

- 1 GVP 54, Nora Sheridan
- 2 D: So, can you tell me a little bit about yourself?
- 3 N: My name is Nora Sheridan. [...] I had four children, [until my second oldest son; Rainier
4 Sheridan who] was murdered on February 16th, 2017. I have four grandchildren, two
5 [granddaughters by my daughter and two grandsons by my son, Rainier.] [...] [Rainier's oldest
6 son] just turned eighteen and [his youngest son] will be [...] ten [years old] in December.
- 7 D: Wow, what a blessing. How old are you?
- 8 N: I'll be sixty on—
- 9 D: Are you serious?!
- 10 N: —October 18th. Yeah.
- 11 D: Oh my gosh, you don't look sixty.
- 12 N: But look at the hair.
- 13 D: That don't mean nothing, I know kids with grey hair.
- 14 N: That's true.
- 15 D: And what race are you?
- 16 N: African American.
- 17 D: And your gender?
- 18 N: Female.
- 19 D: What neighborhood or area of, in Milwaukee do you live?
- 20 N: I live in Capitol Heights [...].
- 21 D: How long have you lived here?
- 22 N: As of, April [it will make] eleven years.
- 23 D: Okay. Do you remember how your story began?

24 N: Yes, [...] [I remember it was a Sunday Afternoon on the week Rainier was murdered. I just
25 got home from church and my left side began to hurt. I laid down but the pain kept getting
26 worse.] [...] The pain [got] so intense [...] that Rainier [had to take] me to the [...] emergency. [I
27 remember when we got there, he realized how much pain I was in that he begun to look
28 concerned. Then he said he couldn't bear to see me die and that he'd rather die before me. When
29 they called us into the exam room, his spirits were lifted and he began] joking and laughing and
30 just having fun with the doctor, you know? [The next thing I remember is him leaving after my
31 daughter arrived.] I took off of work [that week and didn't go back] until that Thursday. [I
32 should have stayed home because I still hadn't fully recovered.] But I went in anyway because I
33 [couldn't afford to lose any more] money. [...] I didn't see him that morning [before going to
34 work], but I heard him stirring around the night before. [...] While at work [I didn't realize I was
35 getting a lot of phone calls because while you're working] you can't have your phone out.
36 D: Okay.

37 N: [I check my phone around] 3PM [...] and I saw that my sister had called. [I also] saw a
38 couple of unfamiliar phone numbers on my call log. [Therefore] I called my sister and [when she
39 answered she] sound frantic. And she said, "Nora, you need to come home because something
40 happened to Rainier." She said, "The, the detectives have been trying to get in contact with you
41 and you need to call them immediately before you leave." [Therefore] I call the detective and
42 [he] said that [he] needed me to come home to give them permission to enter my home [because
43 something happened to my son. While driving home it seemed as though it was] a long drive.
44 And I [remembered the last time I got] a family emergency [call]. I panicked and [began] driving
45 recklessly. So, I [told myself] to stay calm and be patient, and I drove home [safely.] [...] When I
46 got to my block, I noticed [...] the whole block [...] taped off with yellow tape [and I couldn't

47 enter through the alley to park my car in the garage neither could I] come through my street. [I
48 had to drive around the block west of my house and wasn't allowed to walk through my block
49 until the police saw me and escorted me through the tape. As he escorted me through the tape he
50 told me I couldn't enter my house.] Oh, it was so foggy [...] moist and cold [outside]. [...] When
51 I pulled the tape over my head and walked through it seemed like I was walking for miles and
52 miles. [It felt like I was standing in the middle of the earth while the world evolved around me.]
53 [...] As I'm walking [towards] the house, I can just [...] see it [as if it were happening] today,
54 [my emotions started flooding in]. [I became angry because I saw] the police were [coming and]
55 going in and out the house [without my permission]. There [were] maybe five [or] six of them
56 [...] walking in [and out] the house and [when] they all [saw me they stopped and] looked at me.
57 [When the police officer proceeded to escort me to the detective's car I became numb and scared
58 at the same time and then he] told me, "Ma'am you can't go in the house, but the detective is
59 here and he wants to talk to you." So, I get [into the detective's] car and I don't remember
60 exactly what was his first words, but all I remember him saying is, "Something happened to your
61 son. And it happened in the backyard [in] the driveway. And when we came on the scene, his car
62 door was open and there was blood in the driveway." [There were a string of robberies down the
63 street from you and we believe it trickled up to your house and it looks like they probably was
64 trying to steal his car.] So, I'm looking at him, like, in disbelief, like, "Okay, what happened?
65 Come on, finish telling me." So, then he said, "He's been shot. They shot him three times in the
66 back. He called 911 and when we got [...] the house—" He said, "Your house is intact, but when
67 we [...] we found him in the living room." (pause) They found him in the living room and so, he
68 said, "In order for us to prove that he's dead, we would have [...] to call [the] coroner's office
69 [and you will need to identify if he is your son]." So, [he] called the coroner's office. Now, [...]

70 mind you, when I found out [about what occurred it was over three hours later. The reason why I
71 knew that is because] when I looked at that call log they didn't start calling me until [after] 3PM
72 [however, the murder occurred after 12PM.] And I don't give off until 5:30. So, I'm like why
73 [did] they take so long to call me? [...] So, when [the detective] said [we're] going to have to call
74 the coroner's office so they can [...] send [a picture] of him [so I could identify him I sunk in my
75 seat. When they showed me a picture of him] on the coroner's table [his eyes were still opened
76 and] he looked like he was ready to live. [...] He had shaved and [was ready to get his day
77 started.] [...] Even though he started [in his late 30's] in becoming a man, he really [was proving
78 himself to be a man of integrity and] a dedicated father [which he always have been a dedicated
79 father because] he really loved his boys. [...] He just looked so beautiful [and handsome] when
80 they [showed me his] picture. So, [...] after he showed me the picture [...] he said, "Looks like
81 he was getting ready for work [because there was a lunch bag on the counter]." [...] [Then he
82 said] there was food [cooking] on the stove. [...] And I said, "It [sounds] like he was preparing
83 his lunch for work." (pause) Oh my God. And, (pause) so, I asked [...] "Can I go see him?" [His
84 reply was that,] "We have been trying to contact [you and when we couldn't we contacted] your
85 sister. And I think your sister had went out there to [Froedtert to see him]." So, they sent him to
86 Froedtert and then he expired there, at Froedtert. So, they had to take him to the coroner's office
87 right away [and] there's no need for you to go there because (pause) they had started working on
88 him already." So, how do you start working on somebody from, I think it was after twelve.
89 Twelve to probably about four thirty.

90 D: AM?

91 N: PM. 12 PM to 4 PM. So, I'm like, so, "Why didn't y'all call me? You're in and out my house,
92 you see my mail, my mail is on the table, and you wind up calling my sister first. Well, how did
93 you wind up going over to my sister's house?" I didn't understand that.

94 D: What did they say?

95 N: [...] I don't ever think he really gave me a direct answer. (pause) So, when they finally left
96 and I came in the house, he was right everything [in the house] was intact except for the room
97 that he slept in. And [boy did] he used to keep that room junky. (laughter) But he always said I
98 was like a detective, when I see [things] that's not sitting in its proper place, I [always] know
99 somebody had moved something. I don't care how junky it was.

100 D: Right.

101 N: And that's how it was in his room. He had just bought [an] Apple computer [and] a chair [...]
102 to sit at his [desk]. But everything else was just like, in disarray, clothes and stuff everywhere.
103 [...] The chair that he bought was flipped over. The fan that he had in there was flipped upside-
104 down by the [reclining] chair. Looking at the door, the door had [black] scuff marks on it [as if
105 someone's shoe skidded across it or kicked it]. And [...] the bottom hinge was almost loose. [...]
106 The door looked like somebody [...] kicked it so hard [until] the panel on the door was loose at
107 the bottom [...]. [Therefore] I couldn't close [it]. I had to fix the hinge. And then [I saw
108 something really strange, the binder he wrote his lyrics in was laying neatly at the edge of his
109 bed wide opened. He wrote a lot and] wanted to become a rapper. [...] And so, there was his,
110 not a binder, notebook. A notebook on the bed and I kid you not, it described that [the police was
111 trying to kill him.]. Yeah. And then, looking at the other pages, the other pages talked about how
112 people [hated] him and that he have to, I can't remember word from word [...] but it talked about
113 how he have to be more careful and [...] how they [talked] about killing him and stuff.

114 D: And it never said why?

115 N: [No] but I kind of [suspected] why. [...] He had befriended a female at work [who was being
116 abused by her former boyfriend]. And because [Rainier] felt sorry for her, [he tried to save her].
117 He [...] always [had been an advocate for protecting females from] domestic violence.

118 D: Okay.

119 N: Did I say that right? So, [...] he always run into females who are being abused by their
120 significant other. So, he befriended this lady at work. The job that he landed, making really good
121 money. [...] One night [while him and the abused female were at lunch] sitting in the car talking
122 and [her] ex, walked up on 'em. Yes. And he asked her [...] what were they doing? And he said,
123 [...] he came home and told me this and he said that [...] he assured the guy [there's nothing
124 going on with them and] they're just friends. [...] He said the guy seemed like he [believed
125 Rainier and that they were cool]. Well, come to find out that Christmas, 2016, he brought [the
126 female] over [to my house!] Yes. He brought her over, introduced her to me, introduced her to
127 his sons. [In addition, he hid her for a couple days in my basement without my knowledge! After
128 Rainier was murdered] And later on, I found out that he paid for [her] to get away from [him],
129 [by setting] her up in a hotel [which from my understanding,] she promised to pay him back and
130 she didn't. [...] So, looking at his call log, now we're on a family plan [...] you can see that he
131 called her [after 11AM]. She must [not have answered] because [the length of the call was a few
132 seconds]. She called him back [a few minutes later and the length of the call] was a couple of
133 minutes. She called back [several more times however, the length of those calls were at zero.]
134 So, that [lets] me know he probably was [upset] and [...] was getting ready for work and he
135 didn't have time for that because [he] couldn't lose his job. [...] He was really getting himself
136 together. He was looking into buying a house [and] a car [because] he wanted to be able to have

137 [a reliable care and have] his own place so his boys [could] come [over] and stay with him. You
138 know, for the weekend or whatever. So, [...] we believe that the guy came and did that or.

139 D: She.

140 N: There are so many scenarios [on what happened]. But I'ma tell you this much, I requested for
141 his stuff to be returned to me. I requested [...] his toxicology report. I requested the 911 [...] transcript.
142 I couldn't get the 911 transcript. I even asked for it just recently and they said they
143 can't because [...] the case is still open. They finally sent the toxicology report, the toxicology
144 report said that he was shot twice in the back and one in the buttocks, when I was told he was
145 shot [three times] in the back. Well, maybe that's what they meant. Then they said, it said he had
146 a bruise, abrasions on his forehead and on his arm. When I got his phone, the phone was
147 demolished and put into a paper bag. I asked, "Why was the phone shattered into tiny pieces?"
148 And they said, "Because we were trying to get the pin number."

149 D: That don't mean why it was shattered.

150 N: I was told there was blood [...] in the driveway. There was no blood on the driveway.

151 D: It happened in the house.

152 N: I was told that there was blood in the living room. [There was] no blood in the living room.
153 When I [...] went into the kitchen at, it just didn't look right. It didn't feel right. It felt really
154 eerie. [The reason being is] because there was [...] a coat hanger [...] sticking out the recycling
155 bin. Why was this coat hanger sticking out the recycling bin? So, then it dawned on me they said
156 that he could've been trying to get into his car, his car was locked. Okay, if his car was locked,
157 why is the door open? Why did you tell me that the door is open? [This whole story is starting
158 to really not add up. I told the detective that I have] a surveillance camera, but the surveillance
159 camera does not show through the whole house, it just shows [activity] in the living room. [...]

160 When I first saw the surveillance camera, [...] my nephew [and I] sat [at my] computer and [we]
161 saw [a police officer] standing at the entrance door of the living room, he walks in. [You can
162 clearly see] he has his gun drawn right at the entrance, but as he stepped into the living room, he
163 puts the gun in his holster. He walks to the [front] door [leading to the outside and then] he opens
164 the door. He [sticks his head] out the door really quick, [for] like [a] split-second, closes the
165 door, pull his gun back out, and then walks back to the back of the house.[My nephew and I
166 asked each other] “What does that mean?”

167 D: Yeah, what does that mean?

168 N: So, when I said, I have a surveillance camera, they said, “Oh, you got a surveillance camera?”
169 And I said, “Yes.” So, later on, like a couple hours later we go, you know, after everything slows
170 down, me and my nephew goes back and look at it [again]. Then it shows the officer standing at
171 the closet door by the front door. [It was] edited. (laughter)

172 D: Oh no, you shouldn't've said nothing. They came in and edited it.

173 N: [...] I don't know. [We both knew what we saw the first time. In addition,] I have my circuit
174 breaker [and it's housed] in [a] cabinet [in the basement]. It's [...] normally closed [however],
175 that was standing wide open [when I went down the basement to see if everything was intact.]
176 (pause) So, I'm, I'm.

177 D: Girl.

178 N: So, now, we're [feeling confused] you know. [Because as time went by we start thinking,]
179 “Okay, we think that this girl did it. We think this girl's boyfriend did it.” They didn't take heed
180 to that until months later, [...] until around October [or] November. Now [mind you] this
181 happened in February. [...] I had to keep calling to find [if they check to see if she was involved
182 and] to get a update. And so, they finally said, “Ms. Sheridan we finally [...] think that what you

183 told us in the beginning is true. Do you know anyone that has this particular car?" I don't know
184 what kind of car it was, [an] Audi or a BMW or something navy blue or something. [The
185 detective asked] "Do you know anyone with a car like that?" And I'm like, "No." [He said,]
186 "Well, we went to South Bend, Indiana and we met the girl, and the girl [...] she cooperated.
187 And so, we went by her boyfriends, her ex-boyfriends house and, and t[he does have a gun] but
188 the gun is in the mom's possession. And the mom has a felony, but [...] we don't have enough
189 evidence to—" (pause)

190 D: To take the gun?

191 N: To arrest him [...]. Now, [previously the detective told me] they don't know what type of gun
192 it was. I'm [thinking], I watch a lot of detective movies.

193 D: (inaudible)

194 N: So, [...] he's been shot and what I was told that when he was shot, that the bullet [...] entered
195 [in his body], but didn't exit [...]. So, if it didn't exit his body, [shouldn't the coroner] be able to
196 pull the bullet out and determine what type of firearm [it] was? Okay, so then when I get the
197 toxicology report, it tells what kind of firearm it was. And it said a rifle. But then, he's telling me
198 it's a gun. Nothing is adding up. The [detective said] [his] mama has several guns and it was in
199 her purse. I'm like, "This stuff is not adding up." Okay, and if you talk to this girl why you wait
200 so late to [contact her and her]?

201 D: Right.

202 N: Why you waste so many months?

203 D: Right.

204 N: So, none of this is adding up. And then what's [...] really, really [painful and wrong that
205 someone took Rainier's] life is that [he's been taken away from his] sons. Oh my God, when I

206 finally went and got them [and brought them over to my house...] Their dad used [to hang out]
207 down in the basement, [played his video games and write. When the boys came over] they'd play
208 games [together for hours. Rainier even] had a train track set up [for the youngest son and they
209 would play that together. But when they got to my house...] they busted [through] the door, and
210 then they both shot [straight] down the basement [stairs] [...] expecting their dad to be
211 downstairs. [That's what they always did when they came over. When they realized that their
212 dad was not down there and they will never see him again, they were devastated.] And then the
213 oldest one let me have it. [...] All his emotions came out in this text message talking about [how]
214 [...] he need his dad to help him be a man.

215 D: Aww.

216 N: And that [...] he really doesn't have anybody to help him. And he doesn't really trust [any
217 other man] to help him to walk through that threshold on being a man, aw it just broke my heart!

218 D: Oh my God.

219 N: It broke my heart so bad [and I felt like I was in despair because I couldn't help him.] Some
220 of the things that he said [was really deep and personal], but you know, I can't really go into
221 details on what he said. But that's the thing that really stuck out.

222 D: Oh my gosh.

223 N: And the, the youngest one, I had to hear him break down and say "Why?" Why did that
224 happen to his daddy? It's just.

225 D: Oh my gosh. (pause) How has this experience, well you said how it affected your family. Do
226 you think this situation could've been avoided?

227 N: I don't know. I don't know with so many of our African American men being killed every
228 day, I really can't say.

229 D: And so, no one's been caught as of yet.

230 N: No.

231 D: What would you do to eliminate or lower gun violence?

232 N: I [think] that's really a good question. [...] I would [...] continue to be a advocate for
233 reducing that by [reaching out to my legislators on gun control,] continue supporting mothers
234 who have sons [and daughters that were victims of gun violence, participating in peaceful protest
235 against gun violence, become more involved in my community on building awareness on
236 economic disparities, mental illness, and domestic violence.] I would love to [see], (pause) I
237 think I talked to you about this. [...] All the grassroots [that are against gun violence] which I
238 think that [is] what [is] happening now, [like Mothers, Fathers and anyone who is willing to
239 come together and unite as one.] I think that we could be more powerful [if we would come
240 together in numbers].

241 D: I agree.

242 N: [Along] with that, [we need to seriously] talk about resources for our African American
243 males. You know, there's resources [and nonprofit organizations out there they could benefit
244 from.] Running Rebels, [Fatherhood Initiative and 211 has a wealth of resources.] I think Reggie
245 Morris [is] doing a fantastic job with the, what is it, Milwaukee Violence Prevention?

246 D: Office of Violence Prevention.

247 N: Yeah, [that's it. In addition] there's a lot of [...] organizations out there [that we need to
248 inform them about.] You know [...] I don't think that our men are lost. I think [they are in
249 despair and just] need to get together [and] collaborate [on the resources that will help them
250 emotionally, socially, and economically. We need to go out into the highways and byways and
251 mee them where they are, even the ones who are] suffering from mental illness [and who are

252 suffering addiction]. We need to reach out to them [by finding solutions to the high
253 unemployment rate, limited transportation that's keeping them from making it out to jobs that
254 pay a decent salary so they can have self-worth and provide for their family. The] bus routes
255 [that have been] eliminated [to the jobs out in Mequon, Ozaukee, etc. need to be addressed.] I
256 think we [all] just need to come together as a community [to address these issues and perhaps we
257 can make a change.] I really do. [Some believe they] can make a better living [by making more
258 money to support their family by selling drugs] Which [causes] harm to our community, [our
259 families and our children and ultimately cause violence, death, and destruction to the people
260 around them.]

261 D: Yes.

262 N: Our people [need to realize] even though that money is lucrative, all money is not good.

263 D: That's true.

264 N: Mhmm. (pause)

265 D: Do you have a photo of him that you'd like that share? He's handsome.

266 N: (laughter) Mhmm. So, you—

267 D: Do you have anything you'd like to say to our elected officials?

268 N: [Yes, what will it take to stop the gun violence? When will we, as people of color, have equal
269 opportunity economically, financially, and socially?] During the march I was kind of angry and
270 there was—

271 D: The Mom's March we just had?

272 N: Yeah. And what's his name, somebody, Reggie Jackson.

273 D: Was he with the Office of Violence Prevention?

274 N: Not Reggie Moore. There was a guy by Reggie Jackson.

275 D: Okay.

276 N: And he [wrote and] article which I thought was really profound. [...] He hit the nail on the
277 head about what is really going on with the African American community.

278 D: Does he write for Urban Milwaukee?

279 N: Yes.

280 D: Okay.

281 N: Is that his name?

282 D: I think so, but I know who you talking about.

283 N: That article was awesome and [an eye opener.] I didn't hear no one talk about it. But it made
284 me [upset] because it made me think about [what] I said to this particular pastor, "Our officials
285 [...] don't care about us." And he said, "I [wouldn't] say that." [...] He said, "Look at Lena
286 Taylor. She's out here. Look at Reggie Moore. He's out here." I said, "[I'm talking about] the
287 people higher up like Tom Barrett."

288 D: He wasn't out there.

289 N: No. Chris Abele.

290 D: He wasn't out there.

291 N: Where was Ashanti Moore? I mean Ashanti.

292 D: Hamilton.

293 N: Hamilton. Where was he at? [...] I could say [...] something positive about Tom Barrett. And
294 some people might [disagree] about this, but I [...] raised my kids in Hillside. And to be totally
295 honest, that was the best time in our life, when we lived in Hillside. We may not have had the
296 money like I did once I started working for the cable company, but we [were] a close-knit

297 family. [...] Tom Barrett was there all the time. [...] I guess because at that time Hillside [was
298 given a] grant [of] so many million dollars to renovate the apartments there. Tom Barrett [and
299 Ricardo Dietz] was there [to do the ribbon cutting when] they build a Boys and Girls Club [there
300 in Hillside]. [...] But now that I look back [...] at it today, [I began to realize that he only came
301 around] when there's something extreme [or news worth going on. For example,] like Sherman
302 Park [unrest] something like that. [...] He's running for mayor again and I don't know [if he
303 should be reelected because it seems as though he doesn't care about people of color unless he's
304 going to get recognition. That is why] I was angry. [...] I think that the top officials even, [down
305 to the alderman in my community is not compassionate enough for people of color.]

306 D: Oh, he was!

307 N: Yeah, Johnson. Who was it? I don't [remember] his name. [It's] on the top of my head, but,
308 Johnson, [...] short [in stature] guy.

309 D: Oh, the one who got shot at.

310 N: Yeah.

311 D: Yeah. Okay.

312 N: Yeah, he was there. He [seemed to be] concerned. But I was kind, and I don't care if you air
313 this, but I was kind of upset with—

314 D: This is a part of the story. (laughter)

315 N: I was upset with—

316 D: They, they going to edit it though.

317 N: Okay. I was upset with him too because, excuse me, that same year that Rainier was
318 murdered, they had a town hall meeting. I went there and when I asked about the crime rate in
319 our neighborhood and how unemployment is on the rise, and, and the middle-income family are

320 in the African American community in my area, I'm quite sure in other areas too, are becoming
321 [extinct. I didn't even get a chance to talk about how] the homeowners in this area [...] has
322 dwindled down and there's a [lots of] renters [in this area now and that the crime rate has
323 increased. For an example,] my garage has been broken into a couple times.

324 D: Oh no.

325 N: And [the shootings and a lot of other crimes] going on around here. And when I tried to
326 address [these issues] he brushed me off.

327 D: He did?

328 N: Yes, he did.

329 D: Oh.

330 N: He brushed me off and so, I was kind of upset and [still is] about that. You know, so, [when] I
331 was [...] that he came out to the, the Mothers March [my perspective about him changed and]
332 made me feel a little better about him. [Nevertheless,] the crime rate is increasing by the day in
333 this neighborhood.

334 D: Well, I'm sorry to hear that.

335 N: Yeah.

336 D: When you drive through it, you wouldn't imagine that.

337 N: Well, yeah [but] it's bad [around here]. You hear gun shots [...] all the time. [Especially] over
338 there by Gene's Supper Club and down through [my] alley. [...] You see syringes [...] laying out
339 in the open [in the neighborhood].

340 D: Oh my God.

341 N: [There's] a bunch of kids [in this neighborhood that goes outside every day to play here and
342 that makes me afraid that they are going to pick one up.] Syringes, [...] garbage, [...] people
343 defecating [...] just out in the open, all behind my garage, and it's just terrible.

344 D: You live that close to Gene's? Is it, is it coming from them? Or where, where are these people
345 coming from?

346 N: [Could be. I have seen some people pull up on my block in the wee hours of the night and
347 morning, either blasting their music or fighting.]

348 D: Oh my God.

349 N: I have no idea. But you know there's, there's some Caucasian people that lives in the
350 neighborhood and they make sure that I'm okay. [We watch out for each other.] They know what
351 happened here and [they know my garage was] broken into. [One year I became the]
352 Neighborhood [Block Watch] Captain, [but] that didn't work out. I [believe they were] kind of
353 disappointed [because] I didn't stick to [it].

354 D: Why didn't you?

355 N: Because there was just so much happening. For one, I'm getting ready to lose the house. [...]
356 I was going through a lot of family crises with my other son. [And] it was just hard [to] get
357 people to be behind you. No one [in the neighborhood] was willing to volunteer to assist me.
358 [...] They just wanted me to do the leg work all by myself.

359 D: Even the family that looks out for you, they weren't willing to assist either?

360 N: No, [because] they said they tried it before and it didn't work out [then].

361 D: Okay.

362 N: So, I don't know.

363 D: And that's how you get Jackson's attention, too. It's with that.

364 N: You mean Johnson?

365 D: Johnson, yeah.

366 N: Yeah.

367 D: I'm sorry, Johnson.

368 N: Yeah, [perhaps that is why he] probably [brushed] me off.

369 D: Because there's no unity, no, no club or anybody behind you.

370 N: Mhmm.

371 D: But still, a squeaking wheel does get oiled, so you still should remain that squeaky wheel.

372 Wow. Wow. (pause) So, when you said between 12 and 4, it sounds like Rainier, did I say that
373 correctly?

374 N: Mhmm.

375 D: Was killed around 12 and then you were notified about 4? Okay.

376 N: It was, it actually was after 3. And I didn't get—

377 D: You were notified.

378 N: I didn't get home until like 4 something.

379 D: Was this in the summertime or the winter?

380 N: It was February 16th.

381 D: Yeah, it was still, so, it was dark when you got home.

382 N: Actually, it was like, dusk.

383 D: Okay, dusk.

384 N: Yeah.

385 D: Okay.

386 N: So.

387 D: Wow. And there's no way for you to recover whatever they did to that camera, to that
388 footage, huh?

389 N: I even had, I think I told you, Frederica from PBS. She came out and did a documentary. [...]
390 Too Many Candles.

391 D: Mhmm, I remember that piece.

392 N: Yeah. She did Too Many Candles. And at that time, [the murder] didn't happen.

393 D: Oh my God.

394 N: Yeah.

395 D: So, why did she include you in the documentary?

396 N: Because my parents was part of the documentary [that PBS] did a long time ago, back in the
397 60s. [When Pretty Soon Runs Out,] [...] I have the documentary. And she reached out. She said,
398 "I wanna do Too Many Candles. Because you lived in the 53206 area at that time."

399 D: Oh, so your parents did.

400 N: Uh-huh. And so, that's how we wound up [...] doing Too Many Candles. [(When I mention
401 to her about the video tape, her photographer tried to retrieve the original version, but was
402 unsuccessful.)] [...] I reached out to her after that happened to [Rainier] and she was blown
403 away.

404 D: Wow.

405 N: It—

406 D: So, what was your piece in Too Many Candles?

407 N: My piece was how it was when we were raised back then in the 60s and 70s. From the 60s to
408 the 70s.

- 409 D: Versus today?
- 410 N: Yeah.
- 411 D: Okay.
- 412 N: Uh-huh.
- 413 D: It's been a long time since I saw that so, I—
- 414 N: Yeah.
- 415 D: —I, I can't remember now. But I remember it.
- 416 N: Yeah.
- 417 D: Everybody was talking about it after it aired.
- 418 N: Yeah, they—
- 419 D: It was a good piece.
- 420 N: [...] They took us back to the neighborhood where [...] Mr. Carter's Drug Store [is] on the
- 421 corner [of 24th and Burleigh].
- 422 D: (inaudible)
- 423 N: Mhmm. And they took us back to [the house that the] housing authority finally found [...] for
- 424 [our] parents [in King Park].
- 425 D: Okay.
- 426 N: And then they took us back to the house that we moved in by Mr. Carter's. And do you know
- 427 each one of those houses are torn down?
- 428 D: What, new houses were built there? Or what?
- 429 N: [They both are] empty lot.
- 430 D: Hmm. (pause) Wow.

431 N: Yeah. All the other houses are standing, but [...] where we [use to live, they both are empty
432 lots.]

433 D: Wow.

434 N: And we thought that was awfully strange.

435 D: I think so too. I don't know what to say about that. (laughter)

436 N: I know.

437 D: Since the death of your son, what have you been doing in honor of him?

438 N: [...] I really feel bad because the first year we had a memorial. And it seemed like after that,
439 the family just split. To be honest [...] I felt abandoned. [...]

440 D: Oh no.

441 N: So, the only one that was really in my corner was my daughter. My daughter and my
442 granddaughters. You know, everyone else is, you know, they, I guess they can't handle the
443 emotions [and trauma it caused.] You know? So, in honor of him, every day I walk [up to his]
444 picture [and kiss it.] Some days [...] I can't look at him, but I [force myself to and I] don't go
445 without a day, without saying something to him.

446 D: Oh, that's beautiful. Also, you're doing a daycare center. Your daycare center business.

447 N: Mhmm. And I named it after him.

448 D: Aw, that's beautiful.

449 N: Mhmm. Mount Rainier Child Development and Learning Center.

450 D: So, how many kids do you have now?

451 N: Right now, I have two.

452 D: Okay.

- 453 N: Because I need to go back to work. I need to go back out in the world. You know? But I'm
454 holding on to it. You know [...] I could say, I'm honoring him in that way.
- 455 D: Yeah, you are.
- 456 N: Yeah.
- 457 D: 'Cause I saw it on the door, that's where I was going to.
- 458 N: Yeah, yeah. (laughter) I'm honoring him in that way. Yeah. And he loved kids. He did.
- 459 D: That's beautiful. That is a honor. Yeah, saw the door, I was like, "Okay." And then when you
460 told me the name, I was like, "Okay!" (laughter) That's why I wanted to ask you that question.
- 461 N: Yeah.
- 462 D: Anything else you'd like to say before I stop the taping?
- 463 N: No, I think that's it.
- 464 D: Okay.