

VERNA: I'm Verna Hayes. Verna Marie Hayes. My birthday is March the 28th, 1918.

PAT: My name is Patrick Joseph O'Boyle. And I was born on the 4th of November, 1915.

VERNA: I had three children. I had Gary, and then Donna, and then Susan.

PAT: I have three daughters and one son.

VERNA: When I got married I was about 23.

PAT: Separated close to 20 years.

VERNA: When I became a widow, I was about 64.

PAT: I met her at a dance.

VERNA: We went to a dance. I went with Hazel. Pat asked me to dance.

PAT: And, we won a spot dance together.

VERNA: See, we won this bottle of wine.

PAT: We were to share the prize.

VERNA: And I said, well, I'll call you. And you'll come up and have some. So I never called him because I never had time, or at least it seemed that way.

PAT: I had Susan as a go-between.

SUSAN QUACKENBUSH (VERNA'S DAUGHTER): Pat I would see at different functions, and he'd say, "your mother hasn't called me". I go, yeah, I know, I'm working, I know.

VERNA: A year from the night that we won the wine, I said, I'll call you this week.

PAT: See how difficult it was to...

VERNA: ...get into this mess.

PAT: Yeah, I didn't ever know what trouble was.

(HEAD TITLE: My Grandma's Boyfriend.)

VERNA: We look after each other and keep each other company. And we eat well. Pat helps to get meals. He likes to cook some.

VERNA (to Pat): You quit working. You're supposed to be working.

PAT: Too bad.

VERNA: Too bad? (laughs)

PAT: I think she's wonderful. Naturally.

VERNA (to Pat): Can you hit that? (pause) Little man?

PAT (to Verna): Pardon?

VERNA (to Pat): Can you hit that? (pause) Put that garbage in there.

GARY HAYES (VERNA'S SON): Susan had told me about this guy who was going to take mother to a dance at Consumer's Gas, of course I never thought anything about it. And then I heard they were into the wine drinking and all this and having meals together, so then I thought, it's time I'd better check this boy out.

VERNA: It was Pat himself that I liked. Everybody likes Pat. He reads to me. We both enjoy these little books that we have. He'll read a bit each day of the book until he gets tired, while I putter around the kitchen or doing something. So, we both enjoy that very much.

PAT: I couldn't understand how Verna went so long without some guy not... well, I imagine there were men who chased her, I don't know. But I was really surprised that she wasn't already, you know, in a relationship.

VERNA: Never thought about such a thing. Didn't even think about him. (laughs) I didn't know him before, but I didn't even think of... having anybody. I wasn't looking, I wasn't interested.

PAT: Well, she's a good looking person as far as I...and quite a reasonable disposition, and I would have thought somebody would have tried to move in, sort of thing.

CHERYL HAYES-OLESKY (VERNA'S GRANDAUGHTER): I first met Pat about 10 years ago when believe it or not, he was my roommate! I lived with my Grandmother, and my sister and my Grandmother's boyfriend in her farm house because my sister and I had jobs near where my Grandmother lived. Pat lived with us even though he had a lovely apartment here at the Princess Anne apartments. Every morning my sister and I would have to get ready for work. Pat would be in the bathroom for like an hour, because he had to go golfing!

PAT: When I was about 15 or 16, I caddied in Ireland. And this is where I learned to play.

VERNA: I was about 70 when I started. I wish I would have started earlier because I really like it.

PAT: It's a pity that she didn't start early because she could have been reasonably good, you know.

VERNA: What do you mean, reasonably?

PAT: I don't expect on the tour or anything, but...

VERNA: Oh, I'm disappointed.

PAT: Oh.

VERNA: Pat came along, and he was going golfing everyday. Well, I've got to learn to golf.

PAT: As a couple, you get a cheaper rate. That's why I--

VERNA: Money comes into this all the time.

(laughter)

VERNA: Oh jeepers.

PAT: We were going down the road like this one day and this old lady came along and she was saying-- oh isn't that wonderful to see people like this, walking hand-in-hand, and I said to her -- You think this is affection? I said-- If I let go, she's gonna hit me. (laughs)

VERNA: After George was gone... you missed him and you missed the times you had, but you got on with it. When Pat came along, I really did enjoy it. The warmth, the comfort feeling. He just was so relaxed and seemed to enjoy life.

PAT: There's got to be affection. You can't live with somebody without.

VERNA: I like to hug a lot. And Pat does. He's always warm. Closeness, the warmth. I'm not talking about... I'm talking about affection, and, being close. I enjoy that.

VERNA: My problem with living together, with anybody, at any age, as you get older, maybe it's a little different because you are needing somebody--well of course you need somebody all your life, you know, but it's not a good example to set for little ones, like my great grandchildren. It worries me there a little bit because what are they going to think? What's going on here?

JESSICA (VERNA'S GREAT GRANDAUGHTER): Papa?

VERNA: Is Papa there?

JESSICA: Pat.

VERNA: Oh, Pat!

JESSICA: PAAAAT.

(LAUGHTER)

PAT: Here I are!

(LAUGHTER)

PAT: See, young people look at us and they probably say-- oh, look at that old couple living together and all the rest. What business is it of theirs if we live together. And particularly if it's a relative of yours.

VERNA: I think that marriage is a good way, but sometimes it isn't possible to do that. Well, Pat's still married, so you know. But I don't think if he weren't, I don't think so, because like he says, it's just a piece of paper.

PAUL KIPPS (PAT'S SON-IN-LAW): For Pat, sin is kind of fun too you know, and he's a Catholic. To live in sin is a little risqué, and I think you can afford a little risqué, a little later on.

PAT: One of the things is probably a little bit of a guilt complex. [The Pope] would be very disappointed in me. The example that I am setting.

COLLETTE WHITEN (PAT'S DAUGHTER): What I enjoy about their relationship is that they share everything. They get up in the morning, they go to the bathroom together, one of them is cleaning their teeth, the other is sitting on the toilet, they alternate... They spend an hour in the bathroom together each morning.

PAUL: We'd made arrangements for Pat & Verna to come up. Later in the day, we decided to go for a swim. And it was a time of year when very few people were there, so we decided to go for a skinny dip. Verna had agreed. Pat with great reluctance agreed to go along with it. They went down and nursed their way in and we went for a swim and they really enjoyed it.

VERNA: (laughs) Oh that! Oh brother! I just told them, all I need is bring the iron and I'll be just fine. Just give me a good ironing. That's all my body needs is a good iron.

MEGAN WHITEN (PAT'S GRANDAUGHTER): This is a picture of my Grandfather and his girlfriend. It was a going away party. Paul put his hat on sideways and that sort of prompted everybody else to get a little dressed up too. Mom put on this sequined hat, and we got Papa in the Elvis hair. And Verna's in the pink fun fur bikini with white feathers. At one point, she had it over her clothes and I think that she thought that wasn't good enough. So, she took it to the next level and she came strutting out and Papa's eyes just about popped out of his head. (laughs) He was the happiest!

PAT: (to Verna) Light of my life --

(LAUGHTER)

VERNA: Sorry.

PAT: Something else. And she says: Bullshit!

(LAUGHTER)

PAT: After me giving her all that...

VERNA: But you know it was too.

PAT: All those pretty words of... uh....

VERNA: Right from your heart? (laughs)

PAT: O.K. Over in old Ireland. Many years ago.
My mother sang a song to me, in voice so sweet and low.
Was a real old Irish ditty. In a real old Irish way.
What would I give...

(BABY CRIES. CROWD LAUGHS.)

PAT: --If I could hear, her sing that song today.
Tu ra lu ra lu ra. Tu ra lu ra li.
Tu ra lu ra lu ra. It's an Irish lullaby.

CROWD: Yeah!!! (applause)

(The END)