

## Testimony of Sarilda Routier

### DIRECT EXAMINATION

12

13 BY MR. DOUGLAS D. MULDER:

14 Q. Are you Sarilda Routier?

15 A. Yes, sir.

16 Q. And would you tell the jury where you

17 live, please?

18 A. I live in Lubbock, Texas, at 5104 19th

19 in Lubbock.

20 Q. Okay. And, have you lived there a

21 good part of your adult life?

22 A. I have lived there all of my life

23 except two years when my husband was in the service.

24 Q. When was that?

25 A. We got married in '64, we lived in

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1 Dallas from 1964 to 1968 then we moved to Lubbock.

2 Q. Okay. Do you have children?

3 A. Yes, sir.

4 Q. How many children do you have?

5 A. I have three children. I have Darin

6 is my oldest, he is 29. Deon, who is 27, and Arenda, who

7 is 21.

8 Q. Okay. Are your children married?

9 A. All of them are married now.

10 Q. Okay. And, where do they live?

11 A. Darin lives in Rowlett, and Deon, he

12 has been going to college all this time, he has just

13 recently moved to Plano, Texas, which is in the Dallas

14 area, and Arenda lives in Lubbock.

15 Q. Okay. What business are you and your

16 husband in?

17 A. We own a machine shop. It is called R

18 and R Repair and Machine.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. We have had it for 26 years.

21 Q. Is it basically your husband operates

22 it, does he?

23 A. Yes, we started the business, it was

24 because my maiden name was Raper, R-A-P-E-R, and it was

25 Raper and Routier. Initials, R and R. My father died in

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1 1987, so we're sole proprietors now, we were a

2 partnership.

3 Q. You have been called here to testify  
4 as regards to Darlie Routier. How long have you known  
5 Darlie?  
6 A. They have been married eight years. I  
7 have known her 10 or 11 years. To tell you the truth, I  
8 can't tell you exactly, but a long time.  
9 Q. Do you know her well?  
10 A. Well --  
11 Q. How many grandchildren did you have?  
12 A. Well, I had four.  
13 Q. Okay.  
14 A. I have two other grandsons.  
15 Q. Okay.  
16 A. Um-hum. (Witness nodding head  
17 affirmatively.)  
18 Q. And what are their ages?  
19 A. Well, we had Devon, who wanted to be  
20 considered 7, and Damon who was 5, and Drake -- well, I  
21 have to -- well, Deon and Dana have a little boy named  
22 Dillon. Dillon will be 3. He is 2 and a half. And I  
23 have Drake, who is about 15 or 16 months old.  
24 Q. All right. So you have two surviving  
25 grandchildren?  
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1 A. Two surviving, um-hum. (Witness  
2 nodding head affirmatively.)  
3 Q. And one grandchild by your son, Darin?  
4 A. Yes, and one by Deon.  
5 Q. And one by Deon?  
6 A. Yes.  
7 Q. What was your relationship, Ms.  
8 Routier, with your grandchildren? Did you see them  
9 often?  
10 A. I saw them often. As much as you can  
11 with them living in Dallas. You know, when you live, I  
12 mean, Lubbock is 350 miles. Okay? And -- but I did get  
13 to see them often.  
14 They came to us -- we never were away  
15 from each other on the holidays, and so, either they came  
16 to us, or I came to them.  
17 I also do a lot of shopping at market,  
18 and so, I came with girlfriends, for sometimes day trips,  
19 or two night trips. Plus, I was always there when the  
20 babies were born. Darlie and I do lots of shopping. She  
21 is truthfully my daughter-in-law. She is really a girl  
22 friend of mine. I mean, we're real friends. So I spent  
23 a lot of time in their home.  
24 Q. Would you talk to your daughter-in-law

25 and your son, and your grandchildren on the phone  
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1 frequently?

2 A. Oh, yes, we have 10-811, ten cents a  
3 minute, and to be truthful with you, we was talking more  
4 and enjoying it lots. I talk to Darlie an hour or two a  
5 week, and Darin. Sometimes they would say, you know, one  
6 saying that I was doing all of the talking to one, and  
7 then they would talk, and then sometimes I would speak to  
8 both of them in the same day.  
9 I hardly went a week that I didn't  
10 talk to them on the phone.

11 Q. Do you feel like you know your  
12 daughter-in-law well?

13 A. I most certainly do.

14 Q. Can you tell the jury what type of  
15 mother she was to your grandchildren?

16 A. Darlie is the daughter-in-law that  
17 everyone would love to have. Okay? You should all get  
18 to have her.

19 In my opinion, what do you want from a  
20 daughter-in-law? You want somebody who loves your son,  
21 who lets your son love you back, and that loves you.  
22 That gives you beautiful grandkids, that teaches them to  
23 love you.

24 You know, what do you want out of  
25 life? She was never jealous. Darin and I are very, very  
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1 close. Darin is very -- is a very loving person. He is  
2 very affectionate. He shows his affection. He kisses me  
3 on lips. Deon doesn't do that.

4 Deon loves me, but you know, they are  
5 two different personalities. And she allowed it. And I  
6 appreciate that. I have seen that in my friends, who  
7 didn't have that.

8 I have friends who have  
9 daughter-in-laws that are jealous of the relationship.  
10 She was never jealous of our relationship. Well, she  
11 loved me too. Why would she be in any way jealous of  
12 Darin's relationship, when she felt the same away.

13 Q. Okay. She has been described as  
14 selfish and materialistic, self centered. Do you agree  
15 with that?

16 A. I most certainly do not.

17 Materialistic. Well, materialistic can mean different  
18 things to different people. Darlie likes nice things, I

19 like nice things --

20 Q. Do you know anybody who doesn't?

21 A. Well, I don't know. We like nice

22 things, but we buy it on sale.

23 Q. Okay.

24 A. Well, I mean, it's the truth.

25 Q. Okay.

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1 A. Well, I mean, as far as materialistic,

2 I mean, Darlie liked nice things, and Darin liked nice

3 things, and they bought it honestly, with their own

4 money. I don't see anything wrong with that.

5 Q. They worked hard, didn't they?

6 A. They worked hard. They had lots of

7 guts, and they are successful because of his guts. Darin

8 is really a mixture of me and daddy, of his father. He

9 is not quite as boisterous maybe as I, but he is not as

10 quiet and reserved as his father. He is a wonderful mix,

11 and he has turned out awesome.

12 He found a wonderful mate, and

13 together they have worked hard, and made every dime of

14 that money themselves.

15 Q. Did they take good care of your

16 grandbabies?

17 A. Well, Darlie is -- you know, Darlie is

18 not going to deny them anything. She is going to -- if

19 she has a dollar in her pocket, and they wanted a candy

20 bar, well now, grand-mommy thought, well, they really

21 didn't need that. But Darlie just couldn't deny them

22 anything, and that is the truth.

23 Q. Tell the jury what those grandchildren

24 meant to you?

25 A. Well, I'm sure everybody has grandkids

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1 I hope that you do. Okay? You know, your first

2 grandchild is very important. Not that those others

3 aren't, but Devon looks just like Darin. He has

4 freckles, which I hated my freckles, I didn't particular

5 care for his either. But, it was like a little Darin.

6 You know, grandbabies, you know, if you don't have a

7 grandbaby, grandbabies are something that you didn't give

8 birth to, but you have got that wonderful feeling, you

9 know, it's really neat, it's a wonderful, wonderful

10 feeling. Somebody -- I don't have them any more, and I

11 have not really come to terms with that. I put it

12 somewhere, because when you do really think about that we

13 don't have Devon and Damon any more, it is so unbearable  
14 that, I start to throw up. So you have to just put it  
15 somewhere, and our main emphasis right now is getting  
16 Darlie home, and getting this mess straightened out.

17 This awful mess.

18 Q. Did you see her at the hospital?

19 A. I sure did.

20 Q. Did you think her grief was

21 appropriate?

22 A. I would be ashamed if I was anybody to

23 say that wasn't appropriate. I don't know where

24 people -- number 1, I am offended by anybody saying that

25 it was not there. But if you saw it, and we're not

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1 talking about a choice here, of somebody saying what is

2 appropriate, and what is not appropriate.

3 It sounds to me like, from reading the

4 papers, they are saying that it was inappropriate. I was

5 there and it was appropriate at every step.

6 I mean, ask me. What times are we

7 talking about? Every time it was appropriate. I have

8 thought back over this. I mean, you know, this is my

9 grandbabies. I have another grandbaby. I have Drake.

10 I, in no way, shape, form or fashion intend to have Drake

11 put in any kind of jeopardy. Okay?

12 I mean, you know, I seen all this, I

13 mean, from what bits and pieces I got, from frantic

14 friends and neighbors, I guess you could say that is how

15 I have gotten my information.

16 Q. Have you read the newspapers, and kept

17 up with the --

18 A. Well, Lubbock has really been very

19 kind toward me. This is Darin and Darlie's home, and

20 they have kind of considered that trash, and they have

21 repeated very little, very little. So I got the Dallas

22 Morning News, and I have heard that it was on the front

23 page, and this and that.

24

25 MR. GREG DAVIS: I'm sorry, I will

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1 object to this. This is extraneous --

2 THE COURT: Sustained. Sustain the

3 objection.

4 Ma'am, just testify -- just listen to

5 the question.

6

7 BY MR. DOUGLAS D. MULDER:

8 Q. Have you kept up with, and are you  
9 aware of the evidence in this case? You have talked to  
10 me, haven't you?

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. Are you aware of the evidence in this  
13 case?

14 A. Yes, I am, I am aware of everything  
15 that I know of any way.

16 Q. Do you believe that Darlie killed her  
17 sons?

18

19 MR. GREG DAVIS: I'll object to that.

20 It's not relevant.

21 THE COURT: Sustained. Let's move on.

22

23 BY MR. DOUGLAS D. MULDER:

24 Q. Do you know who killed your  
25 grandchildren?

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1 A. I have no idea.

2 Q. Would you be here if you had any doubt  
3 in her whatsoever?

4 A. I would not.

5

6 MR. GREG DAVIS: We would object to  
7 that again, and ask that the Court instruct the jury to  
8 disregard that last comment.

9 THE COURT: The jury is instructed to  
10 disregard the last comment.

11

12 BY MR. DOUGLAS D. MULDER:

13 Q. Is she capable of all of this?

14

15 MR. GREG DAVIS: I object again.

16 THE COURT: All right. Gentlemen,  
17 let's ask her the right questions. Ma'am, just listen to  
18 the questions, and answer it as briefly and to the point  
19 as you can, please.

20 THE WITNESS: Okay. What was the  
21 question again? I only heard the objection.

22

23 BY MR. DOUGLAS D. MULDER:

24 Q. I asked you if she was capable of this  
25 and --

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2 MR. GREG DAVIS: And to that, I do  
3 object.

4 THE COURT: Sustained. Let's move on.

5 Next question.

6 MR. DOUGLAS D. MULDER: We will pass

7 the witness.

8 They will have some questions for you.

9 MR. GREG DAVIS: Ms. Routier, I'm

10 sorry that you had to come down here. I know that you

11 loved your two grandchildren, and I certainly have no

12 questions for you.

13 Thank you.

14 THE COURT: Thank you, ma'am. You may

15 step down. Let's watch your step going off of their.

16 THE WITNESS: Can I take this water

17 with me?

18 THE COURT: Oh, yes, by all means,

19 take it with you. Go ahead.

20 All right. And by agreement this

21 witness will be excused.