

TAPE # JK32

Joe Keenan

JIM WHITAKER, Producer/director

PROJECT REBIRTH

01.01.01 PICTURE UP

01.01.04 JOE KEENAN: That's that mystery cough you're hearing about in the (?) newspapers. That uh, small dry cough all the guys seem to be coming up with. That's it. So I have it, too. Yeah, so. What are you gonna do?

JW: What are you gonna do?

JOE KEENAN: What are you gonna do? Nothing you can do (LAUGHS).

JW: You getting it a lot?

01.01.31 JOE KEENAN: Yeah. We go uh. Uh, originally they had uh, sent us, they had set up a uh, a clinic in Mount Sinai Hospital. And uh, after 9-11 we, we all went there, and I happened to hook up with one of the doctors there, so I still see him on the side, you know, even though the clinic is gone. I still go to him. But uh, he says there's not too much you can do about it uh.

01.02.00 So they keep monitoring it to see if it gets any worse. But uh, (~JW~) it's there.

JW: (?)

JOE KEENAN: The clinic is closed, the clinic is done, I go to the doctor privately (~JW~)

JW: What is the history of the clinic?

01.02.14 JOE KEENAN: Oh, the history was they had set up a uh, they forced us all to go to this clinic. They didn't force us, they, you know, they said we want everybody to go to this

Mount Sinai clinic to have us checked for everything, you know blood work and (?) lung work. And uh, sinus and all of that.

01.02.32 And uh, originally most of the guys got pretty good clean bill of health, but then as the time went on, things started to happen. And you would uh, go through periods of losing my voice uh, or it gets (?) hoarse, and uh, have uh, I have what he called a dry infection. I have a dry infection in my sinuses. And uh, they monitor it and uh, give us medicine.

01.02.59 But uh, nobody's really quite sure what it is.

JW: The report came out?

01.03.06 JOE KEENAN: The, yeah, the report came out that yes, there was, but you know, you can't. Uh, you can be unhappy about it, but you can't blame anybody. Uh, how would anybody know at the time. You know, it's just something that happened. And uh, I mean, it took, it took a couple of weeks for those uh, they gave us all breathing apparatus, but it took a couple of weeks for that stuff to arrive. Uh, you know, they, nobody has 14,000 of those sitting on the side, ready to distribute (LAUGHS). (~JW~)

01.03.40 So you got to go with it, I guess.

JW: How's your wife been with it?

01.03.50 JOE KEENAN: I think she's probably more concerned about it than I am. Uh, because you know, they read in the paper all the time of the mystery illnesses. Uh, I think what upset her the most was that my, my partner uh, he got it very bad. And we were always together. If uh, if we put in 100 hours uh, 95 of those we were standing next to each other. But it depends on the individual makeup uh, how it just affected him more than it affected me. But he was on uh, he was on oxygen for a while and steroid treatment, the whole business.

01.04.29 But he's pretty much come back now. (~JW~) That's good for him.

JW: Have there been times where you have lost your voice?

01.04.43 JOE KEENAN: Yeah, it happens. Uh, you get, I don't, I don't, of course, your own voice you, you don't hear it, but uh, I know people will say you have a cold? I say, no, I don't think so (LAUGHS). So you get hoarse sometimes and uh, you get a dryness.

01.05.01 A doctor's given me uh, uh, washes. I have to wash my sinuses every day and he's given me nasal sprays and uh, they've uh, he (?) monitors me. I go every, every 3 or 4 months.

JW: This is a good relationship?

01.05.20 JOE KEENAN: Yeah, he, he turned out to be uh, uh, very nice man. And then he left Mount Sinai and uh, he, you know, he's in practice with a few other doctors in Manhattan, and I still see him.

JW: You were part of the original group of people that went to the clinic?

01.05.47 JOE KEENAN: Yes, we were, I was part of the uh, first responder group. And I went. And actually that was just a uh, fact-finding group. They really didn't, it wasn't set up as a medical clinic.

01.06.02 It was set up as a fact-finding clinic. and of course, we had to take a lot of medical tests for them to develop their facts. Uh, they, they sent us uh, we went to Mount Sinai, then they sent us to uh, Northshore University Hospital in Long Island to have all the respiratory tests. And uh, that's pretty much where it all (?). In fact, I called the uh, I called the registry about two or three weeks ago because my uh, daughter said that she checked the registry and my name wasn't on it.

01.06.40 And I said that can't be. I know I registered because I've been there. So I called them, and of course, I was registered. And they said that they're gonna send out another survey in a month, and we have to update all our own, all our own information.

JW: A couple of weeks ago, I had terrible sinus headaches; is this what it's like for you, stuffed up?

01.07.34 JOE KEENAN: No, it's all that, you get the uh, pain across the top of the eyebrows from the uh, uh, where the pressure building up. And uh, they said at the if it uh, it if worsens, they'll probably go in there and try to uh, open the canals a little so that the pressure would be less.

JW: That's what I had.

JOE KEENAN: Did it work?

JW: I had it a couple of times, and after the operation you are packed.

01.08.24 JOE KEENAN: (?) That's why I had uh, years ago I guess it was uh, '92, '93. I had an infection in, in my abdomen, and my liver got infected and my pancreas, my gall bladder, it all infection. So uh, they operated, and then I had for four months I had tubes, drainage tubes, wrapped around my leg. And I remember the first time I went back to the doctor. They change your tube every, every uh, uh, couple (of weeks?) it turned out to be every week. And uh, doctor said, oh, I'm gonna take this tube out now and then we'll insert another one.

01.08.58 And I didn't know what to expect. And uh, he says it's gonna hurt a little. (LAUGHS) he pulled it out (LAUGHS). I almost hit the ceiling and came back down. I said, are you kidding? He says, well, if I told you, he says, you would have tensed up and it would have made it worse (LAUGHS).

JW: That's what the doctor did to me.

01.09.22 JOE KEENAN: They put those cameras down your throat? (~JW~) They, they do that, have you had that done? They put cameras in your nose, it goes down, down your esophagus, and uh, uh, they give you a, a spray first. And I didn't know they were going to use the cameras when, when he was spraying me. And I said why, why are you giving me that spray? He says, because if I don't, when I put the cameras in, he says you'll beat me up (LAUGHS). He says, he says, you'll kick me, because you, you're sitting with your feet up, he says you'll just keep kicking me. (LAUGHS)

01.09.54 And you, when he does it then after the spray you don't feel it at all. You can feel the camera inside, but you don't feel it at all. I guess it, it's some sort of numbing Novocain or, uh, or cocaine spray or whatever that uh, numbs you up. So they can put, they can put a camera in a tube about, a tube about that long in through your nose and it goes down into your passage.

JW: You presented a check to a group in San Diego?

01.10.30 JOE KEENAN: Well, we uh, we continued that, we continued that fund, and this past May uh, we presented them with \$75,000 uh, we gave them a check at our, in Washington in May, when all the groups. We meet every November, we meet every May uh, so we meet every May uh, for Police Week. We have uh, our ceremonies at Police Week, and that's, we had kept the fund open from San Diego in November until May.

01.10.59 And uh, we continued the (?) donations from you know, police officers uh, around the country and you know, sending in checks and uh, we administered it here, uh, through our organization, then we presented them with a check uh, for them to, to give to their members. So that ended in May. (~JW~) But it was good, it was successful. It worked out.

JW: What do you remember about the experience?

01.11.29 JOE KEENAN: Oh, we had a nice time. San Diego was nice. We had never been there before. Uh, we have uh, we had some business to conduct, but uh, my wife and I, Jane and I stayed for a few days after the, after the meeting was over. I think we stayed another three days after the meeting was over. We have, she has some relatives there. But you know, some relatives on her side of the family. So they drove down from Sacramento and uh, uh, we spent 3, 3 or 4 days with them.

01.11.58 It was nice. So we saw the rest of San Diego that we hadn't seen for the first 3 or 4 days. We had a good time. It was very nice.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

JW: Could you take us through other things that came up in the year, like the officiating?

- 01.12.42 JOE KEENAN: Right, well, I (?) still do that. I'm involved with the uh, sports officiating for high school, and, and colleges. I enjoy that. I do baseball and football. I did football today. That's where I was this morning. Uh, that keeps me busy. Uh, it gives me uh, something to do during the week.
- 01.12.58 One thing that's a little bit interesting with that, is that uh, being a police officer for so long, we, we sort of live in a little bit of a closed society amongst ourselves. Everything we do uh, tends to be with other police officers. And when you retire, one of the big adjustments is getting used to no longer belonging and no longer being involved all the time. And this has been very good for that. I've met a whole new group of people uh, you know, new friends I guess you would say uh, people to associate with.
- 01.13.31 So that's been very good for the adjustment period of, of retiring, that was uh, I didn't plan it that way. I didn't even think of it. But it uh, it has turned out to be very good.

JW: And you hang out with them?

- 01.13.45 JOE KEENAN: Well, now I have new people that I know, people that I never would have met before. Uh, and uh, we keep pretty busy with our organization. With our, you know, with our officials organization. We have meetings and uh, we go together.
- 01.14.02 We, it was a fellow lives right around the corner from me uh, who I, I may have lived there most of my life and never knew him. And uh, he's a member of the organization and we uh, uh, have become friendly and it's good. It's good. Gives us a whole new perspective. They're still a little afraid of me, though (LAUGHS). That's good, I like to keep it just a little bit (LAUGHS).

JW: Once you're a policeman, you're always one?

- 01.14.29 JOE KEENAN: It's true. Yeah, it's true.

JW: It's more apparent in New York?

01.15.02 JOE KEENAN: Well, you're probably more conscious of them now because of this project (~JW~) probably never would have noticed it before.

JW: That and perhaps because of your involvement? CPR- I'm picking it up.

01.15.37 JOE KEENAN: (LAUGHS) Some of the little uh, uh, nuances, some of the little code words. Yeah, yeah. In uh, just along that lines and move wherever it takes you, my daughter, Karen now was just recently transferred. So she's now in a uh, narcotics investigation unit, which is a good move for her.

01.15.56 She had been working in the local precinct on patrol, and this is a good, this is a, a career step. It's good for her. She's an investigative unit now. And uh, she works here in Manhattan. And uh, it's a step up for her in her career. She's on her way uh, so that's good.

JW: What's her day like?

01.16.19 JOE KEENAN: Uh, well, they work crazy hours. They basically, everybody has to have, on paper you have official hours. And then there's what you really work. Their official hours are 4 to 12's every day. But when you're in a street investigative unit, you go where it takes you.

01.16.36 Uh, so sometimes she'll go in in the afternoon and work until 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning, and then be back at 8 in the morning because what they finished, where they left that night, something has to be done in the morning. So in, that's, that's a little tough, she's (?) she mentioned the other day that she's tired a lot.

01.16.57 While you're, you're still new at it. She's only doing it uh, a month. But you get used to that. But uh, that's one of the good things about that type of work or our type of work is it's just not the same thing every day. Every day is absolutely different. So uh, so she's been working a lot. She, she enjoys it, she's a worker. And, and she enjoys it, and, and she's going to be good for her in the future.

JW: What is that future like?

01.07.28 JOE KEENAN: All right she, (~JW~) she was working in a local precinct, in a, in a uh, what we call radio cars uh, the police cars that ride through the streets, and responding to wherever the radio would send her. Uh, people would call in with problems and the uniform man in the street responds to that. Now, she's in a unit where they'll do investigations. It will lead her to becoming a detective. It uh, it's different type of work. From there you can go into uh, different specializations

01.18.00 Uh, you can go into maybe uh, public morals work, with sex crimes work or uh, homicide work. Where if you're a uniformed officer in the street, that's pretty much, that's what you do all the time. So in order to advance to other areas, you have to at one point break out of the mold. And this is her first step, so it's good for her.

JW: It's the hardest step?

01.18.23 JOE KEENAN: It is the hardest step. The first step is the hardest one because you like what you're doing. You're comfortable, you know it. And now you're making a change. And (?) you're going someplace uh, where you don't know anything. You don't know how to do this type of work, you don't know how to do investigations. It's all different. Uh, but she'll, she'll pick it up. Everybody does. They'll, she'll pick it up.

JW: Did she seek that?

01.18.46 JOE KEENAN: Yes. Yes. Well, yes, and no. Uh, she was looking for a career move. And uh, being uh, being a, a young-looking female, she had been borrowed a few times by the unit to do special work for them.

01.19.05 And at one point, she said that she liked it and uh, she'd like to get involved in something like that. And at the same time, they offered her an interview. They said would you like to come in for an interview? And she went in and interviewed, and she passed the interview. And uh, they, she moved to that unit. We call picking up. They picked her up and she moved into that unit. So she was looking for a change.

01.19.29 She was looking for something that would help her move forward and at the same time, these people were looking for uh, new officers. And it worked out good, it was a good, good connection.

JW: Is she undercover?

01.19.44 JOE KEENAN: No, no, she's an investigator. They work soft clothes. Soft clothes is what you're wearing now. Uh, and basically they'll, they work in teams. I, I'm not exactly sure how big her team is. The teams are always different sized, dependent upon where you work.

01.19.59 But they'll have maybe one or two undercovers in their team who never come in. Uh, but who they have communication with. Now of course, the undercovers have to have backup and investigators. And that's what she does. So she'll follow them and uh, whatever information the undercover will bring in, whatever leads they bring in, then the investigators follow them and try to work the case.

JW: Like CSI?

01.20.22 JOE KEENAN: Uh, a little bit, but uh, CSI is television police (LAUGHS). There's a little bit of difference (~JW~) television police and real police. (~JW~) We could go all the way back again, we talked about Barney Miller (LAUGHS). That was real (LAUGHS) That's the way an office is uh, but you know, very rarely does the uh, television show capture uh, what the real work is.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

01.21.31 JOE KEENAN: We got involved in uh, uh, one thing, again leading to another. I don't know if I mentioned to you, we got involved in a movie (?) remember that? (~JW~) the football movie (~JW~). I don't know which company it was, but the uh, a movie with Colin Farrell where he's a police officer. And (?) an aside in the movie is that he plays on the police football team. So there were a few scenes in the, in the upcoming movie which is going to come out later this year uh.

- 01.22.04 I sound like a reel now uh, (LAUGHS) I sound like the movie announcer. (~JW~). They wanted to film uh, some football scenes on (?) the field. So they made a deal with our football team uh, who better? Otherwise, they would have had to hire uh, 40 actors. So they made a, a donation to the uh, football team.
- 01.22.30 And the football team went out and, and did the (?) scenes for them. Uh, it was fun. And at the same time, a disaster (LAUGHS) because it was the middle of February, it was very cold. And we were working 2, 3 4 o'clock in the morning because they wanted night scenes. So our team went out and both, when the movie does come out, you'll see uh, uh, probably about 30 seconds of football that took two weeks to film.
- 01.22.59 And you'll see opposing teams on the field, all of that was our football team. And so uh.

JW: Did you ref the game?

- 01.23.07 JOE KEENAN: No, I was (?) a coach (LAUGHS). I was on the sidelines. (~JW~). Oh, yeah, yeah. my son was the quarterback. So he's uh, he'll be in the uh, you'll never be able to see his face, but uh, we don't know what's going to be shown in the movie, but it was interesting. It was an interesting experience for us, because we had never done anything like that.
- 01.23.27 And we're usually used to being in charge, and we definitely weren't in charge (LAUGHS) on, on the movie set. (LAUGHS) Which, (~JW~), led, exactly, which led to some very uncomfortable moments. And it was very cold. And you guys do everything 15 times. Yeah.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

- 01.24.22 JOE KEENAN: I guess with any, any movie that involves uh, sports or action uh, everything has to be choreographed to have it exactly the right way. But with sports, that's hard to do, with people running and uh, hitting each other. It doesn't work the same every, every single play, even if you do it five times in a row immediately. You'll have five different, five different looks. So it was a little frustrating that way. It was fun. But it was frustrating at the same time and it got long and it got cold.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

JW: How is your son?

01.25.08 JOE KEENAN: He's doing fine, thank you. Yeah, he's uh, he uh, he works in Sunset Park. He works in the precinct uh, 7-2 Precinct in Sunset Park, and he's on patrol. He's happy. He's (?) enjoying it. He's still new. He has to learn they say that was one thing with Karen, when she moved. You have to learn the street first before you move.

01.25.30 Because if you move too soon, you'll always be in a disadvantage in the future, because there'll just be things you don't know, that you don't know how to do, that you didn't see before. So that's what he's doing now. He's learning all of that. And then uh, he'll see, we'll see what he wants to do when he gets some time in. He's only in a little over two years now, so he has more learning time. (~JW~). Yeah. It was two years in July.

JW: Does he come to you for advice?

01.26.10 JOE KEENAN: He, he comes more with questions. Karen comes more for advice. He comes more with questions. I guess it's harder for him to admit he doesn't know something. So uh, advice isn't really what he's looking for. But he, he does have questions and uh, it, it's, it's to (?) be expected and all and uh.

01.26.33 I've experienced everything he's seeing now for the first time. So it's, it's good for him to uh, uh, ask the questions. Karen was a little uh, uh, freer with her asking. She would uh, ask me something and then say what would you have done? And I'll tell her what I would have done. And she said, well, we almost did that (LAUGHS). We, we did this and then we uh, we should have, maybe we should have done it this way.

01.26.59 But it's all, it's all learning curve. Uh, and you have to uh, uh, I'm a good sounding board, I guess, because whatever they ask me I'm uh, I'm not official. I'm not there on the scene so I can't uh, yell at them or, or say no, you did that wrong, that wasn't right, and something will happen because of that. So it, it was good. If they knew what they were going to encounter before they encountered it, they could ask me and that would even be better, but you never know.

01.27.28 You never know.

JW: What about the danger?

01.27.34 JOE KEENAN: Have to uh, uh, I have to ignore that, I guess. I do ignore it. Like my mom now, my mom is the one who probably took it the worst. She said, you know, my husband this and I had to worry about him. And then you did it, and I had to worry about you, now they're doing it. Now you know, when's it going to end? I said, well, I guess it's not (LAUGHS). I guess it's not.

01.27.57 So my, my wife feels the same way. But uh, uh, I don't really look at it that way. Of course, I'm uh, I'm concerned. You know, and, and when you do think about it, you become more concerned and cautious. But that'll drive you crazy, so you can't think about it. Uh, I mean, having done it so many years myself, you know that it is dangerous, but uh, it's not uh, dangerous every moment. So you have to uh, so you accept that and you, if they learn well and they do what they're supposed to do uh, uh, things can happen at any time.

01.28.38 And there's, there's no way to stop that. But if you're prepared and uh, and you've learned your lessons, uh, you can, you can offset it. So uh, the real answer tot hat question is I don't think about it. I try to ignore it. I let my wife worry about it (LAUGHS).

JW: Any close calls?

01.29.02 JOE KEENAN: Uh, that, you know, that's another thing. Uh, just as I did myself, they don't tell me. So they don't tell me and, and I don't know. Uh, we did get a call uh, I guess about 3 or 4 months ago that Karen had been injured, and that uh, she was in the emergency room in a local hospital. Uh, as it turns out, I was watching the baby at that, on that particular day. My wife and oldest daughter were out shopping.

01.29.29 So had to toss the baby in the car and we went to the uh, emergency room. turns out she was Ok. It was just you know, a, a bumps and bruises. But of course, while you're driving there, then you're wondering what's going on what. (?) And my son wasn't working at that moment. But it was uh, they brought her to a hospital in his precinct. So he knew the doctors, he called the doctors and the doctor said don't worry, we'll take care of her.

- 01.29.59 And everything turned out to be minor. But it was the first uh, the first occasion of having to go to the hospital to see them. Uh, so that was uh, that was uncomfortable. That was uncomfortable. Uh, I got there, I go to the hospital. I get in and of course, I'm used to just walking in, going to the hospital and you just go where you have to go, and I'm holding the baby and the guys says whoa, you can't go in there with a baby. And I didn't realize it. I said, oh, gee (LAUGHS) what do I do now? And just at that same time uh, one of the doctors came out and he saw me said, oh, come on in.
- 01.30.33 You know, and we brought the baby inside. But uh, that was uh, uh, first time I had actually encountered no longer being involved, to no longer being in. I was sort of an outsider sneaking in and uh, it was one of the first times of uh, realizing that wait, I don't belong anymore here. You know, and so uh, how can I sneak in and make believe I'm somebody if I'm holding a baby in my arms (LAUGHS).
- 01.30.59 But it, it worked out OK.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

JW: How has it been being retired for so many years?

- 01.31.18 JOE KEENAN: Since '03, so over 3 years now. Uh, I've uh, I think I've completely uh, accepted it. You know, I've come to terms with it. It's, it's very difficult. We've talked about it before. It's very difficult when you get out.
- 01.31.32 Uh, because you're going 100 miles an hour and all of a sudden you're going zero. And you're really no longer involved and uh, no longer part of what's going on. So that takes uh, that takes getting used to. And if, it'll drive you crazy if you let it, if you dwell on it, and if you don't have some place else to go. Or something else to do. So that's why we, you know, uh, keep active.
- 01.31.57 And a fellow across the street from me who uh, uh, just retired uh, we came, it was, it was odd. We never worked together, but we came on the job the same day and twice we got promoted on the same day. Just really odd. And we, and yet, over all the years, we never worked together. And he retired. And uh, he comes over and he rings my bell. Says come on, let's go play golf. Let's go do this. And that's good, because now we uh, we both have

somebody and then uh, and between that and the sports and the granddaughter and all that, I, I keep busy. (~JW~).

01.32.35 I miss it, but I'm not going back (LAUGHS). (~JW~). When you miss it, you only, you only remember missing the good part. You only miss the fun. You know, you don't, I don't miss the bad stuff. Now let somebody else take care of that now. I did mine.

JW: How is your older daughter?

01.33.03 JOE KEENAN: My oldest girl, Janine. (~JW~). Uh, she's doing fine. But she's, she's stopped working now because of the baby. She finished up uh, I don't know if we spoke about this, but uh, after she had the baby uh, she still had uh, a time commitment to work. And she worked probably about well, I don't know exactly how their maternity leave works, but she had so much time off after the baby was born.

01.33.34 And then it reached a point where she had to go back. And she went back for about 4 months. And uh, she would bring the baby over the house every morning. And then uh, (CLEARS THROAT) and then, you know, after work, come back, pick the baby up, have dinner, and, and uh, go, go home. When, one little chuckle about that is one night uh, uh, Joseph's fiancé, who's also a CPA, who works uh, does the same work that Janine did, was over one night for dinner.

01.34.03 And Janine and Andy were there, and, and Joseph and Deidra were there. And we're having dinner and Deidra looks around, she says, you know, this is nice, every night. Having dinner. (?) after we get married, can we come over every night and have dinner? And (LAUGHS) my wife said, you can if you give us one of those. (LAUGHS) And she pointed to the baby. But uh, so it uh, it, that, they, she went back to work for 4 months, and uh, we watched the baby and it was good.

01.34.32 It was very good because we got the baby when she was small. So she really got used to us. And that was nice.

JW: You had a tough year?

- 01.34.45 JOE KEENAN: We had a tough year, yeah. we had a, we had a tough year a few ways. Uh, he, my father-in-law, around between Thanksgiving and Christmas wasn't feeling well. And, and started to not feel well uh, more and more gravely.
- 01.35.04 And then right around, I don't remember exactly when, but right around Christmas or right after Christmas uh, he was diagnosed with cancer. And uh, he had that uh, asbestos cancer in the lungs. And from, from when he was in the service, from World War II. He was a, he was in the uh, engine rooms on destroyers in the Navy. And he had had uh, I guess he had ingested some asbestos.
- 01.35.31 We questioned the doctors about it, why did it take so long? And they said, well he didn't do it for a career. He only did it for, you know, two or three years. So what he had ingested was a small amount that took longer to fester, longer to grow. But once it's in your lungs, it's always there. So around January, he really got sick. And it just uh, he got sicker and sicker, and uh, he was too weak to receive chemo.
- 01.36.00 And we were in and out of the hospitals a number of times, and then he was hospice at home. And uh, and then he died in uh, he died in May. But at the same time while that was going on, uh, my wife got sick. And uh, we were in and out of the hospital a couple of times there. Uh, she's Ok now. It was something that they, they didn't know what it was. She was having allergic reactions. And they never really thought allergic reactions were a big deal, until you can see them to full-blown.
- 01.36.30 She actually uh, uh, we called the ambulance one day to come and she actually uh, collapsed and was, was uh, semiconscious before they got there. And I didn't realized that an allergic reactions could get that bad. But it turns out that uh, many years ago, she had a, a thyroid problem. And this was a uh, an extension of that, where she had the thyroid uh, made dormant.
- 01.37.00 She had that uh, I'm not exactly sure how they uh, how they explained it, but she took, had to take a uh, radio active pill and, and you go in the hospital and you take the pill. And then they pretty much kill your function in the, in the thyroid, they kill that function. And uh, she's been fine that way. But uh, some enzymes had built up in her thyroid and made her allergic to different things. But now they've uh, they've narrowed it down.
- 01.37.29 It took a few months for them to find what it was. And when they found it, now they adjusted her medicine. And uh, she's uh, I don't think she's had an attack since uh, since May,

probably, May or June. So that's been good. But that was you know, going on back and forth and you know, it's uh, you don't realize uh, how much illness uh, how involved it is, until you try to take care of somebody. And uh, uh, it's a, it's an all day, it was an all day thing with my father-in-law.

01.37.59 And uh, he really got ill. It was tough. He couldn't uh, he was in pain and he couldn't walk, and it wasn't good. Wasn't good.

JW: They can isolate things like the asbestos?

01.38.12 JOE KEENAN: Well, actually what it was was they said he had asbestos and then they wanted to know how would he have come about that. And he, he was a sanitation man his whole life. He never really had exposure to it. The only time he had exposure to it was when he was in the Navy. When he worked in the engine rooms.

01.38.30 Uh, because all those boilers then were coated with the stuff. Uh, so that had to be, that had to be when he uh, when it started. When it got into his lungs. (CLEARS THROAT)

JW: What about the sinus procedures you've had?

01.38.53 JOE KEENAN: Yeah, I had uh, I'm a, after 9-11, I uh, didn't seem to have any affect from, from the breathing uh, with the breathing problems. But uh, as you, as you know, as you read in the paper recently, they talk about the uh, uh, people are developing coughs and uh, and, and dryness in their throat. And I seem to be developing that in (?) the past few months and I had to go back to the doctor. I have that uh, mystery cough that they talking about and uh, your, your mouth is always dry, your throat is always dry.

01.39.29 Uh, your sinuses are infected. And these, these things I didn't have before. I have uh, they said I have uh, acute sinusitis now. I have uh, uh, had an infection in my esophagus, which led to uh, acid reflux, so I'm on medicine for that. And for my sinuses. And uh, they've diagnosed me with uh, sleep apnea. So all of that has developed in the past year, and it's something I never had before.

01.40.01 And it all, the doctor feels that it all goes back to the dust from uh, 9-11 when we were, when I was working in Freshkills. Yeah, and uh, so I'm on a few medicines for that. And they'll

uh, we're moving along, we'll see what it is. But nobody really, nobody really seems to know what it is. But uh, I have it uh, less than a lot of other people. But I didn't think I was, I didn't think it was going to involve me because I went a couple of years without it.

01.40.29 But then it did start to develop.

JW: How are you feeling with the unknowing?

01.40.41 JOE KEENAN: Uh, I think so. Uh, you don't uh, try not to worry about things you have no control over. I have no control over it. I don't seem to be uh, I have discomfort, and there is something there, but I don't know if I'm ill. I don't really think I'm ill. Uh, so you have to trust the doctors to, to keep on it.

01.41.03 Uh, the doctors from Mount Sinai seem to have it uh, under control. They have some uh, they keep giving me options and we try one thing and we try another thing. And I went uh, about 3 weeks ago to the doctor and he put me on a new regimen of medicine. And the things that he wants me to do at home. And he says, well, if this doesn't work, then we'll try another option. We'll see. And I asked him, what's, what's the other option? He says, well, we might do a little surgery, he said, see if we can open up your passages and uh, that might work.

01.41.33 We'll see. What's (?) bad about it is that it, even though it's never really at any particular time severe, it does affect your whole day, because it disrupts your sleep, which uh, you never really get, I never really get a full night's sleep. Uh, you sleep in maybe 3, 4 hours to start, and then you wake up and you're up and hour and down and hour, and up and hour and down an hour. And then you finally give up and get up. So you're really a little uh, uh, tired during the day. So I use the baby as an excuse to get a nap. Take the baby upstairs. I'm gonna put the baby to sleep (LAUGHS).

01.42.11 So the two of us will go take a nap. And it, in, in that way it disrupts everything. But uh, we'll have to see. I, I don't know. I don't have an answer. I'm not, I'm not not giving you an answer. It's just that I don't know. I don't know. They found a little growth. They took a little growth out inside, and doctor said it was fine.

01.42.32 Uh, and I have sometimes I have trouble uh, I get hoarse. I have trouble speaking. But uh, and it's not, it doesn't, it doesn't relate to yelling or not yelling. You know how you go to a

ball game and you yell all day, and you come home the next day you're hoarse? Well, I'll, I'll get that sometimes without having yelled all day. Now that they kids are out, I don't yell all day anymore (LAUGHS). Yeah, so but uh, that has developed probably in the last, well, since I saw you last.

01.43.00 Since, since November. Yeah.

JW: There is so much generational-ly in your family; the parallel to service and ingesting something dangerous is interesting?

01.43.44 JOE KEENAN: Well, we yeah, you know, it uh, well, he uh, what, whatever happened to him happened uh, when he was in his late teens, early 20s. And it, and it took 50 years to affect him. So I'll go for 50 years, that's ok (LAUGHS).

01.44.02 And if this wants to affect me 40 to 50 years from now, that's ok (LAUGHS).

JW: What about, is it Karen's boyfriend?

01.44.18 JOE KEENAN: Karen's, my future son-in-law. Karen's fiancé, right (~JW~). He was, well, he's home now. He's uh, but he's been home now for awhile. About a year. He did uh, two tours overseas.

01.44.31 Uh, first time he was involved with the uh, uh, Afghanistan, and then the second time he went, he was actually in Iraq. He was up in uh, I forget exactly the name. Uh, Tikrit, was that the name of the town up north? He was right in the thick of that. He was right in the, in the middle of all of that when it was going on. So he saw a lot of uh, what happened in Iraq. He saw a lot of action there, and a lot of uh, bad times. But uh, you know, not good. But he's, he's home now and he doesn't seem to have any affects from it.

01.45.07 He was fortunate, he wasn't injured while he was there. And uh, he's back home now and he's doing fine. He's uh, you know, working in the transit unit. He works uh, uh, what I guess I could explain best as a city-wide crime unit, where he'll work uh, wherever he works for the uh, well, he's of course in the New York City police department, but he's assigned to the transit unit.

01.45.31 And uh, wherever they feel that they might be having particular problems on different trains or different areas they assign groups to uh, uh, to saturate that area, and that's what he does. So he works out of uniform. He works in soft clothes, and he has a uh, a, they're, they're like the troubleshooters, I guess. Wherever there's a specific problem, they send in extra people and that's what he does. So he has a nice job.

01.46.00 It's working fine. And they'll be getting married uh, a year from November, and Joseph will be married a year from now, a year from September. So it's gonna be interesting next year (LAUGHS). My wife is all upset. She says what are we gonna do, we have two weddings in six weeks, and don't worry, we don't have to do anything. All we have to do is show up (LAUGHS). Whatever we do or don't do, the two weddings are still going to happen. And uh.

JW: You have to pay for one of them, don't you?

01.46.27 JOE KEENAN: Well, yeah, I know but that's all done already. That's all, it's all set aside (LAUGHS). It's all set aside. (~JW~)

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

01.46.42 END OF TAPE #JK32

02.01.01 PICTURE UP

02.01.01 JOE KEENAN: (MID-STATEMENT) what we're going to do and uh, just recently, Deidra's older brother came home and he told them that uh, he was getting engaged and getting married in the next October, so they now have two weddings closer (LAUGHS). They got like 3 weeks. We got six weeks, they got three weeks. (LAUGHS) So it's no longer a joke as far as they're concerned (LAUGHS).

JW: Any other things that come to mind about the year, the anniversary?

- 02.02.09 JOE KEENAN: That was uh, it was interesting. I told you that I pretty much uh, trying not to uh, uh, try not to get involved with anything. Uh, when they had uh, was it the, I guess the first anniversary on '02, I was directly involved and uh, when they had the ceremony at the World Trade Center site, I was right there, I was down in the, down (?) the hole with the whole ceremony.
- 02.02.38 And after that I really tried not to uh, uh, get too directly involved with it. It's uh, I, I know what I saw, I know what I did. I know where I was. I don't have to keep bringing it up over and over again each year. I'm uh, I'm at uh, it's not comfortable. It's not comfortable, it's not something I want to just keep thinking about and (?) going over every year. We were just talking about speaking about it with uh, my brother-in-law the other day, the one who's the fireman who uh, uh, who retired also. And he, he made a comment that uh, he didn't like uh, the ceremonies because uh, the ceremonies are starting to transfer from the ceremony to a celebration.
- 02.03.32 And it's not what, what should be. Uh, and (?) I agree with that. And as we were talking about it, said, you know, it's probably, they're probably not the right words to use, but uh, people are starting to treat it as a holiday. And it really isn't. It should be more of a holy day. And I know those are really aren't the right words, because you don't want to bring religion into it, or, or your own personal beliefs.
- 02.03.56 But I think it should be more solemn, and, and, and what's happening is uh, people are starting to go to ceremonies, and then after the ceremonies, they're meeting friends, and they're going out. And I don't want to get involved with that. I just, that's not the way I look at it, that's not the way I feel. And uh, I'm not going to do it. What I have done the last three years, and it's just uh, uh, a connection of I guess my old life with my new life. Uh, what I'm doing now as compared to what I, I did. Uh, there's a local school in Brooklyn, Poly Prep, which is a, a local private school uh, in Brooklyn.
- 02.04.33 And they always have football games on that day. And uh, I've been, and they have a ceremony, they have a nice little ceremony before the game in, in uh, remembrance because uh, of the people they lost in connection with their school. And I've been there for the past three years. And that's, that's been nice. I officiate that game. And I'm there for the ceremony before. And uh, gives me my connection for that day at that particular time, and then I can move on and officiate the game and uh, and you know, do what I do now.

- 02.05.09 So I like that, that's good. It, it connects me, yet at the same time it uh, doesn't go overboard. I, I uh, Jane came down on 9-11 morning, and I was sitting in the living room and I was uh, and I was watching the reading of the names. And she said to me, pretty much like putting your hands on your hips. She said, you said last night you weren't gonna watch this.
- 02.05.30 And I said, you're absolutely right, I didn't (LAUGHS). But it somehow was a little addictive. Once, once you start to watch it, it's hard uh, it's hard to uh, hard to turn away from it, hard to ignore it. But uh, I don't really know how I feel about what goes on, well, what's going to go on every year with this. Uh, as I said before, I have my own uh, memories, my (?) own remembrance of it and uh, I, I just don't want to see them ruin it. I don't want to see them uh.
- 02.06.09 I don't want it to become, it, it hasn't, but I don't want them to become commercialized. Or, if they continue the way they are now, inside 10 years, 12 years, 15 years, they'll be having parades and people'll be wearing funny hats and, and it's not what it's supposed to be.
- 02.06.28 That's now how we're supposed to remember it. Because in a few years now, there'll be people who are old enough to know what's going on who didn't know what happened. Who didn't know what went on on uh, in 2001 when it happened. And uh, it has to be kept, I think it should be kept solemn. It should be respected more than celebrated. And uh, that's my little soap box (LAUGHS). But that's the way I feel about it. Yeah, I don't want to, I don't want to go down there on a, on the, the anniversary of 9-11 and be at the site and see it, I, I don't want to do that.
- 02.07.06 Uh, maybe it's a little uh, cowardly to avoid it, but that's the way I want to handle it. I want to avoid it. I, I, I don't want to keep rehashing it. I want to remember it the way I want to remember it, which everybody's memory of it is different, and everybody's memory changes with time. And uh, it's like when you hit that long home run, it gets longer and longer each time you hit it (LAUGHS).
- 02.07.30 But uh, that's, that's the way I want to remember it. Uh, I don't want to, I don't want to force it. I want to remember when I remember, as opposed to when you're telling me to. And uh, you know, it (?) you know, fortunately I (?) was fortunate. I wasn't uh, you know, on scene when it actually happened. I was there afterwards. Uh, so I don't want to uh, uh, I don't want it to get worse. I don't want it to uh, have, have memories of what really didn't happen.

- 02.08.04 I just want to remember what I know and what I did, and where I was. And uh, you can't help but think about it. Certain things will trigger you. You'll see something, you'll think about it. Uh, uh, you dream about it. And uh, people who were directly involved who tell you they don't aren't telling you the truth, because you do. And uh, that's the way I want it to uh, I don't want it to fade away. I just want it to be that little part of my brain where it is right now and just keep it in that spot.
- 02.08.36 I don't know if that's right or not, but that's what's working for me right now. I think it should be more like uh, uh, like uh, a remembrance of Pearl Harbor, as opposed to a remembrance of 4th of July. It's not, it's not something we should be celebrating. That's not something we should be happy about. It's just, it's something that should remind us of uh, a very serious thing, because it was very serious.
- 02.09.06 And that's the way we should remember. What happens unfortunately is the poor people who were involved in Washington and Pennsylvania, they sort of get pushed off to the side. Nobody really talks about them. But they were involved also. And uh, I'm sure their families have, uh, I'm sure the families of the people who were on the plane that went down in Pennsylvania aren't really thinking about the World Trade Center on that day.
- 02.09.29 They're thinking about their own people, and that's the way it should be.

JW: Is there anything more you'd like to say?

JOE KEENAN: Not on that, 'cos I'm starting to ramble on it (LAUGHS).

JW: You're very eloquent. What about the spiritual aspect of it?

JOE KEENAN: Yeah, as I said, I don't know if that's the right way to say it. (~JW~).

JW: (?)

- 02.10.09 JOE KEENAN: But I just don't know how else to explain it. What I'm trying to say is it's something we should remember seriously, as opposed to celebrating. That's what I'm trying

to say. It's not something that uh, it's not an event that should uh, precipitate uh, happy celebrations in the future.

- 02.10.29 It's an event where uh, (?) everybody uh, has their own uh, their own part of spirituality. Everybody has, has their own way of doing it. And if it uh, I mean, Catholic uh, uh, I associate it with well, maybe, maybe it should be a nice mass for the day. And I'm not, I'm not trying to be pompous about that, or pious, but uh, that's when I, that's what I mean. I would rather see it that way, as opposed to bands marching in the street. It, it's not something that we should have bands marching in the street about.
- 02.11.02 It's something where you should have reflection. That's probably better. If everybody could just uh, you know, that old moment of silence uh, before the ballgame? Well, that's, that's I think that's a better way to do it than to have (?) uh, I know there'll always be something structured. I understand that. Uh, because that's just the way things are. But uh, you can uh, I (?) think that you have to let those poor families alone, leave them alone. Let them go on with their lives.
- 02.11.30 If they want to fade away and not be there, fine. Leave them alone. And uh, remember what happened, reflect on it, and uh, try to do what you can not to have it happen again. And as just a little individual, that's hard to do, 'cos we don't really have too much control there. But uh, that's the way I feel. I, I would just be very unhappy to see it get to, get to a situation where it's more of a celebration than a remembrance.
- 02.12.02 Uh, and it hasn't happened yet. But it can, you can see. It's (?) going to start changing uh, as the years go on. After that uh, after that area is built on, and that uh, uh, uh, depression or hole is not there anymore, then what are the people gonna do? Where, where are they gonna go on 9-11 then to celebrate or I mean, to uh, remember? So you have to be uh, you have to, they'll move on to some place else, and they'll uh, how are they gonna get there? Well, they'll have a little parade from the World Trade Center to wherever it's going to be.
- 02.12.34 Uh, Battery Park or else from Battery Park to there. And, and I don't think it should be that way. I don't think we should forget. And I don't think anybody who's ever involved, I understand now. I think I mentioned it to you before. But I understand now uh, something that my brothers and sisters and I had always teased my mother about, about her reaction to Pearl Harbor and that, that morning when she and my father were sitting in the living room and the Sunday morning and they were listening to the radio and it all happened.

02.13.02 And we, we, we uh, you know, uh, probably shouldn't but we tease her about her reaction. Now I understand. I understand exactly how she felt then, and I understand why she's still angry about it. And I understand why she's not happy. And, and now I understand. Before I didn't. Before we, we were teasing her and it became a little bit of a family joke. Because we would tease her and she would get, you know, get uppity about it. But then now I understand.

02.13.31 And I think that's the way I want to feel about it when I'm her age.

JW: Is it anger that you're feeling?

02.13.40 JOE KEENAN: It is anger, you know, it's you know, can't help but you know, being angry. Uh, because uh, it shouldn't have happened. You know, if uh, it, it's such a tough overall philosophical question where you know, the struggles of people and, and war and uh, but something way above my head.

02.14.06 But does it make you angry when it happens? If, maybe it's not the right reaction. Maybe you shouldn't feel that way. But that's the way you feel. You can't (?) you, you can contain your emotions, but you can't control them. They'll, things will happen. You don't have to show it, you don't have to be, you know, let other people know what you're thinking or how you feel, but you feel that way. And uh, am I angry about it? Sure. You know, I'm angry. I wish it hadn't happened. If uh, we could have done something to avoid it uh, that would have been the right thing to you know, do to avoid it in the beginning.

02.14.36 But uh, it (?) did happen. And uh, I don't know if I can understand the, the reasoning of the people who did it. I, because I don't think that way. That's a foreign mentality from mine. I just don't understand it. So it's (?) hard for me to accept that they thought they were doing right. I just can't accept that. I, I don't think they did right and I'll don't think I'll ever think they did right.

02.15.03 And it's hard for me to understand how they believe that they were correct. I just don't uh, I just can't understand it. And I don't want to understand it. I want to feel the way I feel as opposed to the way they feel. And if that's wrong, I've been wrong before in my life (LAUGHS). You know, I've done things in the past that were wrong. But if that's wrong, then I'm wrong. But that's the way I feel.

JW: Still going to church on Sunday?

- 02.15.34 JOE KEENAN: Yeah, yeah, (~JW~), no, no uh, you know, it hasn't uh, one hasn't affected the other. Like you'll see sometimes when you'll have a very close death in the family, people will react and they'll withdraw and they'll not go to church and then they'll come back. You know, that didn't happen uh, that didn't uh, you know, that didn't happen for us, for me. Uh, I don't think one really affected the other. You know, I still continue on with the way I was before.
- 02.16.03 Uh, do I think more about it? Probably. You know, you know, am I, am I understanding a little more well, it also has to do with getting older. You can't you know, you can't help getting older and it sure beats the alternative, as they say. But uh, maybe that has something to do with it also, where you start to understand that you know, this is, this can end rather quickly.
- 02.16.27 And uh, and it did end rather quickly for a lot of people. And uh, so. Uh. Has it changed, it hasn't changed, are they connected, probably. But I wouldn't say one, I wouldn't say I'm more spiritual now or I'm a better Catholic now than I was before, no, I don't think, I don't think the two have. What, what's ore, what, what makes you think more we were, I was just talking to a neighbor the other day and he was asking me questions about uh, uh.
- 02.17.00 We were talking, he, he's a photographer, and he was talking about pictures of, of 9-11. And it made me remember a, a one of the fellows, one of the police officers who died, it was a friend of mine. He was actually uh, he was a, he was assigned to the video unit. So whenever something happened, he would respond in, in his uh, with his gear and he would take pictures of whatever was going on that uh, in the future would then be analyzed to see what went right, what went wrong. And he died there while he was taking pictures. He was kneeling on the ground, taking pictures of the building. And never found him.
- 02.17.37 And gone with his equipment and everything. So I you know, I thought about that last week when we were talking. And was just happened, you know, uh, not that I think about him more or less than others, but that just, the conversation with my neighbor just triggered that because he was asking me about pictures. And I was just thinking about this guy, kneeling down, doing what he was supposed to be doing at the time and uh, never to be seen again.

02.18.04 Not easy. And he was a friend. He was a friend, yeah, we, I knew almost everybody involved from the police department, but they weren't all friends. Uh, in, in the police department you know so many people but they really not your friends until uh, you're retired and you meet them on vacation somewhere. Then they're your best buddies (LAUGHS). But uh, he was actually a friend. Uh, so that one hurts more than the others.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

JW: Your opinion is very clear.

02.18.45 JOE KEENAN: You always, you always seem to draw a little bit out each time. I'm never really going to tell you anything, and each time you get me to say something (LAUGHS).

JW: I just want to know what you're thinking?

02.19.18 JOE KEENAN: Yeah, I have, I have no control what other people thinking and I, I don't know how they feel, or I know how a lot of the guys I worked with feel because I pretty much with them all the time. I was with them a, a long periods of time before 9-11 and during it and after it.

02.19.33 So we pretty much all cut from the same cloth. We all pretty much think the same way. You tend to uh, you tend to uh, travel in your own little bunch. Uh, you stay with like-thinkers. But that happens everywhere, no matter where you work or what you do. You uh, people tend to do that. So uh, the guys who I feel are my good friends, they all pretty much feel the same way, you know, and it uh, sound like a griping session if you (?) sit down and start to talk about it, and we really don't. But the, that's the way I feel about it.

02.20.05 I don't usually tell people the way I feel about things, because it uh, you know, over the course of your, over your course of your career, you just see so many things. You see a lot of good things. You see a lot of bad things. Uh, I don't know if we've seen more good things than the regular person, but we definitely see more bad things than the regular person. And if you, and if you start dwelling on that or talking about it at home, it can only be a negative.

02.20.31 So I usually just leave that alone. And uh, I don't, I don't talk about it too much.

JW: What about the buildings and their moving forward?

- 02.20.49 JOE KEENAN: Not really. I just wish they would decide what they're going to do and, and uh, get on it. Uh, get on with it. But uh, as with everything else of that size or that magnitude, it always winds up getting political. And uh, everybody's afraid of insulting somebody else, or, or stepping on someone else's toes.
- 02.21.05 It's pretty much time to just get on with it. You know, uh, whoever the powers-to-be are that are going to decide what to do, well, let's just get it done. Let's just do it and, and uh, get it done. Should there be something at the site, yes absolutely. Yeah, there should be a little where if they decide that this spot where uh, where the buildings originally were, we're not going to build there, we're gonna build where the concourses were and move things around because that's sacred ground, that's fine.
- 02.21.36 Nothing wrong with that. That's fine. But it's time to move on. And it's time to get it done. Uh, I'm sure uh, uh, you know, some of the families might not, might think I'm (?) trivializing that but I, I don't mean it that way. Uh, it's just uh, the longer we take to correct that situation, the more they won. The more the people who did it won.
- 02.21.59 And if they're, if they're intent was to hurt us and set us back and disrupt things, then the longer we allow it to sit dormant, the more they're winning. And uh, it shouldn't be fixed for that reason. But that's part of it. I mean, it, it should be uh, if they would just want to make the whole place a park, fine, make the whole place a park and leave it that way. But do it. If they want to make it all office buildings again, fine. Make it all office buildings. You know, it doesn't really matter to me one way or the other.
- 02.22.30 Because whatever they do at that site's not gonna change how I feel. But whatever they're going to do, they should just do it. It's taking too long.

JW: It's not going to change how you feel about what you just said?

- 02.22.47 JOE KEENAN: Right. Yeah (~JW~), no, it's not gonna change uh, my, my memories or how I feel about that. Uh, it doesn't really matter what type of building or, or, or monuments are there. Uh, I, I know how I feel about it.

02.23.03 And whatever the, whatever the people who own the land or who are in charge of building it do uh, it's not, it's not gonna change what I know, what I remember. It uh, I have a question now for you. How's that uh, time lapse photography going there?

JW: It's going well.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

02.24.32 JOE KEENAN: What's going to happen, though, is they're taking so long that they won't be finished by the time you're finished.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

JW: This year has been a go-ahead-and-do-it kind of attitude and people are emotionally ready to build, a correlation?

02.26.54 JOE KEENAN: That's an interesting correlation. I wish that uh, wish you could say that part of their delay was to help the healing process, but it really has nothing to do with that. The, the delay it, it's uh, just has to do with people not agreeing and (?) they can't get on with what uh, everybody's afraid to make the wrong decision. Everybody wants to, but somebody has to make a decision. Somebody has to say all right it's time, let's go. (~JW~) And nobody's saying that.

JW: Are the people involved asserting themselves and forging the process ahead?

02.28.06 JOE KEENAN: I, I can't, I can't speak for how the average person in the street who walks by there feels, but I would be really surprised if the average person who's walking by isn't saying, come on, let's, let's do something. I, I think they're ready. I think they're ready. And if we're ready, let's, let's do it. I'll uh.

JW: It's a pretty interesting process and the timing is right?

02.28.50 JOE KEENAN: It's all, all connected in some way. And uh, maybe that's part of the master plan, to have it all connected in some way. But uh, it does make me a little uncomfortable to know that we're still, maybe we're not dragging feet. Maybe those people working 18 hours a day to get this done. But you just don't hear about it. You just don't see it. There, there's nothing to touch there. There's nothing tangible to say, well, we've turned the page and now we're where uh, progressing forward, we're making progress. There's nothing to say that.

02.29.28 Uh, people can come here uh, four years later who have never been here before, and pretty much still a hole in the ground. Shouldn't be. Uh, should, should be some progress.

JW: Do you have anything else?

JOE KEENAN: No, I don't think so.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

JW: There is some progress, with the museum and memorial and there might be a formal relationship in the works for us.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

02.31.31 JOE KEENAN: I'm glad to help if I uh, I just wish I could help more. I wish I had more to offer. But uh, this, having been a uh, one-time incident uh, it's not as if we can say well, this is what I'm doing about it today. And this is what I'm doing about it today. Because it's over. It's over. Uh, what we did, we did. You know, we did things right, we did things wrong. Uh, but whatever we did, it's over. And uh, it's uh, it, it's hard for me to find new things about it, new things to talk about.

02.32.03 But uh, but as I said, you always find a way to grab something (LAUGHS).

JW: You talked about a lot of new things.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

02.33.27 JOE KEENAN: I'll probably go through the tunnel. We'll, I'll hop on the Drive, go down the Drive, go through the tunnel. And then I usually go, dependent upon uh, we'll take this traffic here and make a left (LAUGHS). I'll take this traffic here, I'll make a right. Uh, you know, I fake it all the way home. (~JW~).

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

02.33.46 JOE KEENAN: You have to sit in the baby seat, though, somebody's got to sit in the baby seat uh, with the monkey (LAUGHS). There's a monkey in the back of the car. (LAUGHS).

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

02.34.03 JOE KEENAN: Yeah, you still have my neighbors talking. They're not quite sure who I am. (LAUGHS) That's the way I like it. (LAUGHS)

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

02.35.20 ROOM TONE

02.36.09 END OF TAPE # JK 33

03.01.02 PICTURE UP – INT, CAR WITH JOE KEENAN DRIVING

02.36.18 JOE KEENAN: Too young to really like uh, you know, she's only 15 months, so she doesn't really uh, (~ovlp~) she doesn't follow TV. She has a favorite show on a uh, on Noggin. I guess you get Noggin also. It's a part of Nickelodeon. It's Noggin is for babies, younger children.

02.36.33 And there's this one little show called Jack's Music Show, and it's puppets. And there's three puppets, Jack and Mary are a boy and a girl, and they have a dog named Mel. And every day

they get into a musical adventure. Somehow they have a little clubhouse. And that's what, she'll sit down in her rocking chair, and she'll watch that from beginning to end, and then all the other stuff she sort of watches, she doesn't watch. She hasn't gotten into her uh, my wife has a complete set.

02.36.59 Has nothing to do with the baby has to do with her. She has a complete set of Disney films, from the first one ever until whatever's the most recent. But uh, she's anxious for the baby to watch them, but she's not interested yet. (~ovlp~) It doesn't mean anything to her yet.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

02.37.54 JOE KEENAN: We used to spend a lot of time right up here with then uh, my unit. Certain units do uh, different details as they come up, and every year in September they have the General Assembly for the UN. And my unit was always assigned to the General Assembly. So we used to spend a lot of time right here up on this overpass. So I pretty much know my way around here. We used to uh, uh, we provided a lot of security for the UN. I guess that people didn't really see. Detective bureau used to assign a lot of people here.

02.38.30 Could be here from uh, I guess one or two days before it opened, until the end of the General Assembly. And we'd be here from opening to close every day. So we're pretty familiar with all this area here.

02.38.44 B ROLL CONTINUES, JOE KEENAN DRIVING CAR ON HIGHWAY BRIDGE

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

02.39.58 JOE KEENAN: I believe in that. A lot of people don't. I minded my own business when Janine was naming the baby, but I think that there's something to family names. As long as they're not you know, Cornelius or uh, (LAUGHS) Fauntleroy (LAUGHS). As long as it's something the, the kid can grow up with. (~JW~) I'm a junior, and my son's a third. (~JW~) Yeah, so uh, I believe in that.

02.40.26 B ROLL CONTINUES, JOE KEENAN DRIVING CAR, CLOSE UP

- 02.41.33 JOE KEENAN: Years and years ago, when they first built this place in the '70s, I guess, early '70s, I remember we had a, we had a case in there, people were uh, fencing stolen goods. And we worked our way in there, we (?) were uh, waiters and bartenders at their party one night. (LAUGHS) And we, we like we all had little uh, the little uh, lapel mikes with recorders on us.
- 02.42.02 We'd just walk around the room all day. Listening to whatever they had to say (LAUGHS).
- 02.42.08 B ROLL CONTINUES, JOE KEENAN DRIVING CAR, CAUSEWAY, CU ON RING
- 02.43.01 JOE KEENAN: This is a great road when it's open. Sometimes you can spend hours on it.
- 02.43.07 B ROLL CONTINUES, JOE KEENAN DRIVING CAR, ECU
- 02.43.42 JOE KEENAN: In the early '80s when I used to teach in the Police Academy, we would come out every day and we would run all the way down here to the uh, under the bridge and run back. It was our exercise for the day.
- 02.43.57 B ROLL CONTINUES, JOE KEENAN DRIVING CAR ON HIGHWAY, VIEW THRU WINDSHIELD, PAN TO BUILDINGS
- 02.46.40 CAR GOING THRU TUNNELS, VIEW OF BUILDINGS THRU WINDSHIELD
- 02.50.43 JOE KEENAN : Sometimes you can hit it just right. Tell them to come here Wednesday at about 2 in the afternoon. (~JW~) They'll see the real traffic.
- 02.50.57 B ROLL CONTINUES, JOE KEENAN DRIVING CAR ON HIGHWAY
- 02.51.29 VIEW FROM STREET, JOE KEENAN DRIVING AWAY
- 02.52.00 TUNNEL LIGHTS
- 02.52.58 VIEW OF SKYLINE AT DUSK
- 02.55.06 EMPIRE STATE BUILDING IN DISTANCE
- 02.55.28 STATIONARY VIEW OF CHRYSLER BUILDING

02.55.44 END OF TAPE # JK 34