

TRANSCRIPT: Annie DeMartino talking with Eric Goldscheider. Fitchburg, MA, Brownie's Tea & Talk restaurant, February 13, 2007, commencing at 2:50 p.m. (19 pages)

AD: I met Lennice, it was warm, it was a summer's evening, I met Lennice for the first time. My boss told me she was coming out of Leominster Hospital and they brought her over to the halfway house and that was my first time to meet her.

EG: She was coming out of the hospital.

AD: Leominster Hospital.

EG: Leominster Hospital. She had been in Gardner at that point before that?

AD: She was in Gardner many years before that. Leominster, she was in the hospital because she had been brutally raped. That's when I first met her.

EG: So you didn't know her before the crime?

AD: I knew of her through the Herbert Lipton. I knew of all the people who went to the day program. Herbert Lipton has a day program in Leominster. And all the people who where in Gardner and where de... you know, out of the institution, they were living either on their own in apartments and they would do day programs and get their medicines from the psychiatrists and that, so I knew of Lennice through that when I would go over and bring over the paperwork from the house, so she would be in the group.

EG: You went to her apartment?

AD: No no, I used to see her in the day program. She was in a day program.

EG: So she would come and spend her days....

AD: At this place in Leominster...

EG: At this place. And then she would go back home in the evening?

AD: At the day program.

EG: You saw her?

AD: At the day program.

EG: But you never spoke with her.

AD: We all knew... It was funny. There's only so many people lived in each house, so many people that lived in apartments. So when you would go you'd get to look in and you'd get to know them just by saying hello. And Lennice used to smoke, so all the smokers used to be in one area and drinking coffee, so you'd get to observe them but not necessarily speak with them.

EG: Interesting. And did you have any impressions of her at that time?

AD: She was, how would you say it? Lennice was, um, different than the others. She was different. I would say that Lennice was an educated woman, and delusional of grandeur, you know, lovely, walked tall. She walked tall. She walked well. Had definitely good breeding, from very good breeding, I'd say.

EG: And what did her delusions revolve around?

AD: Well she, yea, a lot of her delusions were, aa, President Kennedy was coming to see her, and very high, high powered people were always visiting with her, that kind of delusions

EG: So she would tell stories of the people who would come to see her.

AD: Well, yes, and she would believe the stories. But she also had been a nurse.

EG: She had been a nurse?

AD: In the Army, and highly decorated, I hear.

EG: And you heard that from her, or you heard that from other people?

AD: I heard that from other people.

EG: So, did you know much about her diagnosis at that time?

AD: Well, no. She was at that time that she came to us, the biggest thing that we were concerned was that she was so traumatized.

EG: No, I mean before the crime.

AD: Well, basically most of them had the same diagnosis, it was [inaudible] diagnosis.

EG: So she lived in Leominster but Herbert Lipton was in Fitchburg?

AD: It was in Leominster and Fitchburg.

EG: Oh, I see, so you were working in Leominster?

AD: Leominster and Fitchburg. We had two different departments.

EG: So she could walk from her apartment?

AD: Oh she could walk to her apartment and she could walk to her program. And if she didn't, there was a bus that picked them up everyday.

EG: Is the Leominster office still open?

AD: Yes.

EG: It's still there.

AD: And the one in Fitchburg is closed.

EG: The one in Fitchburg is closed. So it's the same place as it used to be.

AD: It's the same place, only now it's called a different name, but it's the same place.

EG: What's it called?

AD: Community Health Link.

EG: Community Link?

AD: Health Link.

EG: Oh, I see. So basically it is for people who are capable of living at home to come for services.

AD: Yes, and they can decompensate, they go there and they stay over and they work with them to get them back on their meds.

EG: Okay, so tell me about the evening that you met her.

AD: It was a summer evening and she came and Pat, and my partner Patrick Farrell (Sp?), and I were on duty and Carolyn Patton told us that Lennice was coming in and she was going to be getting the back room, which was a private room at the back, because she had been traumatized immensely.

EG: Carolyn Patton was your partner?

AD: My boss. Patrick Farrell was my partner.

EG: Farrell, and is he still around?

AD: No, he died. He died on the table having a heart operation. Young man.

EG: So this would have been mid-July, late July?

AD: It was a summer evening.

EG: A summer evening. Because the crime was, I don't know how long she had been in the hospital. But I believe that she left the hospital towards the end of July.

AD: It had to be, because my husband's birthday was the 14th of July, and the my husband's birthday and come and gone. So it had to be towards the end of July.

EG: So she came to live in the back room?

AD: She came to live at 10 Pleasant Street.

EG: Which is where the Lipton Center was?

AD: They own it. It's a halfway house at the Herbert Lipton Center. Yes, they own it.

EG: It's a residential place.

AD: Yes, it's a residential place.

EG: And what was your relationship with her at that point?

AD: Well, there was no relationship to begin with because the woman was totally traumatized. But I was assigned to her, being the female, and Pat was the male. And she didn't like, she seemed to be very leery of men, totally right from the beginning, she didn't like to have any men around her.

EG: Because of the crime, or is that something....

AD: We're not sure, I know that she didn't like, it took her months and months before she could trust Pat. And Pat was one of the easiest men going, so I would basically just deal with Lennice.

EG: Over a period of months.

AD: Oh, yes, oh yes.

EG: And what was your job description?

AD: Well, my job description, I was an aide, how do they call it? A house mother, house aide. We also were able to dispense medicine and we were also supervised very highly. We had um, we would do the sleepovers, like I would come in at three, I would stay

overnight and I'd leave the next morning. So we were there one week on one week off. So I lived at that house for that week.

EG: You weren't a therapist.

AD: No, no... no, no.

EG: You were an aide.

AD: I was an aide. Dr. Bonner (sp?) was the psychiatrist at the time, and we had the psychologist as well.

EG: What was the name of the psychologist?

AD: The psychologist I believe, I know that Dr. Bonner was number, I mean they had so many different levels of psycholo... Dr. Bonner was her doctor. He was her psychiatrist.

EG: Is he still around, do you know.

AD: No, Dr. Bonner is not around. I don't know where he is. I know where ever he is, he's still practicing.

EG: Do you know his first name?

AD: Oh, no, we only called him Dr. Bonner.

EG: So he was her psychiatrist.

AD: Mmmm [affirmative].

EG: And who was her other doctor?

AD: There were many, many different psychologists and none of them are around. The only person around right now that was there when she was there, and he's still over at Herbert Lipton, is Paul Walker.

EG: Paul Walker.

AD: He's the only one left.

EG: And what was he?

AD: Paul is a therapist.

EG: And he was back then already?

AD: Yea. He was, but I'm not sure if he was her therapist or not, but he was a therapist. And he's still working over there.

EG: So you were basically working one week off one week on. So were you there 24 hours a day the week that you were on?

AD: Oh, yes.

EG: So who took care of your kids?

AD: My husband was sick.

EG: So he was home with the kids.

AD: So when my kids would come home, and he would come home.

EG: So basically, you were there for 24 hours a day.

AD: Well, I would come in, the house closed at 8 in the morning and it opened again at 3 because everybody went to a day program. So during that day was when I'd work at battered women.

EG: I see. So then in the evening you would do the night shift.

AD: And the week I was off was the week I could do my own home thing, and I had taken on a third job.

EG: I see. So tell me what happened.

AD: Lennice slowly but surely, and it was very slow, began to feel a little comfortable. Her nightmares were horrendous. I would hear her screaming and I'd get up. And I know she chain smoked and she loved coffee and she was a diabetic besides. Because we had to worry about her being a diabetic. And she used to cheat and here sugar would go up to over 350 if she cheated so we had to worry about that.

[mail carrier comes into the restaurant during interview and leaves]

She had a sweet tooth. There was a German woman that worked there too, that lived there too, was one of the people, used to make an apple strudel and she used to cheat on that. She was very delusional. We had a young man and the house, Joe was his name, and he was black.

EG: A client.

AD: He was a client and she was afraid of Joe, because he was black. And then she would have nothing to do with Joe. And Joe was also very sick. Everybody at the house

that I had either had bipolar, schizophrenia, manic depressive. Severely. The reason it was called... see they had a quarter way house, a halfway house and at three quarter way house. The halfway house and the three quarter was house was for if you were healthier. But the halfway house, the people at that house were very sick.

EG: And so, describe your relationship with her as it unfolded.

AD: I got to really like her a lot and I knew that she was awfully bright because when she was lucid she was able to talk about the Army, she was able to talk about being a nurse.

EG: How often was she lucid?

AD: On and off. Sometimes she could have good lucid moments, or lucid days.

EG: Did she have insight into her own psychiatric issues.

AD: No, no.

EG: So when she was lucid...

AD: Lucid means that she was able to talk about her daughter, her granddaughter, who they had adopted, her son in law.

EG: What did she say about them?

AD: Her daughter adopted a baby and she was able to talk about the baby. She said she was a lovely baby. She didn't talk much about her daughter. She talked a lot about her son in law.

EG: What did she say about him?

AD: She liked him. She liked her son in law. She didn't, you know, she did like him.

EG: And her daughter?

AD: She didn't talk much about her daughter.

EG: It was a difficult relationship?

AD: I, I imagine it was, because she didn't talk much about her. She did light up when she talked about her son in law. She lit up when she talked about her granddaughter, about her being so pretty. But that she was from another country, that's what she said, she's a foreigner. But she did. She talked about her husband.

EG: What did she say about him?

AD: It as a difficult relationship, from what I can gather. It wasn't a loving relationship. She didn't speak highly of him. So she then would not talk too much about him. She would go off to something else.

EG: Was he cruel to her?

AD: She never actually said it, but she, she didn't seem to care for men, but yet she cared for her son in law. So.

EG: So, you got to like her?

AD: Oh, yes, very much so.

EG: And you spent time mainly listening to her? And I guess talking and sharing your life?

AD: No, no, I never shared my life.

EG: You didn't.

AD: Oh no, no, that was unprofessional.

EG: I see.

AD: Oh, no, she knew nothing about me only that I was there as with all the others. She shared things like the Army. And she had money. She came from money, because she had beautiful, the pieces of jewelry she had were very well... So one day there was a black Onyx ring and there was a watch and there was something else. And she gave it to me. And I gave it to Carolyn Patton, my boss, because we were not allowed to take anything and we had it for a long time. And we ended up giving it back her daughter. I believe it was given back to her daughter later. Because Lennice... I was with Lennice. I would say Lennice was with me for two years at the halfway house.

EG: At the halfway house.

AD: I was trying to think the other night, was it longer, or I was trying to put the pieces why I left the halfway house and the year I left, and it was two years, yea.

EG: And did she start talking to you about the crime?

AD: Well, she would always talk about being tied up and something in her mouth. A sock in her mouth, or something, and it went on and on and on and on, and on and it went on a long long time. She never said how long it went on. She just said it went on a long time. And that she was doing the ironing. She had just been doing her ironing, earlier on in the day.

EG: Earlier on in the day. And she had done her ironing, and then what?

AD: And she was getting ready for bed. And I don't know if she had a night dress on when she was found. I don't know anything about that, but that she, and that he came in. **But she didn't say that he broke in, that he came in. But if I went out in public with her, and I did note this, that everybody she seen who was either Spanish or Black, she would be saying that that's who, you know who, that's who did it, that's who did it, you know. And of course it wasn't, because basically they were just people in the streets. She was very paranoid at that time about everybody.**

EG: So every time she say a black...

AD: Black or dark skinned.

EG: She would point and say that's the guy who attacked me?

AD: Yes, yes. Of course it wasn't, but that was part of her illness too. She was recovering from that and she was recovering and she hated anybody dark skinned. She would absolutely get, she'd get horribly frightened. The word I'd say was fear.

EG: Except for her granddaughter, obviously.

AD: Well she never, well, see that was a different issue, that was a little girl.

EG: And at what point did she start telling you... you told me there was a man who used to get cigarettes for her.

AD: Oh, she used to go to the park.

EG: This is before the crime?

AD: Yes. She used to go and sit in the park.

EG: And this is what she told you?

AD: **Always sat in the park, and then she had a nice fellow who used to go and get her her cigarettes. And that his mother lived in the building. And that he always, she always... What was it? That he always went and got her messages for her and stuff. And that sometimes she'd come in and she had a couch and he slept on the couch, sometimes when his mother wouldn't let him into the apartment.**

EG: And how did this come up? Did she just volunteer this information?

AD: Well we were talking about people being friends and that and she said that she, you know, had friends. Of course she always told me that President Kennedy was her friend and Ted Kennedy. And she always went up high in government, that they were all her

friends and that would be that. But she told me that he obviously used to do the, you know, and she'd give him a couple of dollars for doing it. And, get her cigarettes and some nights he'd sleep on the couch, in the house.

EG: And what did she say about him?

AD: That he was her friend.

EG: Anything else? Anything descriptive?

AD: No, no.

EG: Young, old?

AD: Spanish.

EG: Spanish. She did say that he was Spanish?

AD: That's all she ever said.

EG: And that his mother...

AD: Lived in the building.

EG: Lived in the building. And why would she... I mean if his mother lived in the building, why would she let him into her...?

AD: Because he used to drink, she said, he used to take a drink.

EG: Ah, hah.

AD: And sometimes his mother wouldn't let him in because he he'd be drinking.

EG: And did he have any mental issues that you knew about?

AD: At that time I didn't know anything about him, only what she told me.

EG: I see.

AD: That's all she told me.

EG: So you learned more from Pablo [Perez].

AD: Yes, later.

EG: But, um. So, were there any other friends that she talked about?

AD: No. And Lennice was a very very private... at the house, Lennice only made friends with the one German woman and they became very close. But that was the only one that she had picked out to be friends with. And she didn't mix. She was not a mixer. She didn't mix. But if you were her friend, you know, you were her friend.

EG: And how did she get to know this Spanish man?

AD: Well, I think that because in the building, he'd come and go in the building because his mom lived there. And I don't know why I assumed that he may have already may also have been one of the people that hung out over in the park. Because it was obviously where she lived that had to have been a park or something close by, where she used to sit on the park bench.

EG: Have you been to the Waterways Apartments?

AD: Yes.

EG: There is that green area in the back. I don't know if it's changed since then, but there may have been benches back there?

AD: That may be where it was. But she said there was a store on the corner nearby and he'd go and get the cigarettes for her.

EG: Because she was a smoker before....

AD: Ohhh, terrible smoker, terrible smoker. Always smoking, chain smoking.

EG: And she liked this guy?

AD: She liked him, yes, he was her freind. He was her friend.

EG: Did she say how often he would come and sleep in her apartment?

AD: No, she just said that when he was drinking and the mother didn't let him in he'd sleep in the apartment on the couch.

EG: So it could have been once, it could have been ten times?

AD: She never mentioned time. She never mentioned any time.

EG: But more than once, it sounds like.

AD: Oh yea, because she was in that, that's why I'd like to know how long was she in that apartment. That would make a big difference if we knew when she moved in and when it happened and how did the mother move in and when did the mother move out.

EG: So, and this she would tell you about during her lucid moments?

AD: Yes, yes. Very much so.

EG: And was this before Ben's trial or after Ben's trial when she got to this point of opening up.

AD: After the trial.

EG: After the trial. So the trial was in January. So, in that first August, September, October, November, December, February, so half a year, she was still very closed during that time?

AD: Ohh, very sad.

EG: And what was her state of mind at the time of the trial?

AD: Well, I went to the trial with her and Caroline came also, and she was very nervous at the trial. It as a very bad time for Lennice. Getting her ready to go, and being there in the courtroom and coming home at night with her. It was very hard for Lennice, it was a very emotional time for her. It was an emotional time for everybody that was part of it. Her son in law, her daughter, and then Carolyn Patton and then myself and her. It was emotional all around because is was so horrific crime. And what had happened to her.

EG: And what was her mental st..., would you say, you talked about, earlier, that she was paranoid and that she would point to people on the street. Did these episodes, these incidents, happen after the trial, I suppose, of did they happen before the trial as well?

AD: Well they happened all the time intermittently, because if you were....

EG: You would go out with her on the street in that fall before the trial sometimes....

AD: Well, she, before the trial she really didn't know, she really was more housebound because the only time she went out was to the day program, so that would be every day and she was picked up at the house and brought home. And then she went to the day program. So when we would do things it would be when we had the outings, like, outings were that we would all go out in the van at the weekend. And we'd go out for an outing. And sometimes she would go out and sometimes she wouldn't.

EG: This was in the fall? '83?

AD: Yes.

EG: I see. And at some points you say she'd see people on the street who were Spanish and she would tell you that that's the person who did it to me?

AD: And we'd say, no, no, no no. The person that did it is in jail. That's what we would say. He's gone away. He can't hurt you again.

34:08

EG: She never pointed to anyone and said, that's the person who used to get cigarettes for me?

AD: No, oh no, no no.

EG: But she would point to several different people?

AD: Several different people.

EG: It was always males, obviously.

AD: Obviously, of course. And she bared a tremendous hatred of men after that too. Understandably so.

EG: And when she was on the witness stand, how would you evaluate her lucidity and her mental capacity at that point?

AD: Well, you see, I don't ever remember her being on the witness stand. I go to bed at night now, because there is a young man who may not have possibly done this, or he may have. I go to bed and I try to do recall memory. And I can remember going down there, I can remember sitting in there. I can remember seeing Ben there.

EG: So you would sit with her in the gallery.

AD: Yes.

EG: So was her son in law and daughter and you and Carolyn...

AD: Carolyn Patton, yea.

EG: So it was basically it was the four of you plus her make five.

AD: Yes.

EG: And you would sit together in the gallery and comfort each other.

AD: Yes, mostly comfort her.

EG: Mostly comfort her, right.

AD: Yes.

EG: And keep her calm. And was there any reason for her to be in the gallery other than her own desire to be there?

AD: I don't know. All I know is that I was assigned to her. My job was to go with Lennice, to be with her. My boss was there to be with me. To make sure that legally nothing was said or done by us, because we were there, to take care of her, and that was it. And I remember coming into a room, some people talking to us, coming back out of the room, but I'm drawing a blank about her being on the stand.

EG: Could it be that you just weren't there that day?

AD: Well, I was there for all of the days. I was there all of the days. To my knowledge, I was there all of the days. And maybe I wasn't there that day. Maybe, you're right, maybe it was the week off, that I had the week off and then I had the week on, maybe that was it. But most of the time I was with her at the trial. Because she had began to trust me. And part of my bosses thing was, she likes you Annie, she trusts you, and you'll be the one that will come. I know Carolyn Patton was with her all of the time. And I don't know, I don't remember her being on the, I cannot remember Lennice standing up at all. I cannot remember that at all. It's gone blank.

EG: Okay. Well I have the trial transcripts, so if at some point you are interested, you can look at those and see if that refreshes your memory.

AD: Did she go on the stand?

EG: Yes, she was on the witness stand.

AD: And was she on the witness stand for long?

EG: I have to, I don't think very long. But she was examined and cross examined, both. And there was a question before the trial whether or not her mental illness should be known to the jury and the judge decided that that would be prejudicial to the jury, so the jury was not aware of the fact that she had a history of mental illness. But she was asked to point, to the person who committed the crime, and she pointed to Ben. She used the word 'chap' she said, 'that chap over there.'

AD: That's an English word.

EG: Yes.

AD: Chap. That's an English word.

EG: Yes. I have to go back to the transcripts, but that's what I recall, that's what she said. And Ben was the only dark skinned person in the courtroom that day. He was sitting at the defendant's table, obviously.

AD: Obviously. No. And the only other memory that I have is that we left the day it was over, and we came back and we went to eat with the son in law and the daughter in law and Carolyn Patton and I, and then we went back into the house.

EG: The daughter.

AD: I mean the daughter and son in law. And we went back into the house. And then I remember saying to her, well at least now it's over Lennice. And she said yes. And that was when the last day that we were going to be in. That was the last day that we were going to be in the court, with her. That was the last day. And I remember her saying, that's okay, but she didn't say, she just like went into her room and closed the door. She just, the next morning, she got up, and it was like any other day.

EG: Any other day as if she didn't remember the previous day?

AD: No, any other day, just like it was another day. Just another day.

EG: Did you get a feeling that she started to heal faster at that point?

AD: Yes. She began to, a, she began to. No, she wasn't a mixer by, she never mixed anyway. She was always aloof, she was always different, I told you that, but she at least came out and sat out in the big living room with the rest of us a few weeks later, but not that time. She didn't get up the next day and I'm better now so I'm going to go out. If I'm correct she went to the day program the next day and came home, but little by little you could see her, you could see her beginning to smile again. You could see her beginning to laugh again. And every time she said she's seen somebody, the only thing I could say was, no, no Lennice, he's gone, he's been put away.

EG: I see, so even after the trial, she would point to people and say, that's the person who did it.

AD: Yea. I and I would say, no Lennice, he's gone, he can't hurt you no more. And she'd say, you promise? And I'd say, I promise.

EG: So she really was, she didn't have much of a memory. Cause you told her that over and over.

AD: Yes.

EG: And the next time she said it, it was as if it had never happened.

AD: I told her at least five or six times.

EG: and each time it was as if it had never, as if it were the first time.

AD: Yea, and I'd say, no you're safe. And then, are you sure Annie, and I'd say, yea. I always reported it to my boss, which was Carolyn Patton, and she would say, okay, what are you saying, and I'd tell her, because I really was only an aide, and my job was to report what had happened. And then that was it.

EG: So you would be like in the van and then she'd look out the window and say, look, there's that person, he's the one that did this to me?

AD: Then she started going down to what we used to call the West Wind Club.

EG: West Wind?

AD: Yea, it's a social club. And I remember one day I was down there with her and there was a couple of darker skinned people, and she would sit, and do what I'm doing right now, she would sit and she'd curl up and she'd look, and I'd say now what's wrong Lennice, and say, no, no, no, no. He's gone, he's gone, he can't hurt you. You see my focus was on Lennice, and now I look back my focus on Lennice was to let her know she was safe, because whoever raped her, whoever did what they did, was brutal. And we never actually got her back in the true sense. She starts to heal a little, she starts to laugh a little. But we never got the whole Lennice back. Never.

EG: And you knew a little bit of what the pre-crime Lennice was like.

AD: Yes, she was a jovial, trusting, obviously too trusting, she used to, somebody, and I don't know where I heard her, somebody told me she used to leave the key in the door, and forget.

EG: That was, that was mentioned at trial. And that was part of the reason that Ben became a suspect, because they had said that, and I guess the building manager said that she had a habit of leaving the key in the door.

AD: And she was very trusting. And she never trusted after that. I mean where I got through to her was a friendship because my heart broke, because what I seen was a broken woman, but I also seen a woman who definitely, had been definitely violated, and you could tell.

EG: So obviously inviting a stranger to sleep. A strange man to sleep in your apartment, that's more trusting than most 59 year old women or 58 year old women would be.

AD: Yes, but she was always a trusting person up to this. She had been in the Gardner mental health thing. When she got sick. I don't know when she got sick. I don't know if she was sick when she was young and it came out when she was in the Army. I don't know when she got sick. But when she got sick, it was a very serious sickness she got.

But through it all, she was intellectual. She was very, very bright. And it was such a shame.

EG: And you tell me that she had been at Worcester State Hospital as well?

AD: Yes.

EG: How do you know that?

AD: Well, when you decompensated when you were in any of the halfway houses, or any of the programs and you decompensated, you automatically went to Worcester State Hospital. And when.

EG: What's decompensated?

AD: Well, decompensated means when they would get sick again, like they might go off their meds, or they may tongue their meds.

EG: And that happened from time to time?

AD: That happens with all of them.

EG: No, no, with Lennice.

AD: Lennice never tongued her medicine when she was with us at Pleasant Street. What she did before that I don't know. But most people ended up in Worcester State, because one day one of the women came back from Worcester State and we were talking, and she said, oh yea, I have been there a couple of times.

EG: Lennice said that.

AD: Yes.

EG: So you heard it directly from her. Do you think that was reliable, or do you think she may have just said that?

AD: Well, I believed that it was a reliable, because everybody in the house had been back to Worcester State one or two times. Cause most of them decompensated and went back.

EG: So decompensate means having a downturn, basically.

AD: Having a relapse of the illness.

EG: Usually associated with lack of meds?

AD: Yes.

EG: I see, and they could go for anywhere from a day to a week to a month?

AD: Oh, when you went back into the Worcester State it usually was a two week stay, because what they would have to do was if you were on lithium and that, they would have to put you back on your lithium, they'd have to get your blood levels, they'd have to work with you. So, it wasn't a short stay, it could be two weeks to three weeks, and then they'd come back. And so.

EG: And this would have been before the crime?

AD: Oh yea.

EG: And as far as you know she never went back to Worcester State after the crime.

AD: What happened, the reason that I lost touch. And I'm trying to get the date that Patrick. Patrick, she was at the house when Patrick went into the hospital to have his heart operation. Cause he left from the house. And the VA van came for him. That's my partner Patrick. And Patrick died on the table less than a week later. And I could no longer work at the house. Because Patrick and I were a team, and he was like half of me. Cause when you work in that kind of an environment, you have to really make sure that your partner has your back because it was a very, there were a lot of sick people in that room.

EG: Potentially violent.

AD: Yes, yes. Especially there was at that time, there had been two men that were very violent. And I...

EG: That was not a great situation for Lennice to be in.

AD: Well they were violent to the, well, yea, but they for some reason, I don't know, the two men were more violent towards the staff than they were toward to the other people.

EG: So Patrick died around 1985 or 6.

AD: Yea, he died, I must ask Carolyn when he died. When I came back to the house I couldn't settle.

EG: And then did you ever see Lennice again?

AD: Oh, yes, cause I was brought over to Prospect Street House. It was decided that I needed to move from that house over to Prospect Street, to which was another quarter house.

EG: Which was in Leominster?

AD: No it's in Fitchburg on Prospect Street.

EG: Now, she was at a nursing home for a while.

AD: She went from, she went from Pleasant Street to nursing home.

EG: What was the name of the nursing home?

AD: It was over in Leominster.

EG: I thought it was in Fitchburg.

AD: There was one in Leominster, she may have went to another one. And then she ended up in Winchendon mental health geriatric unit, for mentally ill. And my friend, how I know that, was my friend Jane was very sick and she was admitted to the same hospital. And when I was in the hospital visiting with Jane and, cause they had given Jane too much oxygen and Jane was convinced that Clinton was coming to marry her, and my friend never had a psychotic moment in her life, but she got too much oxygen. I heard this voice, and I knew it was Lennice, cause the voice, she had a strange voice, and I went in, and Lennice was in the psychiatric, um, for elderly people.

EG: And what year was that?

AD: That was, Jesus, when did Jane die? See I got to get the years. But I do know that I went in to her. I went in. I said to the nurse, is that Lennice? And they said yes it is, and I went in and she was rambling and raving and talking. You know, talking to herself. And I went over to her, but she didn't know me.

EG: Oh, she didn't know you.

AD: No, I'd just give her a kiss, but she didn't know me. And then I told Carolyn about it. But that's where she died, I believed.

EG: In Winchendon.

AD: It was a psychiatric unit for psychiatric elderly unit. Was that where she died?

EG: I don't know.

AD: Yes, I believe that's where she died. A few years later. Or a year. Less than a year later.

