I don't know who it was, and it's not only here at Fernald. It's all over the atomic ... see I think they got a hold of something they didn't know was so powerful, too.

042750 Interviewer: And Ken, what about you? The question was how, how has your view of government changed over time because of this experience? Or has it, has your view changed?

042802 Kenneth: Well, uh, I was in the military, and uh, I was hurtin', when I was on duty. And I knew the military took care of me, in an instant they sent a helicopter down and picked me up and took me to the hospital. And they took care of me. Now dad, to me dad might have been a civilian working in a government facility, but he was still working for the federal government. And when he got sick, they tried just to blow it off, and overlooked dad. And uh, you see our politicians and stuff nowadays, they sit up there and speak their peace like. I gotta throw this in,

like I was watching Bush last night, George, his dad, and he—"Read my lips, no more taxes." I liked to die when I heard that. But anyhow, I don't know what it is with our politician and stuff, if they're into it for the people. I don't know who to trust. I know I can trust my family, and my, but when it comes to them, I just, I'm on my own. And I'll pay my taxes, and live my life the best I know how, and obey the rules that I can obey.

042927 Teresa: You know the world's almost lost the fear of God. Uh, don't trust God, you know, and that's one thing my father did, he trusted God and I think that our country needs to come back to that. Um, you know, it not only happened here at Fernald, it's happened at other plants, it's happened at other government things. It's happened on down the line, everybody is suffering from this big major "Frankenstein." And uh, it's a shame that our future generations is going to be the ones paying the price too. It's gotta stop some place.

043013 Interviewer: You know, all of this happened during, you know, kind of a Cold War mentality, and some people have said, you know, the, the workers at the atomic institutions were "Cold War Veterans." And some people have said the sacrifice of the few was worth it to save the many. How would you react to that? (Tape change)

050030 Interviewer: Okay, okay, do you want to start back where we were?

050035 Corilla: No it wasn't really Geraldo, it was his brother. What was his brother's name? (In the background: **Kenneth:** Geraldo. Well, I don't remember his brother's name, do you?)

050048 Interviewer: It's okay, though. You can just tell me the experience, the story ...

050052 Teresa: Just say a newscaster came...

050104 Interviewer: He started back up, did you want to tell about that story?

050109 Corilla: Well, uh, well, "Now it Can Be Told" was a television story, I mean station. And they was here and uh, they was, they were talking about the body snatchers on that. And how uh, that people had become ill through this, and then the government would go in and take the parts so they couldn't ever really diagnose anything. Well, see that kind of, Kelly didn't like that, and he didn't really want them taking his parts. And he told Kenneth, he said, "Son, whenever I die," he said, "I don't want nobody taking my parts, you make sure they don't." And so, when the night Kelly died, Kenny you go on ...

050154 Kenneth: He passed away which is right down the road here at the PAC center. Uh, they uh, had him on a respirator and stuff, when dad had a living will that he didn't want to go like that. So, they wouldn't, when the life squad came and picked dad up, they put him on a, a respirator, and for us to get him off the respirator, we had to show 'em the living will and stuff. And that's when they took it off and dad passed away. But uh, we had to call the funeral director from the PAC center and stuff, and uh, we stayed there until they come, and I was, had my mind made up at the time because of some of the stuff that me and dad talked about that I stayed there and went to the funeral home. Followed the hearse down there and made sure that they took my

dad's body to the funeral home. And then, before the funeral occurred, my oldest sister, Minette, asked me to take my younger brother down with me, and then to inspect dad's body, make sure they hadn't made any incisions and stuff on his body and remove body parts for experimental. Which we did, and believe me, that was not a very fun job. But they've asked mom, here, I don't know if it's been recently or not, if they could exhume dad's body and uh, what occurred there, I think mom denied 'em access. When we drive by the graveyard everyday, one of us do, so we know that they there's no one ever tampered with the ground or anything. And dad was really just, he was feared that someone would mess with his remains because of all the stories and the rumors that had been started.

050405 Teresa: Yeah, he'd done been through enough, why go through anymore of letting 'em experiment on what remains that was left. Uh, you know, and we're very strong in that. And no matter how long it takes, we'll do everything to fight 'em, to keep them from exhuming him.

050421 Kenneth: Tell you what, that uh, mom and dad bought graves, uh, cemetery plots up at Spring Grove Cemetery up in Cincinnati. And when I got wind of that there, I was really upset because, you know, being family and stuff, we'd have to drive all the way to Cincinnati to put flowers on the grave, or to visit the grave. And uh, I took mom and dad down there to Glenhaven Cemetery and we bought a plot, I bought plots there too, but uh, you can see it from the road, I mean, and uh. We all went down there before dad had passed away. And I laid down and made sure my plot was going to fit me and stuff and dad got a big kick out of that and stuff. We always, I go down here and plant flowers and stuff. We just watch it daily, we just watch it daily to make sure no one tampers with it.

050513 Interviewer: Okay, I'm gonna return to this one, it's a tough question again. You don't have to answer it if you don't want to, but during this time there was this Cold War mentality, you know, it's national security, it's high priority, we need to build the bombs. And some people thought it's, it's worth it to sacrifice a few, you know to save many. And I want to know how you would react to that. Corilla ...

050538 Corilla: Well the first thing I think about, was they thinking it might be their husband or their kids? Would they feel the same way? Because, hey, I don't, I don't feel that way, I don't feel that I'd like to sacrifice anybody for that.

050558 Kenneth: Our government has, did things like this, like with Agent Orange and stuff. They've air-dropped it on our troops and stuff. And I guess our troops was aware that they was being sprayed with this stuff. And then over the years that they have become sick and stuff from the chemicals, the chemical warfares that have been sprayed on 'em. That even occurred in uh, here recently, on something else that our government had did, I can't remember what it was about, but. Oh, I do believe that our government to a certain extent believed that they can experiment with a few of us and uh, to protect the many that are still remains. It's a sad, sad, situation. Let is be one of there loved ones, and see how they feel.

050653 Teresa: Well, I think they sacrificed my dad, and uh, I think they sacrificed many other husbands and fathers. And I believe that they're going to continue to sacrifice. They sacrifice

for a thousand babies a day on abortion, they back that totally. They uh, euthanasia, they want to kill off our older generation, we have to protect my mother. We have to protect our young. Uh, you know, the government runs us, and the y need to stop. Somebody needs to stop 'em.

050731 Interviewer: Okay, I'm going to return, kind of when I was asking about, what what would you say is the most important thing to remember in his memoir, if you were to write a memoir. I'm going to return to that, and say, uh, if you were telling a student, uh, advice, you know, some advice, something that you've learned from this experience. What would that advice be? Corilla ...

050757 Corilla: To ask questions, see what you're doing, what you're getting into. And then to speak out when you think it isn't right. You might get fired from the job. But you better be fired from a job than to just take their word for everything.

050819 Kenneth: I really don't know how to comment on that, I really don't. Teresa ...

050823 Teresa: I would just tell them to be uh, very aggressive in all fields that they go into. To uh, to know more, learn more about it, to study about it, to protect their brothers, their sisters, their families, our future generations. Uh, because without them, we're not going to have a generation to follow them. And uh, we need to protect our, our environment today, we need to look out for one another. Uh, just remember that everyone is to be respected, and that everybody has dignity. No one's greater than the next. And to uh, believe and trust in God through all things.

050915 Interviewer: Okay, can you all think of anything again that you haven't, that we haven't covered that was important to you?

050925 Kenneth: No, I think we've said about all of it.

050928 Corilla: I think we've covered about everything.

050930 Background: If you don't mind, we just need thirty seconds of silence, for room tone...