

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:01:20,280

2
00:01:20,280 --> 00:01:20,940
OK.

3
00:01:20,940 --> 00:01:23,650
So you were saying about
your mother's work.

4
00:01:23,650 --> 00:01:24,150
Yeah.

5
00:01:24,150 --> 00:01:28,470
My father-- and I don't know
exactly when that started,

6
00:01:28,470 --> 00:01:38,220
but he got a job in Brooklyn
at a hospital for the aged.

7
00:01:38,220 --> 00:01:44,280
I mean, an old age home,
we would say nowadays,

8
00:01:44,280 --> 00:01:47,400
where he worked as a male nurse.

9
00:01:47,400 --> 00:01:53,250
I mean, they didn't have the
medical license so they--

10
00:01:53,250 --> 00:01:54,900
he could work there.

11
00:01:54,900 --> 00:01:59,580
And I don't know exactly when
he started and when he ended,

12
00:01:59,580 --> 00:02:07,620
but I guess he worked there

until he passed his exam

13

00:02:07,620 --> 00:02:14,365

and could establish
his office here.

14

00:02:14,365 --> 00:02:16,170

Do you know when
it was more or less

15

00:02:16,170 --> 00:02:19,490

of when he did pass the exam?

16

00:02:19,490 --> 00:02:21,840

Now that's
documentation I have--

17

00:02:21,840 --> 00:02:26,950

I mean, I didn't bring it
along, but this is available.

18

00:02:26,950 --> 00:02:27,850

I would say--

19

00:02:27,850 --> 00:02:28,420

Just roughly.

20

00:02:28,420 --> 00:02:30,860

I would estimate about
a year and a half.

21

00:02:30,860 --> 00:02:34,660

So that would be somewhere
in '42, I would say.

22

00:02:34,660 --> 00:02:38,080

23

00:02:38,080 --> 00:02:49,720

Because in the meantime, I had
come back from upstate New York

24

00:02:49,720 --> 00:02:51,670
after the summer.

25
00:02:51,670 --> 00:02:57,430
And I was going to, of course,
look for a job as a waiter

26
00:02:57,430 --> 00:03:05,670
in New York City
when coincidentally

27
00:03:05,670 --> 00:03:08,550
on my wife's birthday--
so I remember that day--

28
00:03:08,550 --> 00:03:14,400
on September 25th,
there was a dance

29
00:03:14,400 --> 00:03:18,120
of the Jewish
Refugee Club, which

30
00:03:18,120 --> 00:03:21,540
was called the New World Club.

31
00:03:21,540 --> 00:03:24,900
And we went to that dance.

32
00:03:24,900 --> 00:03:33,930
And there, my father encountered
an ex-patient of his who

33
00:03:33,930 --> 00:03:37,320
unbeknownst to him had--

34
00:03:37,320 --> 00:03:49,440
who had immigrated into America
and established a factory

35
00:03:49,440 --> 00:03:53,610
for surgical instruments.

36

00:03:53,610 --> 00:03:59,070

And-- well, it was-- let's say
it was a factory for scissors.

37

00:03:59,070 --> 00:04:02,010

It was taken over by
the alien custodian.

38

00:04:02,010 --> 00:04:04,610

It was a German--

39

00:04:04,610 --> 00:04:10,980

a branch of a German
factory from Solingen, which

40

00:04:10,980 --> 00:04:13,110

is a German cutlery center.

41

00:04:13,110 --> 00:04:17,100

That was taken over by when
alien property was taken over.

42

00:04:17,100 --> 00:04:21,089

And then they were
available to Americans,

43

00:04:21,089 --> 00:04:26,980

and to manage, and
then eventually to own.

44

00:04:26,980 --> 00:04:31,200

And when the war started, they
were switched over from cutlery

45

00:04:31,200 --> 00:04:33,690

to surgical
instruments, which uses

46

00:04:33,690 --> 00:04:36,220

the same type of technology.

47

00:04:36,220 --> 00:04:40,620

So that-- the plant, it
was running in New Jersey.

48
00:04:40,620 --> 00:04:47,100
And he apparently owed my
father a lot of gratitude

49
00:04:47,100 --> 00:04:55,800
because his son had appendicitis
and peritonitis back

50
00:04:55,800 --> 00:04:59,060
in Germany, and my father
saved his life, and all that.

51
00:04:59,060 --> 00:05:02,990
So that was great friendship.

52
00:05:02,990 --> 00:05:05,350
And he said, well,
what's your son doing?

53
00:05:05,350 --> 00:05:08,040
And he said, well,
my son is a waiter.

54
00:05:08,040 --> 00:05:10,770
He's going to look-- he's
looking for a job as a waiter.

55
00:05:10,770 --> 00:05:13,590
And he said, well, is
that what he really wants?

56
00:05:13,590 --> 00:05:17,730
And he says, no, he wants to
be a mechanic or something.

57
00:05:17,730 --> 00:05:20,880
So he said, well, why
doesn't he come to my factory

58
00:05:20,880 --> 00:05:25,080

and I'll give him a job
as a toolmaker apprentice.

59
00:05:25,080 --> 00:05:31,080
And so I became a
toolmaker apprentice

60
00:05:31,080 --> 00:05:35,610
at this fellow's
factory in New Jersey.

61
00:05:35,610 --> 00:05:39,300
And for a year, I
commuted to New Jersey

62
00:05:39,300 --> 00:05:42,580
from New York on
the Hudson tubes.

63
00:05:42,580 --> 00:05:43,080
Yeah.

64
00:05:43,080 --> 00:05:46,680
And then I finally--

65
00:05:46,680 --> 00:05:50,655
it was again a matter of
the family being together.

66
00:05:50,655 --> 00:05:55,530
So finally, I moved over to
New Jersey for the other three

67
00:05:55,530 --> 00:06:00,450
years, four years altogether,
because '44, I got married

68
00:06:00,450 --> 00:06:01,710
and I went to the Navy.

69
00:06:01,710 --> 00:06:09,240
So for one year I commuted
and the other three years

70
00:06:09,240 --> 00:06:11,160
I lived in New Jersey.

71
00:06:11,160 --> 00:06:18,570
And learned my trade as a tool
and die maker for three years.

72
00:06:18,570 --> 00:06:22,350
And then became a journeyman
tool and die maker.

73
00:06:22,350 --> 00:06:32,320
And so, now I remember this
because this fellow also

74
00:06:32,320 --> 00:06:35,110
offered my--

75
00:06:35,110 --> 00:06:40,885
to lend money to my father
to open his medical practice.

76
00:06:40,885 --> 00:06:43,450

77
00:06:43,450 --> 00:06:53,520
So I know that that must
have happened around 1942,

78
00:06:53,520 --> 00:06:58,170
and maybe late
'41, or early '42.

79
00:06:58,170 --> 00:07:11,590
And then I got engaged,
which was in 1942.

80
00:07:11,590 --> 00:07:15,270
No, so it was late
'41, because I

81

00:07:15,270 --> 00:07:19,980
remember when I told my father
we got engaged to get married.

82
00:07:19,980 --> 00:07:21,465
So he was already--

83
00:07:21,465 --> 00:07:26,490
so, anyway, it doesn't
make that much difference.

84
00:07:26,490 --> 00:07:34,830
And then we had a union election
at the plant where I worked.

85
00:07:34,830 --> 00:07:38,920
And I voted for the
union, so the boss

86
00:07:38,920 --> 00:07:42,645
said that he had threatened
to call in my father's loan.

87
00:07:42,645 --> 00:07:45,390

88
00:07:45,390 --> 00:07:48,908
And so that why I
remember the time there.

89
00:07:48,908 --> 00:07:50,700
How do he know you had
voted for the union?

90
00:07:50,700 --> 00:07:51,250
Was it--

91
00:07:51,250 --> 00:07:53,890
Oh, he had a spy in
the union meeting.

92
00:07:53,890 --> 00:07:55,140
Oh.

93
00:07:55,140 --> 00:07:55,740
And--

94
00:07:55,740 --> 00:07:57,460
Do you remember his
name, this fellow?

95
00:07:57,460 --> 00:07:59,380
I wasn't going to tell you that.

96
00:07:59,380 --> 00:08:00,660
No?

97
00:08:00,660 --> 00:08:01,800
Let's not talk about it.

98
00:08:01,800 --> 00:08:04,290
No, I mean--

99
00:08:04,290 --> 00:08:05,000
Yes, I do.

100
00:08:05,000 --> 00:08:08,580

101
00:08:08,580 --> 00:08:11,310
Well, if you don't want
to say, that's fine.

102
00:08:11,310 --> 00:08:13,380
So, obviously, all
this time, you--

103
00:08:13,380 --> 00:08:15,690
do you have any news in
general from Germany?

104
00:08:15,690 --> 00:08:18,210
You can't communicate with
anybody left there, I guess,

105

00:08:18,210 --> 00:08:19,200
by letter?

106

00:08:19,200 --> 00:08:20,280
No.

107

00:08:20,280 --> 00:08:21,210
No.

108

00:08:21,210 --> 00:08:23,930
No, those doors were closed.

109

00:08:23,930 --> 00:08:28,260
And you know that, of course,
there was lots of rumor.

110

00:08:28,260 --> 00:08:35,350
And now I know that
my mother's mother

111

00:08:35,350 --> 00:08:41,440
died in the Theresienstadt
before the war started.

112

00:08:41,440 --> 00:08:48,100
Because I remember that
when we were in England--

113

00:08:48,100 --> 00:08:51,880
just before we left
England, I think--

114

00:08:51,880 --> 00:08:59,050
she got news that my
grandmother had died.

115

00:08:59,050 --> 00:09:01,660
Now, there was no
more mail from Germany

116

00:09:01,660 --> 00:09:03,460
because England and

Germany were at war,

117

00:09:03,460 --> 00:09:06,310
but America was not at war.

118

00:09:06,310 --> 00:09:11,410
So Germany could
correspond with America,

119

00:09:11,410 --> 00:09:13,120
and America with England.

120

00:09:13,120 --> 00:09:20,100
So since my uncle was in
America, he heard about it.

121

00:09:20,100 --> 00:09:24,040
So she must have died in 1940.

122

00:09:24,040 --> 00:09:27,810
So were you still able to write
to anybody else by this method

123

00:09:27,810 --> 00:09:30,540
or not up to '41?

124

00:09:30,540 --> 00:09:33,270
I don't recall that, no.

125

00:09:33,270 --> 00:09:34,560
I don't recall that.

126

00:09:34,560 --> 00:09:39,746
I think you mean until
America got into the war?

127

00:09:39,746 --> 00:09:40,246
Mm-hmm.

128

00:09:40,246 --> 00:09:43,510
Well, I don't recall that.

129

00:09:43,510 --> 00:09:45,640

Do you remember or do you
know if your parents knew

130

00:09:45,640 --> 00:09:48,490

of the existence of the camps--

131

00:09:48,490 --> 00:09:50,050

those early camps like Dachau.

132

00:09:50,050 --> 00:09:51,730

Right in '33, I think Dachau--

133

00:09:51,730 --> 00:09:53,860

Well, we know, sure,
because we know

134

00:09:53,860 --> 00:09:57,850

that the people who were
arrested at Kristallnacht,

135

00:09:57,850 --> 00:10:00,970

you know, that were sent--

136

00:10:00,970 --> 00:10:03,790

I think most of those
went to Buchenwald.

137

00:10:03,790 --> 00:10:06,160

But yeah, sure, we
knew of those camps.

138

00:10:06,160 --> 00:10:07,900

And at first, one
thought, of course,

139

00:10:07,900 --> 00:10:16,570

they were only people who also
had the political past that

140

00:10:16,570 --> 00:10:18,820

were taken to the camps.

141
00:10:18,820 --> 00:10:23,440
And then, of course, well,
things became different

142
00:10:23,440 --> 00:10:25,280
and they were proven wrong.

143
00:10:25,280 --> 00:10:28,930
And, of course, during the
Kristallnacht, of course,

144
00:10:28,930 --> 00:10:30,580
thousands went there.

145
00:10:30,580 --> 00:10:34,570
And many of those came
back, because many of them

146
00:10:34,570 --> 00:10:41,890
were released if their wives
could procure immigration

147
00:10:41,890 --> 00:10:44,170
to somewhere.

148
00:10:44,170 --> 00:10:46,150
In fact, after I
got out-- you see,

149
00:10:46,150 --> 00:10:48,200
I was only home for
a couple of days,

150
00:10:48,200 --> 00:10:50,680
but there were people
coming all the time.

151
00:10:50,680 --> 00:10:53,770
Did you see my husband?

152
00:10:53,770 --> 00:10:55,580

I mean, this is--

153

00:10:55,580 --> 00:10:58,940
and, of course, some people I
didn't know and some people,

154

00:10:58,940 --> 00:11:01,570
yes, I did see.

155

00:11:01,570 --> 00:11:04,040
Was there any inkling
or knowledge--

156

00:11:04,040 --> 00:11:06,130
your father was in the
medical profession--

157

00:11:06,130 --> 00:11:12,586
of the medical moves
towards euthanasia

158

00:11:12,586 --> 00:11:14,350
of like retarded people?

159

00:11:14,350 --> 00:11:16,120
No, I think all this--

160

00:11:16,120 --> 00:11:19,150
all this came out
really after the war.

161

00:11:19,150 --> 00:11:22,960
I mean, mostly from German
documentation. really.

162

00:11:22,960 --> 00:11:25,180
I mean, they had
this huge exhibit

163

00:11:25,180 --> 00:11:31,120
that we saw in Berlin on this
whole medical experimentation

164

00:11:31,120 --> 00:11:35,860
and forced sterilization,
which, of course,

165

00:11:35,860 --> 00:11:38,830
not only concerned
Jews to a large degree,

166

00:11:38,830 --> 00:11:40,030
but all criminals.

167

00:11:40,030 --> 00:11:43,780
I mean, many criminals
were forcibly sterilized.

168

00:11:43,780 --> 00:11:49,200
I mean, a lot more people were--

169

00:11:49,200 --> 00:11:52,440
had to undergo
this sterilization

170

00:11:52,440 --> 00:11:56,510
situation, and individuals.

171

00:11:56,510 --> 00:12:00,690
No, but I mean, I never
talked to him about it,

172

00:12:00,690 --> 00:12:03,930
but I think that all
that information really

173

00:12:03,930 --> 00:12:08,880
came out after the war, those
things that wasn't available.

174

00:12:08,880 --> 00:12:13,410
I mean, nobody came
out of there alive.

175

00:12:13,410 --> 00:12:17,015

So, no, I don't know.

176
00:12:17,015 --> 00:12:18,390
Well, it certainly
must have been

177
00:12:18,390 --> 00:12:22,945
a wonderful reunion for you
to be with Suzanne again

178
00:12:22,945 --> 00:12:24,020
when you came.

179
00:12:24,020 --> 00:12:24,610
Yeah.

180
00:12:24,610 --> 00:12:25,150
Yeah.

181
00:12:25,150 --> 00:12:25,650
Yeah.

182
00:12:25,650 --> 00:12:27,160
They were living
in New York also?

183
00:12:27,160 --> 00:12:27,660
Well, yes.

184
00:12:27,660 --> 00:12:29,640
In the meantime, of
course, they also

185
00:12:29,640 --> 00:12:37,050
went through this process
of getting their licenses.

186
00:12:37,050 --> 00:12:41,505
And of course, my
father-in-law, he was working--

187
00:12:41,505 --> 00:12:44,400

I mean, I don't have to tell
you what she probably told you--

188
00:12:44,400 --> 00:12:48,150
for another dermatologist,
kind of ghostwriting,

189
00:12:48,150 --> 00:12:51,540
and ghostreading, and so on.

190
00:12:51,540 --> 00:12:55,050
Yeah, but we were, of
course, in close contact.

191
00:12:55,050 --> 00:12:58,110
But I remember certain
things, like we

192
00:12:58,110 --> 00:13:00,390
were invited for dinner.

193
00:13:00,390 --> 00:13:03,450
I mean, they lived in Brooklyn
and we lived in Manhattan.

194
00:13:03,450 --> 00:13:06,280
And it cost two
nickels to go there.

195
00:13:06,280 --> 00:13:09,690
So it cost \$0.20 roundtrip.

196
00:13:09,690 --> 00:13:13,050
And for the family, that
was \$0.80 roundtrip.

197
00:13:13,050 --> 00:13:14,910
And when we were
invited for dinner,

198
00:13:14,910 --> 00:13:17,380
I remember that one time
when my father said,

199

00:13:17,380 --> 00:13:20,590

it's cheaper for us to
eat at home than to go to,

200

00:13:20,590 --> 00:13:23,850

and he said there's no
money to go to Brooklyn.

201

00:13:23,850 --> 00:13:27,940

I mean, that's the kind of-
we couldn't afford the \$0.80

202

00:13:27,940 --> 00:13:30,990

roundtrip for a family
to go to Brooklyn.

203

00:13:30,990 --> 00:13:34,840

And \$0.80 less than what it
would cost us to eat at home.

204

00:13:34,840 --> 00:13:36,870

So he said, you go.

205

00:13:36,870 --> 00:13:38,310

Did you?

206

00:13:38,310 --> 00:13:39,150

I don't know.

207

00:13:39,150 --> 00:13:40,140

I mean, I was--

208

00:13:40,140 --> 00:13:44,520

in the beginning, I
was making \$12 a week.

209

00:13:44,520 --> 00:13:47,220

210

00:13:47,220 --> 00:13:50,820

And it cost me--

211
00:13:50,820 --> 00:13:57,030
I assessed myself \$1 a day for
food and it cost me \$4 a week

212
00:13:57,030 --> 00:13:59,730
for my room.

213
00:13:59,730 --> 00:14:02,580
And that's \$10.

214
00:14:02,580 --> 00:14:04,770
Then I had to go buy
the transportation.

215
00:14:04,770 --> 00:14:06,690
I mean, there just wasn't
anything left over.

216
00:14:06,690 --> 00:14:08,700
Then, we started working
overtime, of course,

217
00:14:08,700 --> 00:14:10,650
during the war.

218
00:14:10,650 --> 00:14:15,080
And I got a nickel increase
every three months.

219
00:14:15,080 --> 00:14:18,340
Well, how did you and
Suzanne get together?

220
00:14:18,340 --> 00:14:22,230
Oh, we knew-- she knew
that I was in transit.

221
00:14:22,230 --> 00:14:27,300
And she read the reports
in the newspaper.

222

00:14:27,300 --> 00:14:29,880

They always tell you
what ships arrived when.

223

00:14:29,880 --> 00:14:33,180

224

00:14:33,180 --> 00:14:36,480

She said that you
couldn't come to the boat.

225

00:14:36,480 --> 00:14:38,100

Hard to believe.

226

00:14:38,100 --> 00:14:41,220

That's why I told you anyway.

227

00:14:41,220 --> 00:14:47,280

But I don't recall
exactly, but she probably

228

00:14:47,280 --> 00:14:53,110
does, how many days transpired,
maybe telephone, but, I mean,

229

00:14:53,110 --> 00:14:56,580

whether it was the next day
or the day after, or whatever.

230

00:14:56,580 --> 00:15:02,010

But we were certainly both
anxiously looking forward

231

00:15:02,010 --> 00:15:02,970

to being together.

232

00:15:02,970 --> 00:15:07,170

233

00:15:07,170 --> 00:15:10,965

But, I mean, we
didn't get married

234

00:15:10,965 --> 00:15:16,470

till-- we didn't get engaged
till two years later.

235

00:15:16,470 --> 00:15:19,290

After all, when I came
over here I was 18.

236

00:15:19,290 --> 00:15:24,390

And so I don't-- at that
time, certainly didn't think

237

00:15:24,390 --> 00:15:29,520

of anything as
permanent as all that.

238

00:15:29,520 --> 00:15:33,690

Did you have much opportunity
to get together after you

239

00:15:33,690 --> 00:15:35,500

got settled in New York?

240

00:15:35,500 --> 00:15:36,000

Oh.

241

00:15:36,000 --> 00:15:36,708

Yeah, yeah, yeah.

242

00:15:36,708 --> 00:15:40,590

I mean, maybe not
the very first year.

243

00:15:40,590 --> 00:15:47,190

But it-- I would say that in--

244

00:15:47,190 --> 00:15:54,870

certainly in the second year
of our American sojourn here,

245

00:15:54,870 --> 00:16:02,730

our romance gained momentum

and we spent weekends.

246

00:16:02,730 --> 00:16:06,330

I know that when
I lived in Newark,

247

00:16:06,330 --> 00:16:12,060

I spent every
weekend in New York

248

00:16:12,060 --> 00:16:14,047

because my parents lived here.

249

00:16:14,047 --> 00:16:14,880

So either we would--

250

00:16:14,880 --> 00:16:16,305

I think I always took turns.

251

00:16:16,305 --> 00:16:19,410

Either I would Saturday nights
spend with Suzanne and Sunday

252

00:16:19,410 --> 00:16:22,830

with my parents or vise versa.

253

00:16:22,830 --> 00:16:25,170

And then she'd come
up to my parents.

254

00:16:25,170 --> 00:16:34,800

And until a little bit
later when we needed--

255

00:16:34,800 --> 00:16:36,540

you know, we were aliens.

256

00:16:36,540 --> 00:16:39,630

So we needed travel
permit to travel out

257

00:16:39,630 --> 00:16:44,010

of the city as aliens.

258

00:16:44,010 --> 00:16:52,140

And New York considered
Newark, New Jersey

259

00:16:52,140 --> 00:16:56,430

to be part of the greater
metropolitan area.

260

00:16:56,430 --> 00:17:02,250

But Newark did not consider
New York to be part of Newark.

261

00:17:02,250 --> 00:17:06,180

So that meant that I
needed a travel permit

262

00:17:06,180 --> 00:17:10,290

to go to New York,
but she didn't

263

00:17:10,290 --> 00:17:13,410

need to travel permit
to come to Newark.

264

00:17:13,410 --> 00:17:16,500

So, first of all,
it was big headache.

265

00:17:16,500 --> 00:17:18,119

I always had to travel--

266

00:17:18,119 --> 00:17:19,980

get a travel permit
from Trenton.

267

00:17:19,980 --> 00:17:21,720

Then, I finally
prevailed on them

268

00:17:21,720 --> 00:17:24,680

to give me to have a permit

that would last a month,

269

00:17:24,680 --> 00:17:29,310

or three months,
whatever extended period.

270

00:17:29,310 --> 00:17:30,960

But then once it didn't come.

271

00:17:30,960 --> 00:17:34,350

So she came over to
visit me for the weekend.

272

00:17:34,350 --> 00:17:36,660

Because we were still
terribly, terribly

273

00:17:36,660 --> 00:17:39,150

concerned about the
letter of the law.

274

00:17:39,150 --> 00:17:45,750

Probably nobody would have ever
caught us or bothered, but no.

275

00:17:45,750 --> 00:17:51,090

The only time I broke the
law was on our honeymoon.

276

00:17:51,090 --> 00:17:54,750

Because the travel permit
never arrived on time

277

00:17:54,750 --> 00:17:56,130

for our wedding day.

278

00:17:56,130 --> 00:17:59,190

So I never told
her till afterwards

279

00:17:59,190 --> 00:18:02,130

that we traveled
on our honeymoon

280
00:18:02,130 --> 00:18:05,190
to Ellenville, New York
without a travel permit.

281
00:18:05,190 --> 00:18:06,780
And nobody caught us.

282
00:18:06,780 --> 00:18:10,330

283
00:18:10,330 --> 00:18:12,670
I didn't realize you needed
a travel permit from city

284
00:18:12,670 --> 00:18:13,480
to city.

285
00:18:13,480 --> 00:18:15,760
Yeah.

286
00:18:15,760 --> 00:18:20,765
So those are some of the funny
incidences of that period.

287
00:18:20,765 --> 00:18:25,010

288
00:18:25,010 --> 00:18:27,800
How did your
parents adjust, say,

289
00:18:27,800 --> 00:18:29,900
from an emotional point of view?

290
00:18:29,900 --> 00:18:35,210

291
00:18:35,210 --> 00:18:41,650
My father and my mother
were very different

292

00:18:41,650 --> 00:18:45,740
in their emotional constitution.

293

00:18:45,740 --> 00:18:49,410
First of all, they were
different characters,

294

00:18:49,410 --> 00:18:50,160
different people.

295

00:18:50,160 --> 00:18:53,870
Secondly, my father
had the profession.

296

00:18:53,870 --> 00:19:01,760
So his concerns were directed
towards all different areas.

297

00:19:01,760 --> 00:19:06,680
I mean, whether it was studying
for the exam, and all that,

298

00:19:06,680 --> 00:19:11,300
or whether later on was
his professional concerns,

299

00:19:11,300 --> 00:19:14,990
it takes up a lot of
your psychic energy.

300

00:19:14,990 --> 00:19:17,810
If somebody sits
home day in, day out,

301

00:19:17,810 --> 00:19:24,530
albeit stitching away
on an embroidery,

302

00:19:24,530 --> 00:19:33,170
the only thing you think about
is politics, the hardships,

303

00:19:33,170 --> 00:19:35,540
your own and everybody else's.

304
00:19:35,540 --> 00:19:38,450
So completely different.

305
00:19:38,450 --> 00:19:43,160
My mother was
absolutely paranoid

306
00:19:43,160 --> 00:19:45,200
when it came to
listening to the radio.

307
00:19:45,200 --> 00:19:49,640
She will-- she would never
listen to a news broadcast.

308
00:19:49,640 --> 00:19:54,710
She was absolutely
hysterical about news.

309
00:19:54,710 --> 00:19:57,530
As soon as somebody
turned the news on,

310
00:19:57,530 --> 00:19:59,720
she would run out of the room.

311
00:19:59,720 --> 00:20:03,530
She just could not
confront reality

312
00:20:03,530 --> 00:20:07,520
when it came to
politics and the war.

313
00:20:07,520 --> 00:20:15,660
I mean, that was completely
impossible for her to--

314
00:20:15,660 --> 00:20:18,980
So, she was very--

315
00:20:18,980 --> 00:20:27,440
I mean, she was
very, very volatile.

316
00:20:27,440 --> 00:20:33,750
She never had a breakdown or
so, but she was very sensitive.

317
00:20:33,750 --> 00:20:38,475
She was very easy
crying spells and so on.

318
00:20:38,475 --> 00:20:40,100
Now, of course, she
went through a lot.

319
00:20:40,100 --> 00:20:44,900
But my father's
profession, I think,

320
00:20:44,900 --> 00:20:46,880
gave him-- first of
all, as a surgeon

321
00:20:46,880 --> 00:20:52,470
you see a lot of suffering
already in your line of work.

322
00:20:52,470 --> 00:20:55,400
So I think maybe that
steels you a bit.

323
00:20:55,400 --> 00:20:56,180
I don't know.

324
00:20:56,180 --> 00:20:59,100
I mean, I can't
psychoanalyze my father.

325
00:20:59,100 --> 00:21:02,510
I can just go by the symptoms.

326

00:21:02,510 --> 00:21:07,310

I mean, he-- as I said, he
was completely unemotional.

327

00:21:07,310 --> 00:21:11,750

He never-- I told
you the time I came

328

00:21:11,750 --> 00:21:15,380

home from the police
station was the one time

329

00:21:15,380 --> 00:21:17,760

I ever saw him cry.

330

00:21:17,760 --> 00:21:23,090

And he never showed
any affection.

331

00:21:23,090 --> 00:21:26,390

I never saw him kiss my
mother except for once.

332

00:21:26,390 --> 00:21:27,620

I mean, this was all done--

333

00:21:27,620 --> 00:21:31,070

I'm sure it was done, but
it wasn't done in public.

334

00:21:31,070 --> 00:21:34,190

I mean, he was a very,
very reserved fellow.

335

00:21:34,190 --> 00:21:38,430

He never talked about
his business fortunes,

336

00:21:38,430 --> 00:21:41,270

or whether he had a good
week, or a bad week,

337

00:21:41,270 --> 00:21:42,830
or a good month, or a bad month.

338
00:21:42,830 --> 00:21:45,330
My father-in-law was
all different that way.

339
00:21:45,330 --> 00:21:47,840
But my father was
terribly reserved.

340
00:21:47,840 --> 00:21:51,770
He would not mix
family with business.

341
00:21:51,770 --> 00:21:55,160
He'd never talk
business with family.

342
00:21:55,160 --> 00:21:58,640
And he probably never talked
family with his patients.

343
00:21:58,640 --> 00:22:01,220
I mean, if somebody would have
said to him in the office,

344
00:22:01,220 --> 00:22:04,130
"how is your wife?" he
probably would have fainted.

345
00:22:04,130 --> 00:22:07,730
But my mother was very much--

346
00:22:07,730 --> 00:22:11,690
first of all, she was very much
involved with singing, and art,

347
00:22:11,690 --> 00:22:13,850
and painting, and embroidery.

348
00:22:13,850 --> 00:22:17,850
I mean, after she didn't have

to do it for a living anymore,

349

00:22:17,850 --> 00:22:23,180
she still did a lot of painting,
and made some beautiful dolls,

350

00:22:23,180 --> 00:22:25,020
and things like that.

351

00:22:25,020 --> 00:22:28,560
So she loved to do it,
sewing for her grandchildren

352

00:22:28,560 --> 00:22:29,060
and so on.

353

00:22:29,060 --> 00:22:34,010
So she loved to
do manual things.

354

00:22:34,010 --> 00:22:39,770
But she was not a very--

355

00:22:39,770 --> 00:22:41,930
I mean, intellectual,
I wouldn't say that.

356

00:22:41,930 --> 00:22:47,930
She read a lot, but she was
not terribly sophisticated.

357

00:22:47,930 --> 00:22:54,300

358

00:22:54,300 --> 00:22:58,530
But they had a very
good relationship.

359

00:22:58,530 --> 00:23:00,640
It's just it was
completely different.

360

00:23:00,640 --> 00:23:03,150

I mean, my father, certainly
when I was a child,

361

00:23:03,150 --> 00:23:10,020

my father was the unquestioned
boss of the family.

362

00:23:10,020 --> 00:23:14,160

There was no sharing
of authority.

363

00:23:14,160 --> 00:23:19,050

Only once I remember that
my mother couldn't prevail

364

00:23:19,050 --> 00:23:24,870

and she had to call my father
to adjudicate the situation.

365

00:23:24,870 --> 00:23:28,950

That was a higher authority.

366

00:23:28,950 --> 00:23:32,580

I mean, there was no
question about who was--

367

00:23:32,580 --> 00:23:36,270

and he wasn't bossy, but it's
more that she was submissive

368

00:23:36,270 --> 00:23:37,470

than it was he was bossy.

369

00:23:37,470 --> 00:23:38,805

I never heard him be bossy.

370

00:23:38,805 --> 00:23:43,270

371

00:23:43,270 --> 00:23:47,560

It's just his word was
respected, unquestioned and

372
00:23:47,560 --> 00:23:49,000
respected.

373
00:23:49,000 --> 00:23:51,200
And he never raised
his voice once.

374
00:23:51,200 --> 00:23:54,980
As far as I can remember,
all my life I never heard him

375
00:23:54,980 --> 00:23:56,440
raise his voice.

376
00:23:56,440 --> 00:23:59,740
He just said something
very quietly.

377
00:23:59,740 --> 00:24:02,500
I know that-- and
Sue could always

378
00:24:02,500 --> 00:24:05,380
tell you-- when he had
a collision in New York

379
00:24:05,380 --> 00:24:07,300
with a taxi driver.

380
00:24:07,300 --> 00:24:09,850
I don't even know
whose fault it was.

381
00:24:09,850 --> 00:24:13,690
The taxi driver came out
of the taxi, he waved,

382
00:24:13,690 --> 00:24:15,730
and then he ranted.

383
00:24:15,730 --> 00:24:19,390

And my father said, "Could
you please give me your card?"

384
00:24:19,390 --> 00:24:21,970
And he said, here's my card.

385
00:24:21,970 --> 00:24:23,770
If you don't have
yours, it's all right.

386
00:24:23,770 --> 00:24:26,980
When you quiet down,
give me a call.

387
00:24:26,980 --> 00:24:28,960
And then he walked away.

388
00:24:28,960 --> 00:24:31,360
And the guy called him
up in the afternoon

389
00:24:31,360 --> 00:24:34,420
and apologized all over himself.

390
00:24:34,420 --> 00:24:35,770
But that's the way he was.

391
00:24:35,770 --> 00:24:37,720
He would never yell.

392
00:24:37,720 --> 00:24:41,590
He would never stoop down to
the level of somebody else.

393
00:24:41,590 --> 00:24:44,560
He was very formal,
very reserved.

394
00:24:44,560 --> 00:24:48,340
If Sue came calling or
anybody came calling, he said,

395

00:24:48,340 --> 00:24:51,200
well, don't open the door yet,
I have to put my jacket on.

396
00:24:51,200 --> 00:24:55,180
I want to-- and that was
his future daughter-in-law.

397
00:24:55,180 --> 00:24:57,970

398
00:24:57,970 --> 00:25:04,240
So he was very much
different from my father.

399
00:25:04,240 --> 00:25:05,890
But that wasn't your
question, was it?

400
00:25:05,890 --> 00:25:06,540
That was a good answer.

401
00:25:06,540 --> 00:25:07,040
I just got--

402
00:25:07,040 --> 00:25:07,900
The question--

403
00:25:07,900 --> 00:25:09,055
--on rambling.

404
00:25:09,055 --> 00:25:10,180
--how was their adjustment?

405
00:25:10,180 --> 00:25:10,680
Yeah.

406
00:25:10,680 --> 00:25:13,270

407
00:25:13,270 --> 00:25:17,440
Of course, it was--

408
00:25:17,440 --> 00:25:20,440

409
00:25:20,440 --> 00:25:26,270
they had-- they finally
were able to work--

410
00:25:26,270 --> 00:25:29,320
or my father was finally
able to work himself back

411
00:25:29,320 --> 00:25:30,490
into his profession.

412
00:25:30,490 --> 00:25:36,190
And he had an income that
sustained them comfortably, not

413
00:25:36,190 --> 00:25:38,840
luxuriously, but comfortably.

414
00:25:38,840 --> 00:25:41,830
Unfortunately, they
never lived long enough

415
00:25:41,830 --> 00:25:45,430
to enjoy some of the--

416
00:25:45,430 --> 00:25:47,260
some of the fruit
that they were--

417
00:25:47,260 --> 00:25:49,180
they traveled a little
bit on vacations,

418
00:25:49,180 --> 00:25:53,135
here to the Catskills or
whatever, but never overseas

419
00:25:53,135 --> 00:25:54,550

or some of these.

420

00:25:54,550 --> 00:25:56,410

My mother died very early.

421

00:25:56,410 --> 00:26:00,100

422

00:26:00,100 --> 00:26:06,610

But they survived the war
and they had a, as I said,

423

00:26:06,610 --> 00:26:08,980

comfortable life.

424

00:26:08,980 --> 00:26:13,490

Did they make social
connections in New York?

425

00:26:13,490 --> 00:28:00,000