

Trans St. Joes OMH

Marie: It's on now?

Otto: Yeah.

Marie: Well can I start?

Otto: Sure start.

Marie: Well in 1983

Otto: Why have we waited so long to come forward with this?

Marie: Because right after it happened I was afraid I would get back into it so that why I waited.

Harry: (inaudible) What had happened and that is the reason for it. We didn't want to remember .....

Otto: How long was it before you could even talk about it

Marie: It was 3 years, 2 or 3 years. And (inadible) I went to the doctor and I had a cold Dr. Hughes and I had a cold and he gave me.. What was it he gave me?

Otto: He gave you Phergan. Cough medicine.

Marie: yes. Antibiotic.

Otto: Tetracycline your usual valium, Elavil, and Dalmane.

Marie: ? Days later when I woke up in the morning I couldn't even think. I felt like I had lost my mind. And so I called Otto he didn't live with us at the time. And he called a friend of his and the friend came over and brought me over to the hospital so that Otto was coming home but he had to wait until he got a ride. I went into the hospital I couldn't even sign my name.

Otto: I got there right after she got into the hospital.

Marie: Yes doctor Hughes ordered some kind of a shot and I was out for a whole week. Completely out. And Otto I called my sister she came down.

Otto: that was before you went to the hospital.

Marie: Yes but she came down the next day and she came in the hospital. She couldn't believe it and Otto was coming over, he was trying to feed me and all the kept me was on drugs. A week later I came out of it and I went home

Harry: (inaudible) You came home you were feeling much better than all of a sudden he put you back on those drugs.

Otto: The Elavil

Harry: Especially the Elavil

Otto: 75mg and before he had been prescribing 50 mg when she first had this reaction.

Harry: And they knocked her right out completely.

Otto: And she came out of it at the hospital when they cut the drugs and gave her an enema and the enema is not in the medical records.

Marie:(inaudible)

Otto: They also gave you another one.

Marie: Yes

Otto: And the injection that she received while first being admitted to the hospital was given to her by this nurse Gaul, they called her Margaret, Elizabeth Gaul or something and she had braces and she came in gave- (inaudible) she gave her the injection and when I asked what it was she said sedative. She was real (inadible) she told me it was Thorazine something like that and at that point after the injection she went to her catatonic state and occasionally mumbling hallucinations, hallucinations, (inadible) and they just kept pumping her with drugs, when they cut the drugs, gave her enema she came out of it. They gave her b complex. And I told Hughes to give her b complex.

Marie: I went home and a week later I can't remember exactly what happened but they told me that I slashed my wrists afterwards. And I certainly- they said well you must have been suicidal. Well I wasn't I was 58 years old and I never slashed my wrists before

Harry: He wants right back on that Elavil.

Otto: you started hallucinating and you wasn't sleeping .

Marie: and I wasn't sleeping.

Otto: you couldn't eat.

Marie: I couldn't eat I couldn't do anything.

Otto: she was constipated she didn't have any bowel movements.

Marie: Let me tell.

Otto: okay I'm sorry.

Marie: then I went back into the hospital and again I was they filled me up with drugs and every night I was I don't know what to say it, I was hallucinating. And it would last all night long and then finally when a nurse came and she asked me to sign a paper for the insurance company which is I remember vaguely and she told me if I would sign it. And then Otto came into the room and it was for shock treatment it wasn't for insurance.and Otto told me not to sign it. And

the next day when Otto wasn't there and Harry wasn't there, they came back with the form and I really didn't know what I was signing so I signed for it. And then they started giving me shock treatment.

Otto: Let's just go back a little before that. Before she had signed this paper they said was the insurance form doctor Hughes I had heard his voice yelling when I was going down the hallway towards my mother's room, when I entered the room he had his hands grasped above her sutures and he would have his face three inches from her face. And I walked in and I saw this he let her go and got back away from my mother. But I held my mother and she was crying. She was terrified of it. He had a white paper and he wanted her to sign this paper and my dad came in. He said that's all they had left was to give her shocks. And my dad and I said no shocks and my mother was terrified. Doctor Hughes and all these hallucinations and she says you're the dog faced man. You're the leader of the pack, the wolves. And we said we wanted a second opinion and then a few days later they-

Marie: No when we asked for the second opinion he got into a rage and he walked out of the room and he said you find yourself a doctor. And at that time Harry was at that sore throat he was losing his voice and he had asked them to look at his throat and he said you get some other doctor I'm not going to bother with you.

Otto: And he's doing this with my dad

Marie: Yes he's so then

Otto: Inaudible ok go ahead

Marie: Then they gave me a shock treatment and the next day they gave me two shock treatments. And then Otto finally had to go to a lawyer so that it would stop the shock treatment. Harry and Otto went to the lawyer and he wrote to the hospital and the doctor that they would have to stop the shock treatment that, that was requested and then he told the other doctor that the letter he received that we were going to sue him which wasn't true. It was only about the shock treatments. So then another doctor took over. They finally stopped the shock treatment. Another doctor came over and introduced himself to me and he told me you will eat good and I'm changing all your pills and you will feel better and you will go home. And he changed the medication, and I didn't have anymore hallucination. I didn't have anything else happening. And I was back on my feet. Just

another week or so, so the doctor told me that if I keep doing that well I could go home. In the meanwhile Harry went to another doctor and he thought he had laryngitis. Then he went to a specialist and come to find out he had a tumor that was cancerous in his throat. Then I kept going another physiatrist after I got out of the hospital. Otto: yeah we went to his name doctor von Oldenburg was we went to see him, and he drugged her. He had got her out of the hospital and then he drugged her.

Marie: Well at least I wasn't hallucinating.

Otto: yeah but you couldn't concentrate mom, you couldn't comprehend (inaudible) he gave her Mellaril, he gave her Cylert, Mellaril is a neuroleptic, sedative, causes hallucinations, he gave her Cylert which is a psychostimulant, he gave her Benadryl its an antihistimine, very sedating. He gave her Centrax a benzodiazepine tranquilizer like Valium, he gave her Halcion, Xanax, niacin, tryptophan, she couldn't comprehend a commercial.

Marie: And that lasted about a year and that (inaudible) he used to (inaudible) and take me here and there. I don't think I would have made it if Otto and Harry wouldn't have helped me.

Harry: I would like to bring up one comment, the aftermath of this has changed my wife a great deal, (inaudible) hospital with his doctor especially she was capable of driving the automobile in traffic and everything, now she cannot drive or get behind the wheel, secondly one of the most important things she used to be able to take cloth material and patterns and make her own dresses or anything that she wanted. Today she cannot do that is does not understand the signs or anything else so her mind has been wiped right out completely.

Otto: her vision after getting out of the hospital her vision deteriorated from that point on rapidly.

Marie: Well I think it has affected Otto so that he's had

Otto: Say about the year, the it was a year that von Oldenburg, he just kept on drugging her and he behind his desk, behind his seat was a closet full of free samples. My mother would complain about doctor Hughes. And he would open the closet and get out free samples and say here try some of these. Here take one now and he would get a glass of water and we requested our records, my mothers records and he won't send the records. He kept all his records. He was I want to tell this because its a (inaudible) Yeah I'm trying not to make it too

long. Yeah he told us about some other doctor and his wife (inaudible) she doesn't want me to repeat it. It was sleazy, sexual activities.

Marie: You used to bring me up to the doctor and you used to bring me back because I (inaudible) from driving, there was no way I could get there. You used to take me by the hand and take me here take me there. And finally we went to a doctor a-

Otto: psychiatrist

Marie: psychiatrist into another state. And he took all of those pills which were about 15 pills a day he took them away and he put me on medication and three or four months I was much better except for the memory part. I don't think that will ever get better. I finally thought that I could think like other people and I didn't have to hallucinate or anything like that and I was on tryptophan which helped me to sleep but they took them off the market, so it was very hard after that get back to sleep every night. And I have been under doctors care ever since.

Marie: And that has affected Otto terribly. My husband meanwhile had cancer and his throat and they had to remove his vocal cords. My son took care of him like a baby. My husband almost died. But my son was up every night to take care of him just like he was before to take care of me. And I think that's why he's very affected by all of this and he needs some help and I should think that there would be someone that could help him. Because that's not fair.

Otto: to help all of us.

Marie: well as long as they help you it'll help all of us if they help you now because you're the one who needs help.

Otto: Well dad gets nightmares and you couldn't talk about it for years and all these psychiatrist say about what had happened is forget about it forget about it and I was going biserk. No one would help me. No one would help me get (inaudible) finally one physician requested it from this other physician (inaudible) had used his records and he wasn't releasing them and this other physician got them for me. And he says here Otto put your mind at ease and I photocopied them all. But we had to get out of the state to do that. We couldn't get anything done. It was just- when I got out of the state even I couldn't dig up- the psychiatrist. They were- Fleishman didn't put anything in the records of what had happened.

Marie: well its (inaudible)

Otto: I know he did what had happened you know.

Marie: What about you, do you have something to say?

Harry: Well I think you have been following along very closely as to what has happened and I am still of the feeling that the doctor giving you that medication should have known better. What the medication was doing, they were keeping you almost (inaudible) of not knowing what was going on.

Otto: A zombie state.

Marie: Yes (inaudible) when they took me out of it. That it was over here when they took me out of it every rib in my body hurt and they were wondering why. Well they had taken me out of it when I was out so I didn't know what they had done to me. So they took all kinds of tests which got me nowhere because they couldn't do anything.

Otto: They just kept drugging you.

Harry: Well that's just it. Constant drugs (inaudible)

Otto: and they didn't put the injection in there. They put in- they gave her Tylenol injection, I was there. They gave her this injection, they didn't give her Tylenol. And they weren't giving her water after we said we wanted a second opinion. I'd go into the hospital there wouldn't be any water in there. There was cadavers go into the hallway, they'd be three at a time or whatever. Go into this freight elevator at that point my aunt was so terrified and she has a heart condition, and I said to her I think you better go home. You can't do anything here. The only thing I could think of is going to kill her. Hardly ever see my cousins and my aunt and id like to be more close to them and she comes down to help and then Hughes was gonna probably get her. Got everyone else.

Marie: so I guess

Harry: (inaudible)

Otto: oh he's getting people, he's there and he's still practicing.

Harry: He's just passing out drugs

Otto: Tell them about the free samples. (inaudible)

Marie: He gave free samples and try this and try that and I got home and I used to throw them in the drawer because I didn't know which one was which. Finally we would throw them all out.

Otto: It was a box of those Valiums these hospital packs and they're all coiled up, Dalmanes, alluvial. When I came into the house and I

was cleaning it, they sold the house and I cleaned it I filled two trash cans of drugs,

Marie: Pills

Otto: Yeah

Marie: Pills, syrups

Otto: Pills, syrups and I filled one trashcan bag of controlled substances, free samples, boxes of these things. These little cartons with a few pills, but a whole carton. And the hospital packs just filled a bag a trash bag full of them. I dragged it around for years.

Everyones seen them, I showed all these people. Finally we threw it out. I couldn't even get the DEA to look at it, they said the states supposed to handle it. No one in the states done anything. I called and cried out the state police, the Ag's office nothing.

Marie: Otto is very much affected by that, he has been ever since it happened and he needs help, someone has to understand what is going on.

Otto: And what happened to us I can't get any help. They just say oh it didn't happen, oh its nothing.

Marie: Or forget it.

Otto: Yeah forget about it. This is years that we went through. I had to get away from my parents because of the horror I was seeing. I couldn't change it, I couldn't do anything about it. I told you as I said, these drugs are making them sick. He wouldn't do anything. He would say here's a prescription fro Valiums or something, calm your nerves, get some free samples.

Marie: What else he gave you some other things.

Otto: Meprobamates, they're like quaaludes, and those injections, giving them hay fever injections during my hay fever season, ten times the dosage. I was getting 1/10th solution then they gave me full strength. I was having tremendous reactions on it. And he says here take these tranquilizers. Just drugging everyone, drug them, make you sick with them.

Marie: Well I just want anybody to know if something happens to my husband and I, what this doctor has done to all of us, and Otto should get some kind of help before it's too late. Because it does affect him very much so. And were very close and he's very close to us, but we don't want to have him mess up his life because of us. I

mean we can take care of each other now but we have to taken care of him.

Otto: Yeah but dad legs are going and your going blind and after going through all this and crying out, dad with the cancer, you being sick simultaneously, me trying to tell them stop giving them the damn drugs, stop, and they just keep on, like they can do anything to you, and you can't even defend yourself.

Marie: inaudible

Otto: Yeah but Fleishman didn't put down on the paperwork that said what had happened.

Marie: Yes but if he helped.

Otto: Yeah he did help you, he did when I was the one who told him, it's the Mellaril anticholinergic syndrome. That's when he stopped and gave you the (inaudible)

Marie: He cut out fifteen pills a day.

He cut out fifteen pills a day when I was taking four afterwards. Different pills of course.

Otto: And then she went to another doctor what he say when you started talking about how bad Hughes was and what he did?

Marie: He didn't want to hear about it.

Harry: They all stand behind each other.

Otto: we can't get his records either.

Marie: No he's gone to California

Otto: Yeah he's practicing in California

Marie: He's better off to be there.

Otto: No he's better off probably not practicing.

Marie: Well don't you think that's about.

Harry: I think that's just about everything, I think it (inaudible) a great deal.

Marie: I think it has affected Otto now.

Harry: It is, it's affecting Otto now, as he looks back at it. He does need help. He needs something of a guidance of something.  
(inaudible)

Otto: Recognize this injustice, I want this to be recognized. People can't be allowed to do this to people. He had (inaudible) down each others throats with all these drugs. It's injustice, it's unfair it's gotta stop. No one's doing anything about it, no one. The DEA says the

state handles it. The states not doing anything. Lawyers would never want to touch this. Oh no its too big for me. Its the run around, I go to a psychiatrist, or sociologist or psychiatrist and all I get is the, that's fine away but every time that they go in a hospital. I don't look at the hospital as a place of healing. I look at it as a place they can do anything they want to, to my parents or myself if I get sick. They can harm me and get way with it. Do anything they want, strap you down, drug you out, snap shocks in your head. No that's terrible! And then they say well maybe you can get your life together if you do this do that. Yeah well there's gotta be some justice. This isn't right. It sucks. It sucks.

Marie: Well I guess that's about it, I hope there be someone who understands it, they can help you.

Otto: Yeah and stop these types of individuals from harming people. Protect the people.

Marie: Well I guess that it (inaudible)

Otto: Well I thought id discuss a little bit about the long term effects they've had and the effects that we're getting currently. We've moved many times since this happened. And with each move the folks have to find a new physician. What happens I get very hyperactive figuring the same thing may happened again. I realize that there's no protection, that's there's no guarantee that it may not happen again because no one enforces, goes after these types of doctors. I get memories of what had happened. Sometimes they start out if their small they keep going and I get nightmares its hard to stop it. my mother has this problem too, if we talk about it and there's too many medical problems and something. My dads having problems, he had some cancer removed from his face and the doctor was very good but I had to have a (inaudible) go into the hospital. The surgeon was good. He showed me exactly what he was going to do to my father. And that put me at ease in the sense that he was being honest with me, there was no deception. What has happened in Nashua at St Joes was deception, that frightened me, deception and that provokes me. He was very kind and explained everything. Afterwards I took care of my fathers face, I had taken care of his throat when he had his larynx vocal cord, most of it removed. When my mother was going to Von Oldenburg, a neighbor would take care of my mother and sit with he. And I would take my father for radiation therapy. By the time it got

to the, surgeon was cutting my fathers face, it had been this surgery had been done previously by Hughes in Nashua at St Joes Hospital. He's not a surgeon and when he removed the cancer on his face he sent the pathology that was returned days later and it came back cancer. And the thing grew back over the years across his face. When he had that surgery recently with that thirty two stitches and cleaning it again and the memories of these things it brought back the memories of what had happened at St Joes Hospital. It plays like a video tape in my mind. I can't get it out of my mind. I try to written books, and try to do anything to stop it when it starts. If it gets too bad I can't type I can't write I can't do anything. I can't eat, I don't sleep. The nightmare primarily surround being restrained, my mother being injected, I can't do anything to help her or to stop what's going on, I get feelings that when these things happen that they were killed. I wake up in the middle of the night I'm so alone. And I wake up I don't sweat, and I never sweat, even under extreme sweat I never sweat. It always seems to me unusual, but my mother had to wake me up if the nightmares start like this. I don't have nightmares about other things. I have nightmares about this hospital. That's why I'm getting nightmares now. It was a year after it happened to the folks, it was in 84 that I started noticing that it was really severe on me that I was, had no where to turn and no one I could get help from. And Fleishman, Dr Fleishman, I kept saying to him get the medical paperwork, get the medical paperwork and he said he didn't need it and he wouldn't look into it. I feel today that even going to a doctor, and I noticed this if they sense that something like this has happened

Or I've been kicked around by a doctor, they're afraid that they'll get sued or were just throw away like dirty laundry. I fear going into doctors offices. I really gotta check these guys out. I don't like going, I'm frightened of the doctors who are the free sample doctors you know you go to these people, and they get you all screwed up on these drugs like Hughes. There are doctors like that. In Florida the doctors do seem a lot better. There isn't that push of free samples. The doctors get a kick backs from doing all these free samples and things like that, I haven't seen an abuse of that down here. But I don't like going into medical environments. Hospitals I'm terrified they don't want to tell you anything. Down here they seem to be a little better

about saying things. It's frightening. The talking to sociologists and psychiatrist, I get to the point that I didn't even want to talk about it anymore, I just felt that I was going to go nuts. 1985 I was going, I was right out of my mind. We had moved again new doctors, its, I'm just trying to think of the things of how its affected me. I don't like being around people who don't know what I've been through, my families been through.

Marie: Don't believe us

Otto: Yeah don't believe us, oh yeah you guys are crazy, well we witnessed this, we've been through it. This is no less of torture than any other torture and its effected all of us. And I'm frightened that I'm gonna be more and more trapped in a situation where I'm going to have stressors. Medical type stressors as my parents get older. It's I couldn't even say to a doctor that all he has to be is real honest with me. We've suffered a lot. People just don't know what it does. Its like why can't you talk about it sometimes to my mother, it was so horrible on her that my father he didn't want my mother to revert back to this or die from fear and the memories of it. She lives by forgetting about it. I want the truth, I want this to be recognized I think it may help. I can't have relationships. I wouldn't even, I'd be afraid of it at this point. (inaudible) have a relationship or attempted to form any relationships someone would get sick and I'd be pulled back, like I was pulled back, I had to get away from the folks and I was pulled back dragged into this hole. Thinking about the horror of went on I had to get away from it, it was too much even before it happened. I have my nerves are shot, I was arrested several times after this had happened to the folks, I had a lot of people who are you know believe in me and try to, it's really hard dealing with all these things. I tried writing it out friend of mine let me borrow his computer and I wrote one book based on a true story, chock full of references, medical, scientific, its like I'm its the only way- I was coherent at all once before and once I start typing I was able to talk and be coherent again. I wrote a chemistry book. I gotta peel the edges off (inaudible) I wrote a poetry book. I like poetry but its not really marketable. I did a book just as big as this one about the non-fiction of what had happened. I feel obsessed with this thing, but unless someone recognizes what had happens I just feel that anyone can do anything to anyone. We have no protections. We're slaves, basic slaves in this

society. I have severe intestinal problems, my nerves are just shot, severe constipation, I got an anal fissure, hemorrhoids, I can never go for surgery its frightening. I have problems sometimes eating, especially if the folks have any medical things in this (inaudible) about it and it keeps going around and around or stuck to the type writer to get my mind off of things but even that it comes back. Even working on trying to get these, paperwork together to show what had happened folks someone recognize it, at times I'd have to stop for six months a year, I couldn't look at the paperwork, the medical paperwork when I finally got most of it until I think it was 87, I started being able to look at it a little bit, and each year I could look at it a little more and I said I gotta get it out so they can see what happened, and they can know what happened. It's not something easy. I don't know what's going to happen if dad can't walk and mom goes blind. I have no one I can talk to. It's really frightening. It's no more sickness, can't have anymore sicknesses. Yeah I don't want to talk anymore about it, they get the picture.