

The Self-Made Man
 Theatrical transcript
 RT: 57:38

ITVS Presents
KQED logo

TC	VIDEO	AUDIO
01.00.00	Laura and Susan walking to the camera	Bob: Hi Laura and Susy,
01.00.04	Susan and Bob on horse	in case you don't know, this is your father.
01.00.06	Bob holding Mike	I went to the doctor Monday,
01.00.09	Bob washing car	he feels pretty confident that I do have
01.00.13	Bob wearing sunglasses	prostate cancer plus
01.00.16	Burning land	he informs me that the
01.00.19	Bob holding birdcage	ultrasound showed a very, very large aorta
01.00.23	Family in boat	aneurysm. You think it's difficult to say try to spell it.
01.00.28	<i>Title:</i> Bernal Beach Films presents	<i>Music</i>
01.00.32	Bob running in sand pit	The doctors want you in bed because any undue lifting or
01.00.37	Bob runs with firehose	exertion or any damn thing could cause that aneurysm to explode and you're a
01.00.43	Bob and Adele Medium shot.	gonner. So what choice do you have other than to have the
01.00.47	Bob with fish	operation? And I said, I do have a choice.
01.00.50	<i>Title:</i> a film by Susan Stern	<i>Music</i>

01.00.54	Bob sitting in armchair <i>Lower Third:</i> Bob Stern	Bob: Because I am seriously considering whether before 7:30 tomorrow morning I can put an end to this very nice life which you girls have been a part of for many, many years.
01.01.09	<i>Title:</i> The Self-Made Man	<i>Music</i>
01.01.12	Dissolve to walking past pump <i>Lower Third:</i> Stern Ranch Central California	<i>Sounds of crickets</i> Susan Stern (Narrator): I imagine the morning was foggy the day Dad made that tape. Mom and my
01.01.29	Pan of ranch	brother were with him,
01.01.29	Pan and tilt form sky to pump	I wasn't there.
01.01.32	Field, ranch	What Dad said was shocking, dazzling really. He liked to do that to us.
01.01.39	Ext of ranch	Maybe he thought it was the best way to get to the truth.
01.01.46	Cross dissolve to Father in Law	<i>Hospital noise.</i>
01.01.51	Mike and father in law at hospital	Mike: I see you're making progress you can just keep working... Susan: That's my brother Mike sitting, but that's not my Dad in the hospital bed. Mike: Well I had just finished spending about two weeks in Illinois with my wife's father who was in the hospital dealing with him having a stroke.
01.02.09	Medium shot of Mike Stern	So I return July 2 nd on Monday,

	<i>Lower third:</i> Mike Stern	
01.02.12	Red answering machine light blinkiing	and I get my answering machine messages and one is from Mom with the simple message that your Dad is going to be operated on tomorrow
01.02.22	Medium shot of Mike	I'll call you later with more details. Click.
01.02.27	Medium shot of Adele and Mike	I had...I played the message several times.
01.02.28	<i>Lower third:</i> Adele Stern	I wanted to make sure that was actually my Mother that was calling
01.02.31	Medium shot of Adele and Mike	and it was. And that it was my Father that was um, had to be operated on the following day. So it was, it was bizarre. It started off bizarre and of course it never got any less bizarre.
01.02.45	Pink and Yellow aneurism animation	Susan: Bizarre,
01.02.47	Black and white Infrerenal AAA	like the aneurysm on my father's aorta.
01.02.50	Green aneurisum	A big fat bulge where the blood pushes out because the
01.02.55	Bifercation flow	artery is too clogged with fat
01.02.59	Medium shot Adele and Mike	Adele: And the surgeon comes, he says
01.03.01	Heart surgery	I can't operate today and tomorrow I've got two open heart surgeries.
01.03.05	Medium shot: Adele and Mike	Wednesday's Fourth of July so Thursday morning at 7:30 we will open you up and take care of the aneurysm
01.03.10	Cancer cells	and then we'll worry

		about the prostate cancer.
01.03.16	Setting the table	Laura Stern: It was a hectic morning when Mike called to say that he had a message on his answering machine from Mom saying that
01.03.25	Medium shot: Laura Stern sitting in chair. <i>Lower third:</i> Laura Stern	Daddy was in the hospital with an aneurysm.
01.03.28	Downtunnel through body	I sort of figured that this was not really that serious that it was...that an aneurysm was serious but it was a totally operable seriousness. You could just cut the piece
01.03.38	Medium shot: Laura Stern	out and you'd splice it together and it was not going to be a big deal.
01.03.41	Medium shot: Adele and Mike	And the surgeon told him: "I can't operate on you till Thursday morning, I want you to stay here for three days on a liquid diet." Your father said, no way I'm not staying here and have you guys poke at me for three days. I will go home and I'll take your liquid diet at home.
01.03.54	Approaching ranch	He is not a very good patient. Susan: Dad preferred to be at home, in his
01.04.00	Home video Bob and Adele in living room with hat	pajamas. Actually this footage was shot a few years before. Dad and Mom always seemed to

		be working on a TV pilot.
01.04.08	<i>Title:</i> Gourmet Cooking Show	<i>Music</i>
01.04.11	Bob in kitchen addressing camera	Bob: Good afternoon and welcome to Bob's Deli.
01.04.14	Bob cooking	Now you'll notice I've left everything in the cans because there's no point in dirtying dishes, that's ridiculous.
01.04.21	Bob and Adele cooking	The peas and the corn should not cook too as long as the other stuff. Adele: You see....
01.04.26	<i>Title:</i> Comedy Show	<i>Music continues...</i> Bob: Name two pronouns...
01.04.28	Bob and Adele reading from book	Adele: Name two pronouns? He and she. Bob: Adele. Remember, you're second banana. I'm the director, I'm the producer and I'm the writer. You're just the beautiful ingénue. Susan: I didn't know they were
01.04.43	Video camera	making another movie as they waited for Dad's surgery or that Laura and I, at home with our own children, were the intended audience.
01.04.51	Exterior House	It was Fourth of July, Independence Day.
01.04.57	Bob addressing camera	Tomorrow morning at 7:30 I go to the hospital to um, be operated on.

01.05.06	Close up tape playing	The odds of my having complications
01.05.11	Bob addressing camera	are pretty good, in my opinion. May not be in the opinion of the professionals, who after all, have to make mortgage payments and they have to make Mercedes payments. However, in my judgment, my odds of a non-complicating major surgery, the odds are very, very slim
01.05.31	Exterior house windows	and I'm trying to make a judgment
01.05.33	Interior of house looking outside	as to what to do. I am 77 years old,
01.05.40	Bob addressing camera	I still have my sanity and my reasoning capability, I have been reasonably financially successful in this world using my smarts.
01.05.50	Medium Shot: Table with paperwork on it	Very thoroughly learning, analyzing, a particular situation, putting a, a mental scale in place upon which I put the
01.05.59	Bob addressing camera	pluses and the minuses and used a cost-benefit ratio and where the benefit far exceeds the cost then I'll go for the deal.
01.06.11	Black and white ledger	Susan: What
01.06.12	Wider black and white ledger	kind of man looks at his life as if it were a balance sheet?
01.06.16	Family portrait pan	A self-made businessman like my Dad. What kind of family would listen to

		such talk?
01.06.24	Cross dissolve home movie of family dressed well and walking	A family that looked at the world with Dad's voice always in the background.
01.06.30	Home movie of Laura walking	Laura, the eldest, was a born manager.
01.06.34	Home video of Mike walking	Mike, the youngest, was the peacemaker.
01.06.38	Home video Susan walking	I was the writer, the critic. Dad wanted me to write articles about rags-to-riches entrepreneurs.
01.06.48	Cross dissolve Bob standing in camp with elbow on knee.	His generation had no doubts. The
01.06.49	Bob standing straight in camp with hands behind back.	self-made man is an American hero.
01.06.51	Home video. Bob in blue shirt in front of office for Continental Tube Corp.	But if we celebrate the self-made man, can we accept the self-made death? That seemed to be my father's question that Independence Day. Bob: This cost benefit ratio is
01.07.14	Bob addresses camera	a method that I have successfully used all my life in judging personal relationships. I used this when I proposed to your mother... that was not done on a moment's notice.
01.07.30	Medium shot: Adele in orange shirt	Adele: In business, he was entirely different than he was to me, because I once had that discussion with one of his partners who thought he was absolutely impossible. I

		found him only slightly impossible not absolutely impossible.
01.07.47	Bob with snake	Susan: Funny about that word impossible. It means both someone you can't abide and something you can't do. The difficult we do immediately. The
01.08.17	Wide shot: Bob and Mike with bricks	impossible takes a little bit longer.
01.08.20	Medium shot: Mike with bricks	That was one of Dad's favorite sayings.
01.08.23	Home video Bob walking wearing jacket	He had enough money to retire when he was thirty-seven years old and that's when he became
01.08.29	Bob pulling Mike out of piping	unclassifiable. Part hard-nosed businessman, part idealist. He dedicated himself and his only son to the pursuit of those dreams that takes a little bit longer.
01.08.42	Bob, Mike and man around solar dish	Mike: I was probably thirteen or so when we first started tinkering with things in the backyard
01.08.49	Mike standing at solar sheet	ranging from just putting simple mirrors together and heating things up.
01.08.53	Close up: Bob and Man around solar dish	Then getting more sophisticated and buying small steam engines and
01.08.58	Mike standing at solar sheet	then kind of blowing things apart accidentally.
01.09.02	Mike dusts off panel with hand	Dad first was -- got -- interested in solar in the 1960s I believe,
01.09.07	Bob and man build box	he was just ahead of his time.

01.09.09	Long shot of solar panels	Adele: He wanted to do something good with his time and his money
01.09.14	Long shot of solar panels. Bob and Mike working in background	so he got into his head that the solar energy would be good
01.09.18	Medium shot: Adele addressing camera	and it would be soon and he would see it in his lifetime.
01.09.21	Bob and two men build box	Mike: He was motivated by the condition of the environment. He wanted to, to pursue technologies that could allow everyone's standard of living to improve
01.09.32	Men putting up solar panels	while being more beneficial to the environment than fossil fuels.
01.09.39	Mike standing at panels	You know, as a ten, eleven or twelve year old you know, I, I didn't fully grasp the concept at that point so I really sort of went along with, with his intensity about it
01.09.49	Home video: Bob teaching Mike to ride red bike	and everything that he had done from the time I was born he did
01.09.53	Long shot: Bob hammering in pole	with a certain amount of intensity.
01.09.57	Mike graduation <i>Lower third:</i> Mike Stern	<i>Bird noises.</i>
01.09.59	Susan graduation <i>Lower third:</i> Susan Stern	Adele: His aim in raising all three of the children
01.10.01	Laura graduation <i>Lower third:</i>	was to make them productive, useful

	Laura Stern	
01.10.06	Bob and Mike on water pipeline	people who could carry their own weight and be people that he then could respect. See this was the whole thing because he didn't respect too many people.
01.10.14	Shoveling dirt	Susan: You had to produce something to gain Dad's respect and whether or not he respected us was always an open question, an account yet to be reconciled.
01.10.26	Bob addressing camera	Bob: I love you Laura, I love you Susan. Susan, I have not said it as often as you would have liked me to have said I love you. Adele: You haven't said it to Laura either. Bob: But I haven't said to Laura either, I don't think I've ever said it to Michael. He's going to have to work a little harder to ah, to get that out of me.
01.10.44	Bob and Mike cleaning roof. Bob hands Mike rake.	Mike: You know, up until maybe ten or twelve or something...
01.10.47	Bob rakes roof.	I thought he used to maybe hit, hit me but he never,
01.10.50	Bob and Mike on roof. Window close up.	he never touched me it was his voice. It was, you know, his intensity that was so scary.
01.10.57	Bob picking fruit	<i>Bird sounds</i>

01.11.03	Bob addressing camera	Bob: I would like to remind you, if you have not forgotten, that I might look strong, physically, and I might act strong, and I might be strong, but my history of health problems has been a terrific burden to me over, over my life.
01.11.32	Bob sleeping on couch	One of them were giant hives where any pressure put upon any part of my body that contained mucous membranes caused painful swelling.
01.11.43	Bob addressing camera	<p>When it became vogue to have your doctor, if you were a male, especially.... females...maybe male doctors wanted to do this to females, I don't know, but male doctors did this to males. They wanted to take their finger and stick up your ass, my ass particularly, and massage my, my, massage my um...</p> <p>Adele: Prostate.</p> <p>Bob: Prostate.</p>
01.12.06	Letter from doctor	Well I wouldn't, I wouldn't...didn't let him enjoy this
01.12.08	Cross dissolve to letter from doctor words highlighted	finger exploration but I permitted the PSA
01.12.12	Cross dissolve to doctor notes with numbers highlighted	test each year. It went from four to six to eight to ten to twelve until it, it passed twenty-four and a

		half
01.12.20	Bob addresses camera	and I said, "Hey Doc, let's forget the whole thing, I don't want to know anymore, it's not going down."
01.12.26	Close up of highlighting	Oh, by the way, when I was fifty-eight or fifty-nine I had a stroke. In addition, I have always had high blood pressure,
01.12.35	Lab results highlighted	I have always had high cholesterol, I have...always had high uh,
01.12.41	Bob addressing camera	whatever. The only things I never had high were high school grades.
01.12.46	Yearbook cover shot	Ken Benjamin: He would have been class of '41 Alan Rubens: Well. Ken: I think he graduated when I did. He
01.12.54	Medium shot Ken and Alan	was the only guy that I recall in our entire group that didn't go onto college. All the rest of us went back to school you know, used the GI Bill. Alan: You know, you're, you're right.
01.13.02	Medium shot Ken and Alan <i>Lower third:</i> Ken Benjamin and Alan Rubens Bob's friends	I remember he was...he got a job that made a hundred dollars a week which was all the money in the world. Ken: Yeah.
01.13.09	B & W photo Bob in military wearing helmet, marching	Adele: When he came out of the

01.13.12	Bob in military wearing hat. Hand in pocket	army after the Second World War, he
01.13.15	Adele addressing camera	found a job just to make money 'cause his mother was sick.
01.13.18	Bob and Adele in hats.	He needed money to pay for medication. Since he was six years old
01.13.23	Bob as young blonde boy holding jacket and hat	he's been working.
01.13.26	Bob in newspaper as paperboy	His father never seemed to
01.13.29	Bob as baby, his Dad holding him	be able to um, hold anything together.
01.13.32	Bob's mother knitting in chair	His relationship to his mother was very close when he was little and he was the one who helped his mother iron,
01.13.37	Bob, brother and mom on grass	he helped his mother cook, he went on the errands with her, he went the store with her.
01.13.42	Bob's friends talking about him.	<p>Bill Sherman: He would...I remember he said he was very upset because he didn't have enough money to take care of her during her illness.</p> <p>Ken: Really.</p> <p>Bill: And he was going to make money.</p> <p>Bill: Never heard that story?</p> <p>Man off-camera: I didn't know...</p> <p>Man off camera: I only recall she was, she</p>

		<p>was...</p> <p>Bill: That's the story I...that I heard.</p> <p>Ken: Well, his mother he told me , was very young when she died, she was</p>
01.14.01	Bob and Adele in front of plants	<p>in her mid-fifties.</p> <p>Bill: She had cancer I believe.</p> <p>Adele: I dated him for</p>
01.14.05	Adele as young girl	two.. three years.
01.14.08	Cross dissolve Bob driving car with sun burst on him	He never asked me to marry him. His mother was dying
01.14.12	Close up of Adele addressing camera	and he wasn't rich.
01.14.14	Bob addressing camera	Bob: You have to remember I went through this for four years with my mother, which made a great impact on my consciousness and awareness and sensitivity.
01.14.23	Father in law sleeping in hospital bed	Susan: The whole time Dad was agonizing about going into the hospital, Mike's father-in-law was laying there. He didn't have a choice. That's what bugged Dad. He felt like once he set foot in the hospital, he'd no longer be in the director's chair.
01.14.45	Bob addressing camera	<p>Bob: Am I doing okay?</p> <p>Adele: Yeah.</p>

		<p>Bob: Okay. Too long. But it's..</p> <p>Adele: You have to tell them.</p> <p>Bob: Tell 'em what? At any rate, let's...let's put it right here on the table. I have said to your brother and to your mother. I'm considering not going through with the operation. And they say, "Well, what choice do you have?" And I said, I do have a choice and I want to discuss it with you. So, I talked to Mike and your mother at length about a choice which I have, which at first you're going to shout, "no, no, no it's ridiculous, no, no you're too young, you're too handsome, you're too rich, you're too whatever," let's try that handsome again um, for you to even contemplate shortening your life, which is really what the conversation is all about and the purpose of this tape.</p>
01.15.52	Windmill from below	<i>Music</i>
01.15.56	Windmill shadow	<i>Music</i>
01.16.00	Windmill pole rising	<i>Music</i>
01.16.04	Cows walking	Mike: And, and keep in mind when we...having this
01.16.10	Medium shot Adele and Mike talking with coffee	conversation... Adele: We think he's

		<p>joking.</p> <p>Mike: ...sounds, it sounds kinda ludicrous for us to be talking about this with him at the time you know, some people might think well why didn't you call someone or do something? But you know...we've always had these sort of hypothetical, intellectual, devil's advocate, take different sides or different opinions sort of arguments with him</p>
01.16.31	Close up of Adele	our whole life. It's an exercise taking
01.16.34	Medium shot Adele and Mike talking with coffee	<p>one side versus the other.</p> <p>Adele: Exactly.</p> <p>Mike: And the pros and cons and, and trying to...</p> <p>Adele: Just a...an exercise to get rid of a feeling just that he needed to talk about it.</p>
01.16.45	Bob getting into white truck	<p>He said he'd planned out how he was going to do it years ago.</p> <p>Mike: Yeah he was Mr. Efficient and...</p> <p>Adele: Yeah.</p> <p>Mike: So he thought what he would do is get up in the...early in the morning and drive</p>

01.16.59	White truck driving away	himself to the mortuary and park where they bring people in and call 911 say, I'm going to do this and then shoot himself right by the mortuary and
01.17.13	Medium shot Adele and Mike talking with coffee	<p>leave a note saying, you know, please take me inside and deal with me and then call my um, wife.</p> <p>Adele: And you know, can't take this seriously you have to figure it's his way of joking around.</p>
01.17.23	Bob addressing camera	<p>Bob: Cry now I'll be with you in a moment. What, what's...what did this women say?</p> <p>Adele: Talk among..</p> <p>Bob: Cry among yourselves.</p> <p>Adele: (Laughter)</p> <p>Bob: I'll, I'll be back to you in a moment.</p> <p>Mike: I said just, doing it</p>
01.17.39	Medium shot Adele and Mike talking with coffee	<p>in public like that has its drawbacks.</p> <p>Adele: it's not a good idea, your insurance won't pay. I mean, financially it's a very bad investment. I said, if you do the thing like this the insurance probably won't pay and you don't...you</p>

		know, how you hate to lose money and you hate to make a bad deal.
01.17.51	Bob addressing camera	Bob: When I presented my argument to your mother and to your brother for some strange reason, I had no encouragement whatsoever. In fact, they were kind of a pain in giving me reasons why I shouldn't. You all love me, this, this, this, all these kind of good reasons why I should stick around, all right. And they tried real hard but they forgot that I'm a pretty good salesman.
01.18.19	Old photo Bob in front of cars	Susan: Dad started out as a salesman, that all American job. But no matter how humble a man's start we were always told that he could work his way up.
01.18.30	Old photo. Bob as young man with glasses and tie.	As surely as America could make anything, a man could make himself. It was one of those truths declared to be self-evident.
01.18.40	Medium shot of Ken and Alan talking	Ken: Remember he worked at John T. Shane... Alan: On the corner of Michigan and Randolph. Ken: He was a...that's right. Alan: He was

01.18.44	Mannequin in fur coat	selling fur coats. Ken: That's right. Adele: A man would come in and buy his wife a mink coat one day and his girlfriend a mink coat the second day.
01.18.55	Adele addressing camera	I mean, what was this man doing he's buying two mink coats.
01.18.58	Woman admiring her fur coat	Susan: The big spenders were steelmen.
01.19.02	Bob at work at his desk	So Dad switched from selling fur to selling steel.
01.19.05	Steel tubing	Within three years
01.19.07	Ext. of Continental Tube Corp building	he'd founded his own company.
01.19.09	Bob standing with Adele in her sunglasses in front of car.	Then he asked Mom to marry him. Within eight years he'd sold the factory and made
01.19.15	Steel tubing falling	his first fortune.
01.19.16	Old street in Chicago	Quickly he made his second fortune in Chicago real estate.
01.19.20	Bridge with flags in Chicago	Joel: Okay, well
01.19.23	Driving at beginning of Michigan Ave.	we are...right now we're at the beginning of Michigan Avenue. We're essentially looking at
01.19.27	Joel driving car <i>Lower third:</i> Joel Hillman Chicago developer	the "Magnificent Mile" lays out in front of us.
01.19.30	Driving down Chicago street	Bob
01.19.33	People on sidewalk	brought the little sixty-six foot site, which is the

		middle of the block of Michigan, and that was his first holding.
01.19.40	Crossfade to old taxis in Chicago street	He was really way ahead of his time in seeing the
01.19.44	Crossfade to current taxis in Chicago street	value of owning real estate on Michigan Avenue.
01.19.46	Driving past Tiffany's	Susan: But Dad hated the country club life,
01.19.51	Crossfade to pan across ranch	so he moved us out West where a man could be free Ken: And
01.20.01	Crossfade to Bob, Mike and dog sitting on porch.	people would say about him,
01.20.05	Mike as kid running in front of ranch house.	isn't that interesting, he must have a couple of dollars, you know,
01.20.08	Crossfade to pan of ranch house	he has some property and this and that and everything else and he...he lives in this trailer.
01.20.13	Ken Benjamin addressing camera <i>Lower third:</i> Ken Benjamin	Well, why would you live in a trailer? Why don't you buy um, a house-house?
01.20.16	Joel laughing while driving	Joel: He had no Armani suits. He had suits...I, I used to tease him when the, the few times I saw him when he came into Chicago and asked him where in the world he bought his wardrobe
01.20.26	Pan from Joel's hands to his face.	because they were certainly not Armani suits. They looked a little bit more like they may have come from the Yukon.

01.20.31	Photo of Bob w/gun leaning against car	He, he just enjoyed being different and he was hunted by these principal developers. He
01.20.39	Joel driving car	entertained himself by holding several people at bay at
01.20.43	Chicago images from car	the same time.
01.20.45	Joel laughing while driving car	He was an arrogant SOB.
01.20.47	Living room, looking out window at ranch	Susan: It must have gotten hotter as the day wore on. Outside, everything would have been still,
01.21.03	Radiometer spinning on window sill	but in the window, propelled by the sun, I know the radiometer would have been
01.21.08	Close up of radiometer spinning	turning. Bob; I have not made the determination right this moment
01.21.16	Bob addresses the camera	yet because as I say, I don't know if I have the strength or the courage to do it. I hope I do because I think that that's in my best interest and everybody's best interest, well, I won't even say everybody's best interest, it is my best interest and let's be totally selfish about this.
01.21.34	Medium shot Adele and Mike talking with coffee	Adele: And he kept using the expression, he said, I should, I think I should kill myself. Cause I remember distinctly that part of the conversation that I said, I don't buy this

		should business, there's no should. You either want to, you either intend to or you don't do it. You don't tell me you should because I don't
01.22.03	Pan down onto ranch	<p>think you should.</p> <p>Mike: Yeah we weren't sure.</p> <p>Adele: Should is a value judgment.</p> <p>Mike: We weren't sure who, who he was talking about.</p> <p>Adele: Yeah, who are you talking about? What's this should?</p> <p>Mike: Who thinks he should.</p> <p>Adele: You got a...we're taking a vote? I say you...I don't think you should, Mike doesn't think you should.</p> <p>Susan: The deepest shoulds for many people come from religious beliefs. God decides when people die.</p>
01.22.14	Interior pan of trailer	But God wasn't much part of our family life. On the walls, where other people hung religious symbols you'd find our family
01.22.22	Close up of family crest	crest made by my

		sister when she was a kid. “Think,” it said. We believed in individual responsibility and freedom,
01.22.31	Bob’s hat hanging on wall	but most of all we believed in Dad. <i>Music begins.</i>
01.22.37	Bob and Mike squatting with solar panel	Mike: The plan was
01.22.40	Mike addresses camera	from what I can...going back looking ‘cause it really wasn’t my plan you know, so much I think it started out his plan
01.22.47	Bob and Mike squatting and working	that I, who had...you know, was pretty technically orientated anyway as a kid,
01.22.52	Photo of Mike with solar panel	would go and become an, an engineer and learn the solar energy field.
01.22.57	UPG intro, 2 men in front of panels	And then go off and
01.22.59	Utility Power Group Intro	start a company of our own doing it better, faster, cheaper
01.23.04	SMUD footage of solar panels	than the existing companies
01.23.06	Crossfade to more solar panels	and cover square miles of the desert with solar cells
01.23.11	Close up of Utility Power Group box	and hook up the output
01.23.14	Switch being pulled up & meter reading	to the high power lines running across the country and
01.23.17	Utility Power Group box with solar panels	sell electricity to the big cities. For a couple of years there,
01.23.22	Mike talking in office to men	’92, ’93, ’94 we installed more PV power systems,

	<i>Lower third:</i> Utility Power Group	in the United States, I think, than anybody else.
01.23.33	Arial view of blue solar panels	Susan: Dad helped the ARCO solar company locate the world's largest solar
01.23.37	Crossfade to higher arial view of blue solar panels <i>Lower third:</i> ARCO Solar power plant Carrisa Plain, CA	power plant on the Carrisa Plain not far from the ranch. Then
01.23.43	Crossfade to empty field	Dad and Mike decided to build their own even larger solar power plant right across the street.
01.23.48	Closeup of Carrisa Plant newspaper article	Mike: "The Carrisa solar plant plans shine," oh this is a...
01.23.54	Medium shot. Mike reads article	when we were planning to put a hundred megawatt power plant in the Carrisa Plains.
01.24.00	Side shot of solar panels	Steve: Yeah, he was one of the visionaries of solar.
01.24.04	Steve standing in front of panels <i>Lower third:</i> Steve Hester Photovoltaic Consulting	He would show up at the conferences and he would in the third row back and he would be asking the questions
01.24.09	Time lapse of panels moving with the sun	that were very pointed like, "Where you are going to take this? Why don't you do this on a big scale?" And so he was a driving force.
01.24.24	Time lapse of clouds going over panels	<i>Music</i>
01.24.28	Bob sits down at desk behind product boxes and adjusts chair	<i>Music</i> Susan: At the same time Dad was pushing

		solar power he was
01.24.37	Bob sitting at desk <i>Lower third:</i> Sitcom pilot	starting a half- dozen other businesses. You could say Dad was a “serial entrepreneur.”
01.24.43	Family photo shoot wearing Mench mustaches <i>Lower third:</i> Mench Mustache Inc.	<i>Music</i>
01.24.46	Adele showing how the Art Robot worked <i>Lower third:</i> Art Robot	Adele: This arm would move forward, back, left, right,
01.24.49	Picture of red eagle	and it would produce a picture, it had all these dials
01.24.51	Jumbo hearing aid demonstrated <i>Lower third:</i> Jumbo Hearing Aid	Adele: It doesn't look pretty, but boy it hears good...
01.24.55	Package of snack pack thru a magnifying glass <i>Lower third:</i> Vitamin-enhanced pretzels	Adele: Thousands and thousands of packages...were distributed
01.24.48	Bob and Adele in sunglasses commercial <i>Lower third:</i> Flip-down sunglass cap	Bob: Reduce glare! FLIP Susan: Even his philanthropy he ran
01.25.03	White vans turning	like a business. Haggling, twisting arms,
01.25.06	White vans, from above, spinning	negotiating deals. He
01.25.08	Close up of grill of van	gave away one house and a half
01.25.10	White vans passing from	dozen passenger vans.

	front <i>Lower third:</i> Explorer Youth Program Los Angeles, CA	
01.25.14	Vans in circle from above drive in opposite directions	<i>Music</i>
01.25.15	Crossfade to ballet class <i>Lower third:</i> Red Shield Community Center Los Angeles, CA	Susan: He funded community centers in Chicago and Los Angeles.
01.25.20	Medium of shot of two ballerinas	Susan: We were all partners in everything he
01.25.22	Cover of Corporate Report	did. It was just like in this mock annual report,
01.25.26	Bob handing Adele pitchfork photo in corporate report	Mom and Dad made one time from family photos.
01.25.29	Mike climbing ladder photo in corporate report	The family was a company
01.25.31	Family laughing in corporate report	and the company was the family.
01.25.33	Adele, Laura and Susan spinning in dresses	It was insular, you'd have to say, a nuclear family
01.25.38	Archival footage of a mom and children sitting to dinner	right out of a Fifties film strip.
01.25.41	Bob's friends talking about him in tavern	Tom Karon: Bob at one time decided that we were going to have an atomic ... something and that he had to be prepared. So he built a bomb shelter
01.25.54	Archival footage of bomb shelter bunkbed	and it was underground and he had
01.25.58	Archival footage of bomb	um, stocked it with water

	shelter kitchen	
01.26.00	Archival footage of bomb shelter sink	and all kinds
01.26.01	Archival footage of bomb shelter pantry	of canned foodstuff.
01.26.04	Bob's friends talking about him in tavern	And he also bought a rifle, that was to keep the invaders away
01.26.08	Archival footage of bomb shelter preparal sticker	in case we did have a serious...
01.26.11	Bob's friends talking about him in tavern	Ken: Some "goyim" coming over from Highwood or something.
01.26.18	Bob's friends talking about him in tavern	Irv Winer: They want to take over, take over the bomb shelter. Ken: That's a joke, son. Tom: But, but he was really serious about this. Ken: Yeah. Tom: And
01.26.25	Adele leaving front of house in white sunglasses	Delly, his wife, went along with it for whatever reason,
01.26.30	Bob's friends talking about him in tavern	but I don't think you had any choice when you were married to Bob Stern.
01.26.35	Living room of trailer looking out at the ranch	<i>Music</i>
01.26.43	Time lapse of shadows encroaching on ranch	Susan: That night at the ranch, alone in the house, Mike and Dad and Mom were as isolated as if they were in a fallout shelter,
01.26.55	Solar panels baking in front of the house	or for that matter, in a house surrounded by solar panels. They
01.27.02	Pan of mountains behind	were off the grid all

	house	right. There's such a fine line between independence and isolation.
01.27.12	View of side of the house	<i>Music</i>
01.27.14	House at sunset	<i>Music</i>
01.27.21	Medium shot Adele and Mike talking with coffee	Mike: I mean I was torn you know, on one hand I, I didn't know how hard should I stop him, cause you know, not used to telling him what to do or getting him to do something he didn't want to do. You know,
01.27.36	Bob putting up a plank	he'd raised me to respect him and
01.27.40	Mike putting up a plank	to do what he said but he was basically
01.27.43	Medium shot Adele and Mike talking with coffee	more right than me most of the time. Adele: Not just more right than you. Mike: More right than everybody. Adele: More right than everybody.
01.27.51	Sunset sky, windmill spinning	Susan: The California sun must have been setting about then. In
01.27.59	Sunset sky, sternhedge and windmill pan	Illinois, where Mike's wife was sitting beside her father's bed, it would have been already dark. Mike and his wife had been on the phone for ages that night sharing their news. Mike's father-in-law had seemed to be recovering from the

		stroke but then they put a catheter in wrong, then they put a feeding
01.28.19	Closeup of EKG monitor	tube in wrong, and he began to bleed and bleed. They moved him to the terminal ward. Mike's wife told Mike everything that was going on. How much did Mike tell
01.28.32	Closeup of hands checking heart monitors on chest	Dad? It was as if everything that happened to Mike's father-in-law's body
01.28.37	Father in law eyes closed breathing in ventilator with wife stroking his head	became a possibility in his own father's mind. Bob: In the course of the operation, they put some tubes down your throat, another one up your nose down into your stomach, and they also have to put a catheter up your penis...up my penis to the bladder. If I have complications that means the possibility of a stroke, the possibility of heart attack,
01.29.08	Bob addresses camera, leaves frame, Adele comes into frame, sits down and addresses camera	wait a minute, a message from our sponsor. Adele: The other reason you made the tape is in case you don't do what you're contemplating. You want...but in case of something happens on the table and you don't come out, you also want to...

		<p>Bob: Exactly. My sponsor says, that I should remind you that, hey, if I decide not to do the intelligent thing</p> <p><i>PHONE RINGS.</i></p> <p>Bob: and the courageous thing.....that going through a major operation</p> <p><i>PHONE RINGS.</i></p> <p>Bob: I could conk, if I'm lucky, I'll, I'll get knocked off on the table. So, so um, I..</p> <p>Adele: Can I take a message?</p> <p>Bob: So...so..</p> <p>Adele: That Bob left at your office the day you called him. This is Dr. Kali. Here he is, one second.</p> <p>Bob: Hi Doctor. How you doing? Well, I'm here ain't I?</p> <p>Adele: His doctor called to check on him. So... Mike and I felt that after we went all through this conversation with Dad for a couple days that...and he said there's no way he</p>
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		<p>was going to call you guys and talk to you like this. He's always wanted to be in control of when he goes, he'd always gotten me to agree that I'd pull the plug if he was a vegetable. If he doesn't make it, well this is sort of his way of saying goodbye and letting you know that he's not really..oh! this sounds really.....that he's not really going to be too unhappy if he doesn't make it. Now, Michael turn the thing off unless you want to say a word to your sisters at this point. The doctor has called him in the middle of his making this tape and he went, so we're going to turn the tape off and if Dad wants to come back and say anything else he can always do it. So Mike wanna...kill it, the tape that is.</p>
01.30.51	Blurred image of camera viewfinder and red light	Susan: Doctor Kali? Unfortunate namesake of the
01.30.59	Crossfade to color photo of Kali statue	Hindu goddess of death. Dr. Kali called to reassure Dad
01.31.03	Crossfade to stone Kali statue	the aneurysm surgery was low risk, but what Dad heard
01.31.09	Kali with knives hand drawing	was that his prostate cancer might have metastasized. That surgery could rob Dad of his favorite subject

		of “research” other than business.
01.31.20	Bob’s friends talking about him in tavern	Irv: Yeah he spent a lot of time on the Internet you know, in San Luis Obispo. Ken: Yeah looking at, looking at these... Irv: I don’t know what he’s looking at. Ken: Nude broads!
01.31.30	Wide shot of Bob’s friends talking about him in tavern	Matter of fact ,the reason we ended up with a web TV is he called me one day he said,
01.31.34	Bob’s friends talking about him in tavern	“You gotta’ get a web TV!” I said, “What for?”
01.31.37	Bob’s friends talking about him in tavern	He said, “They’ve got some nude broads on web TV that’ll blow your mind.”
01.31.43	Bob and Adele with ball at beach	Susan: My Mom and Dad had a sex life so hot it embarrassed me.
01.3.47	Bob and Adele walking by white fence	But the treatment for the prostate cancer might leave Dad irrevocably impotent. Their years of
01.31.55	Adele blowing kisses to the camera	duets would be over.
01.32.01	Bob and Adele talking about prompter position	Adele: All right now, this is, this is me talking to you over there. Dad: Over where? Adele: As if you were the person that... Dad: I’m looking at you

		<p>on the prim...prompter.</p> <p>Adele: And I'm looking at you on the prompter.</p> <p>Dad: Right.</p> <p>Adele: And talking to you on the prompter.</p> <p>Dad: I understand.</p> <p>Adele: Now I'm talking to you here.</p> <p>Dad: Right, and I'm still looking at you at the prompter.</p> <p>Adele: Right.</p> <p>Dad: Right, it 's as if I'm trying to ignore you because you're looking at me.</p> <p>Adele: Exactly.</p> <p>Dad: You shouldn't look at me you gotta look at the prompter.</p> <p>Adele: Okay now let's look at each other ...</p> <p>Dad: Oh, Darling, I can't look at you without you....</p> <p>Susan: Suddenly everything was changing. Was Dad depressed? Or was he somehow done with his</p>
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		life? Are those the same thing or they are different?
01.32.41	Bob addresses the camera	Dad: I hope this conversation is not depressing you too much because I am not depressed um, I'm talking to you with all seriousness and I'm trying to keep it as light as possible and it's no strain for me to keep it light because um, life is life, it's not forever, I'm 77. I've had good years, I've been a very fortunate man.
01.33.07	Medium shot Adele and Mike talking with coffee	Adele: There was no depression it was a, it was a logical conclusion to make, that based on all the facts I have. There is nothing to say that I'm going to have any good days from here on in. Mike: I guess he saw himself as a bad investment and it was time to sell. Adele: To, to sell. Ohhhhh.
01.33.26	Barbed wire in front of field <i>Lower third:</i> Carissa Plain, CA	<i>Sounds of car approaching</i>
01.33.30	Truck drives into field Mike and Rick get out	Susan: Dad prided himself on making decisions like that – quickly, coldly, never

		looking back. Nine years before he'd gotten out of solar power, just like that.
01.33.45	Mike & Rick walk in field	He and Mike and UPG never could raise the money to build their huge solar power plant on the Carrisa
01.33.52	<i>Lower third:</i> Rick West UPG solar engineer	Plain.
01.33.55	Medium shot Mike and Rick	Mike: Future site of
01.33.57	Mike and Rick from behind looking at sign	100 megawatt photovoltaic electric power generating facility. Completion 1994. Utility Power Group, Chatsworth, California. What happened? We're a little late, we're early, early? Rick West: Before our time.
01.34.15	Close up of Mike reading sign	Mike: Well, the sign's still here, part of it,
01.34.19	Medium shot. Mike and Rick look at sign	and the power lines are still there. The shipping department. Rick: And the sun's still there. Mike: The sun's still there, we're still here.
01.34.28	Sign	Got to have patience in this business.
01.34.30	Close up of Rick then pan to close up of Mike	Rick: Yeah. Mike: He ran out of patience.
01.34.39	Medium shot of Mike and	Rick: Do you remember

	Rick talking and looking across the street	the big one across the street? Mike: And that's not there. Rick: That's not there either... Mike: Not because it didn't work, but because
01.34.48	Cross Dissolve to blue solar panels <i>Lower third:</i> ARCO solar plant	it actually had more value being dismantled and
01.34.51	Cross dissolve to medium shot of Mike and Rick talking	sold in pieces than generating electricity to go into the grid.
01.34.57	Aerials of solar panels	Susan: Solar hadn't become a highly profitable industry. Dad went on to other things,
01.35.04	Mike picking through rusted parts	though nothing as ambitious, and Mike,
01.35.08	Medium shot of Mike and Rick picking through debris	Rick and the rest of the solar industry went on
01.35.11	Rick stepping on rusted coil	-- striving to fulfill solar's promise.
01.35.17	Medium shot Adele and Mike talking with coffee	Adele: I do know that the last few years he regretted that he'd lost what he called the fire in his belly. That he didn't have the desire to fight anymore for, I mean, even when he would, you know, create something, he did not have the desire to fight the world to push it through that he had before. So he was

		getting tired. I mean, it was not as much fun.
01.35.44	Fireworks	<i>Sounds of fireworks</i> Laura: We had been out watching fireworks 'cause it was the Fourth of July. So we came back to the house
01.35.55	Medium shot of Laura	and there was a message on the answering machine saying, call...
01.35.58	Fireworks	<i>Sound of fireworks</i> Adele: And then he decided to call you girls because he said,
01.36.04	Medium shot Adele and Mike talking with coffee	as he told you, that I'm not going to live through this operation and I want to say goodbye.
01.36.09	Close up of Laura	Laura: He said, well that he was going to have his operation, yes, and that in case in died he wanted to um, make sure that we had no unresolved issues.
01.36.19	Medium shot of Laura	I immediately decided that he had decided that he was going to die on the table and so given his strong will and him usually doing what he decided he was going to do that's when I tried to convince him that this wasn't going to be a good idea.
01.36.36	Close up of Adele looking down	Susan: I was getting ready for Fourth of July and my guests had just come and, you know, so when he called and said, "Do you want to

		<p>talk?" I said, yes, but , my attention wasn't there. I mean, is life always full of these moments where you're doing the wrong thing when the really important thing happens?</p> <p>Mike: Look I feel a little bit bad because I didn't tell you the straight story when I knew,</p>
01.37.01	Close up of Mike talking and pan to close up of Adele	<p>that we were in the middle of this discussion that was starting to get a little too serious for comfort. Um, I could have called you, I could have called Laura, you guys could have been there in three hours or so and we could have had a group discussion on this.</p> <p>Adele: Then you would have had a fight with him, don't you understand? He would have argued with you and been very angry.</p> <p>Mike: With me?</p> <p>Adele: With all of you.</p> <p>Mike: But again, that's part of...that's, that's part of the problem, so he's angry?</p>
01.37.33	Bob addressing the camera	<p>Dad: If it's over, it's over and there's no lingering, none of this ailing, none</p>

		of this, none of this crying and none of this stuff that you girls have seen with the parents of your...of many of your friends I'm sure. Where it's endless and it goes on and everybody becomes unhappy and the memories of the person that they, that they suffered through are changed by virtue of this, of this agony.
01.37.58	Cross fade to Bob addressing camera	That becomes interminable. You don't admit it, you don't want to discuss it, everybody likes to do it - not likes to do it - everybody does it, and they go through his play-acting role for each other, this societal role. I don't want to play that game.
01.38.10	Medium shot Adele and Mike talking with coffee	Mike: I said, that we...there's still a lot of things we, we have to do and I said, that I need, I need his help and I want his help and that I don't feel that I'm successful enough yet. That I, I need him you know to...I need his advice and I need him being there and
01.38.27	Bob at pump	there's just a lot of things to do, a lot that needs to be built,
01.38.31	Bob putting metal plates in cylinder	Adele: Maybe he was getting so he wasn't respecting himself
01.38.37	Medium shot Adele and Mike talking with coffee	a lot that needs to be fixed, a lot that needs to

		<p>be created.</p> <p>because he didn't have the fire to fight anymore. Whatever it was...I don't know.</p> <p>Mike: I don't know.</p> <p>Adele: All I know is...</p> <p>Mike: I just think, I think he liked life, I think he wanted to keep going...</p> <p>Adele: The way he...</p> <p>Mike: I think he just felt that....</p> <p>Adele: He was going to become...</p> <p>Mike: ...he could hear the footsteps on the porch or whatever.</p>
01.38.54	Mountains at night with blue sky	<i>Music</i>
01.38.57	Cross dissolve to moonrise	<i>Music</i>
01.39.03	Cross dissolve to ext of house at night	<i>Music</i> It was a surreal situation. I think we were up talking 'till probably
01.39.11	Ext of house at night pan from window to field	two or so in the morning. I'm starting to feel I don't,
01.39.17	Cross dissolve moon with clouds coming in	I don't have a good grasp on myself here, I'm not as mentally sharp as I could be. I'm thinking...I felt it kinda' of slipping away from me and
01.39.24	Close up of Mike	what can I say? 'Cause I had won a few

		<p>arguments with him over the last forty-some years but not many and so I was thinking, God I need to be really good right now and I'm not at my peak. So at some point....</p> <p>Adele: I didn't even try arguments, I just tried crying</p>
01.39.42	Medium shot Adele and Mike talking with coffee	and he led me to my bed and lay me down.
01.39.47	Ext house of house at night looking in on windows	<p><i>Music</i></p> <p>Mike: He put his arms around Mom</p>
01.39.51	Cross dissolve to Bob's glasses on paper	<p>and he was really nice...</p> <p>Adele: He said there's nothing left to say we've said it all.</p> <p>Mike: But no he said how much he loved you and then at five o'clock he said,</p>
01.40.02	Medium shot Adele and Mike talking with coffee	"I've gotta' go." And he got up and he
01.40.11	Interior of kitchen in house	started to walk out. She was kinda like
01.40.14	Crossfade to ext house at night	<p>hanging on his leg and he was kind of maybe dragging her down the hall while he was trying to leave.</p> <p>Adele: I got as hysterical as I could. I had promised him so long ago that when he made that</p>
01.40.26	Medium shot Adele and Mike talking with coffee	decision I would honor it and I tried at the end, to

		change my mind.
01.40.34	Solar panels through morning mist	Adele: But at that point to say, you know, I want you to
01.40.44	Medium shot Adele and Mike talking with coffee	lie there in a bed, being sick and in pain --
01.40.47	Close up of Mike interview	that's really a, a rotten thing to say to somebody when
01.40.50	Medium shot Adele and Mike talking with coffee	you know they don't want it. So you let 'em, you let 'em go.
01.40.58	Walk along deck early morning	Mike: And so then I went to him just as he was walking out the door and I, and I stopped him, I said okay now wait a second – are you sure you want to do this? Are you sure you have to do this? And he said, "Yes."
01.41.14	Medium shot Adele and Mike talking with coffee	So, so I just let him keep walking.
01.41.22	Walking down driveway early morning	It was dark but it was starting, just starting to get light so I could see, I could see him basically walk down the road. And then, he got to
01.41.34	The ranch gate. Early morning	the gate and then I think he sat down, up against the fence,
01.41.42	Close up of Mike interview	and it wasn't ten...five seconds and then I saw, saw a flash and heard the sound
01.41.54	Birs fly off in distance	<i>Sounds of birds flying</i>
01.41.57	Close up of Mike interview	Mike: And then
01.42.01	Walk down driveway early morning	I walked down. So I, I sit down next to him, I rubbed his back,
01.42.14	Close up of Mike interview	I told him I loved him and that um, that, you know,

		he seemed to have did that successfully 'cause I know he likes to be successful.
01.42.26	Birds on telephone lines	<i>Birds singing and flapping</i> <i>Music</i>
01.42.31	Windmill before dawn	<i>Music</i>
01.42.34	Cross dissolve to long shot of windmill at dawn	<i>Music</i>
01.42.40	Cross dissolve Sheriff walking up driveway	<i>Sound of car passing</i>
01.42.46	Medium shot of sheriff walking	Sheriff's Lt. Larry Davis: Well, apparently about um,
01.42.48	<i>Lower third:</i> Sheriff's Lt. Larry Davis	six am or so.. the Sheriff's Department got a call, um, from a family member here ah, that a relative had shot himself.
01.43.01	Walking along driveway in morning	A suicide note was located in his pocket. In suicides, often times there is despondency, and
01.43.11	Close up of Sheriff	key words used were "quantity of life versus of quality of life."
01.43.19	Close up of edge of windmill slowly turning	It is more common than what people realize
01.43.24	Pan up on windmill moving faster and then slowing down	especially in this older generation of men with emotional, medical issues confronting them. They just simply don't deal with it as well as the ladies do. They don't want to be seen as a burden and
01.43.40	Medium shot sheriff walking	often times will feel like they have to...they're losing control, they have to take the matter into their own hands.

01.43.47	Walking under solar panels	<i>Sounds of windchimes</i> Mike: Well the day after Dad died I walked around out here and thought about things. I kinda started getting angry, a little angry, and since this has taken up so much of my life I actually kinda broke a few of them.
01.44.22	Mike standing in front of cut solar panel	And then I cut actually a section of this and I, I um, I put this in his, in his grave with him.
01.44.34	Bob exits truck, waves	Part of me wonders if one reason I didn't do more to stop him was because I was
01.44.44	Bob close up in chair	mad at him for putting that pressure on me, you know,
01.44.48	Medium shot of Bob in chair, Mike hiding behind him and scares him.	for so much of my life. But yet I honestly don't think I could have done anything else. Susan: It was Mike who called me that morning to tell me Dad had shot himself.
01.45.06	Aerial view of car driving to ranch	I rushed to the ranch. My first thought was that I had abandoned Dad. My second thought was that he had abandoned us.
01.45.20	Living room looking out window	It was a point Dad and I would have debated -- if only he had been there.
01.45.29	Cross dissolve to black	<i>Silence</i>
01.45.32	Waving grass <i>Lower third:</i> Nine months later	<i>Birds singing</i>

01.45.37	Adele picking fruit	<i>Birds singing, tree snaps back</i>
01.45.45	Adele walking down driveway	Adele: For his sake, I'm very happy for him.
01.45.50	Close up of Adele interview	For me, I'll be fine. I had a real good run and I'm really much older than most of the people I know who become widows. So it's going to be fine. It's just that,
01.46.03	Adele walking down driveway	well he took a big space out of my life, as I said, we worked together --
01.46.08	Adele, from the back, walking down driveway	so it was a twenty-four-hour-a day marriage, which most people don't have. It was for better, worse and lunch, as the joke
01.46.15	Close up of Adele interview	goes. And so...like I say, there's a big spot of my life gone.
01.46.20	Close up of Adele interview	I think he thought I could handle it or he wouldn't have done it.
01.46.25	Adele walks down driveway at ranch with rainbow behind her	<i>Birds and walking.</i>
01.46.31	Cross dissolve to Adele gesturing to the rainbow	<i>Grass blowing.</i>
01.46.38	Adele at ranch, walks to gate	<i>Exterior sounds.</i>
01.46.41	Truck arrives at construction site	<i>Car sounds.</i>
01.46.48	Mike gets out of truck	Mike: How do I feel about the way he ended his life? I don't,
01.47.02	Close up of Mike interview	I don't like it. I'll never like it. I think people should have the right to, to end their life with dignity and, and, and with some...without the

		intensity and the craziness that, that he did. It's not right that you can take your beloved dog to the vet and be there with it and have it go out peacefully and, and someone that...a person that you love has to kill themselves in some way.
01.47.25	Mike at dumpster then going back into building	It's just not right. I kind of want to get out of the
01.47.36	Mike walks to wall socket and starts working on it	solar energy business completely and forget it and just end it with him. I was always wondering did he keep down who I really was
01.47.50	Close up of Mike interview	and it's kind of basically turning out that, no, I'm...I am, I am who I am and I am who I was and
01.47.58	Mike on scaffolding looking in window	there is no other me waiting to get out.
01.48.02	Mike on scaffolding hammering	Susan: Just when Mike moved further from Dad than he'd ever been,
01.48.09	Susan working on computer	I came closer. I began making this film. At some point I realized
01.48.16	Extreme close up of Susan	that I was finally telling one of those stories that my father always wanted me to tell: The
01.48.21	Push of Bob on monitor	self-made man. Five days
01.48.24	Close up of Susan over monitor	after my father died, Mike's father-in-law died in the hospital.
01.48.29	Back of Susan looking at editing screen	It started me wondering. What is a good death? Who

		should decide? I found myself drawn to people who think
01.48.38	People registering at convention <i>Lower third:</i> End of Life Choices convention San Diego, CA	they have answers to these questions.
01.48.44	Audience clapping	Male convention speaker: It's clear
01.48.46	Convention speaker at microphone	from polling, it's clear from conversation,
01.48.51	Audience members listening	it's clear how we talk amongst our families,
01.48.54	Wide shot of audience members listening	that we are all committed to complete autonomy and choice
01.48.59	Convention speaker at microphone	on these issues, on how we control our end and those of the ones...and those of people we love. Female convention speaker:
01.49.06	Audience members listening	That's what it's about. It's about suffering -- an
01.49.09	Woman in white turtleneck at podium	overused word but not a word if it's you or someone you love.
01.49.14	Four demonstrators holding their signs	Susan: Outside this conference, I met people with different convictions.
01.49.20	Pan down sign that reads "Suicide is <u>not</u> the answer"	Male protester 1: People say that they're doing it to take away suffering...
01.49.24	Close up of demonstrator interview	what they're promising is an easy, quick out to something that is difficult!
01.49.32	Pan of of demonstrator interview with sign that reads "Hitler Loved	Male protester 2: I believe that when we commit suicide we violate

	Euthanasia Too”	God’s law and we also rob the people who love us of a chance of showing us the compassion that they would like to in the last moments of our life here.
01.49.49	Bobs friends at tavern	<p>Ken: You know, as you watch people that are, that are going like this, you know, this is maybe not such a bad idea. Maybe just...you’re better off, it’s a terrible shock but It’s over and done with instead of you know, going like this, this is....</p> <p>Irv: Believe me, those thoughts enter your mind.</p> <p>Ken: Yeah they do, and as you get older you think, hey you know, maybe that...except that a lot of guys that try and do this don’t do it right and they end up in a wheelchair because they’ve...</p> <p>Tom: Because they screwed up.</p> <p>Ken: They’ve shot themselves in the wrong part, including one guy that no longer functions because he missed and hit something else that was important to him.</p>
01.50.24	Bobs friends laughing at tavern	Susan: Dad would have loved the debate. That’s what you think,

		he'd of
01.50.30	Wide shot of Bobs friends at tavern booth	said to all sides, but this is what I know.
01.50.35	Pan of exterior of ranchhouse	What I know is that a debate rages within me.
01.50.38	Crossfade to concrete containers	Sometimes I think Dad wasn't strong enough to be weak, to get old. Other times I think he had the courage to be himself.
01.50.49	Cross fade to tilt of solar panels to the sky	I accept my father's choice. It was inseparable from who he was, inevitable as another day.
01.51.03	Family walking with boxes to solar panels	On the second anniversary of Dad's death my family gathered to dismantle his aging experimental power
01.51.10	Following family with boxes.	plant, prior to rebuilding it. I finally asked Dad's
01.51.14	Nick dismantling, Katie watching	grandchildren what they thought.
01.51.18	John, from below, dismantling	John: Well, I'm sort of still confused by what he did,
01.51.22	Close up of John interview <i>Lower third:</i> John	mostly because you know, I really don't in the end know whether I'd make the same decision for myself. Laura: So John I need your.... John: It
01.51.29	Nick, John Laura and Katie dismanteling a panel	must have been pretty scary

01.51.35	John interview, wind blowing his hair	at the...in the last few minutes of his life.
01.51.39	Clouse up of John interview	I was wondering if maybe he'd slept another night on it would have changed his mind?
01.51.46	Nick hands Laura a panel	<i>Family talking while working</i>
01.51.50	Katie and Susan put a panel in a box.	Katie: I told my friends that my Grandpa died. I didn't tell them
01.51.54	Close up of hands adjusting styrofoam cushioning.	he killed himself.
01.51.57	Katie, arms crossed, watches work.	<i>Sounds of dismantling.</i>
01.52.00	Close up of Katie interview <i>Lower third:</i> Katie	I look at his life and what he was faced with and I still don't know if it was the right thing to do but it seems more understandable than those teenagers who just kill themselves because they couldn't get a date or something like that.
01.52.16	Nick unscrews a panel	Nick: You always hope that you don't actually end up in a hospital bed
01.52.22	Closeup of Nick working on a panel	you know, souped up on medication. It doesn't seem like a happy fate to me but I would say that it,
01.52.28	Close up of Nick interview <i>Lower third:</i> Nick	it wasn't a selfish act at all and that he did it for us rather than for himself.
01.52.32	Nick looking up at work being done	We can still remember him in his purest form even if we,
01.52.35	Close up of Nick looking up	we are denied the...you know, another year with him.

01.52.39	Close up of Nick interview	I, I honestly feel...I feel it's a...I feel like if...I wish I had the balls to actually to do it I would do it that way myself.
01.52.44	Family dismanteling panels, Nick hammering	<i>Sounds of Nick hammering</i>
01.52.48	Adele and Nora pivot ladder	Adele: Pivoting it makes it easier than lifting you see, this is using your brain instead of your brawn. Nora: In the beginning
01.52.58	Close up of Nora interview <i>Lower third:</i> Nora	I, I was upset and I was mad at him cause I was thinking as if he took something away from me, as he could have lived
01.53.05	Close up of Nora holding a ladder.	that for me he should have lived longer.
01.53.09	Close up of Nora interview	I always thought of him as being kind of this pillar of strength, he was kind...he wasn't very talkative and he was always stern, last name, Bob Stern, ha, ha, ha.
01.53.21	Nora and Katie putting panels in a box	I think ending his life in that way just reinforced that concept. Katie: I don't think I could ever kill myself
01.53.32	Close up of Katie interview	because there always seems like there must be something out there could solve the problem and something that must be better than just ending it.
01.53.41	Medium shot. Katie interview	And I think he knew that we all wanted to him to

		be around but he thought in his mind that the best thing to do would be to go.
01.53.51	Close up of Katie	So he just sort of made the decision for us.
01.53.54	Katie looks up at dismanteling job	<i>Sounds of hammering.</i>
01.53.58	Close up of Nora	Nora: I'm sad he's gone but sometimes I guess things happen and you have to roll with the punches, deal with it as comes and that's what he did.
01.54.12	Zoom on Susan holding ladder during dismantling	<i>Music</i>
01.54.16	John carries down a panel and hands it to Katie	John: I was most impressed with Grandpa when he said that you have to have a fire in your belly, that you're not going to really succeed in what you want to do unless you have some sort of driving force. So in everything that I do, I try to look for
01.54.28	Close up of John interview	that kind of inspiration.
01.54.30	Mike pulls down a panel	<i>Music</i>
01.54.33	Wide shot of family working	<i>Music continues</i>
01.54.37	Cross dissolve to black	<i>Music continues</i>
01.54.39	Cross dissolve to Mike and Rick by fence at Carrisa Plain <i>Lower third:</i> Carrisa Plain, CA	Rick: Bob would come out here and
01.54.45	Rick looking past fence	see this huge solar plant that used to be behind this fence and
01.54.51	Close up of Mike looking	stand out here and all

	past fence	you could hear is the wind.
01.54.55	Rick standing at fence, looking out	Every two minutes or so this whole field would change to track the sun and you'd hear this little 'ppppkkk.' Bob would just love standing out here and watching. He said it was his church.
01.55.10	Mike looking past fence	<i>Music continues</i>
01.55.12	Mike and Rick cross road to field	Mike: Someday some other little kid in their garage is going to come up with a breakthrough, is going to come up with a, a solar cell that is cheaper and is more efficient and that little kid and his Dad will end up um, doing our dream.
01.55.34	Mike and Rick silouhettted against the sunset	<i>Music continues</i>
01.55.37	Bob in suit in front of the house	Bob: I think I've covered just about all the bases and um, you might consider this a little unusual,
01.55.46	Bob waving from water	but hey, you've seen the quality of the
01.55.49	Bob in front of firetruck with flag	tapes that are sold nowadays for twenty bucks, I betcha they don't compare with this one. At any rate, 'bye kids, I
01.55.57	Bob addresses the camera	love you and um, maybe you won't even see this tape. Bye.
01.56.05	Windmill <i>Credits</i>	<i>Music continues</i>
01.57.20	Cross fade to black	<i>Music continues</i>
01.57.21	Cross fade to ITVS logo	<i>ITVS music</i>
01.57.25	Cross fade to KQED logo	

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