



We are really proud to present 7 questions we asked Phyllis Hall about the film “Flash of Genius”. As we all know Lauren portrays her as Phyllis Kearns, who supported her ex-husband Dr. Bob Kearns through the battle with the automobile industry stealing his idea of the intermittent windshield wiper.

Her son Bob Kearns took the time and answered them for his mother, thanks a lot for that!

1. When you heard the first time, that your family story will be a Hollywood-movie, what were your thoughts?

I was excited but I had heard this movie idea on other occasions so I didn't think it was really going to come true. Once Universal green-lighted the project, it all started to happen very quickly.

2. Hollywood is not well known for meticulous story telling, because sometimes directors “stretch” the story or simplify it. Where you concerned about that?

Although there is always reason to be concerned, I actually wasn't. My Dad had similar concerns...whether his story would be told accurately and in a good light. Thankfully, it was. I guess it wouldn't have been a good story if they hadn't. Once you sign your rights away, I suppose anything can happen, but they were very respectful and compassionate of our story. They worked very hard to get it right.

3. Did you know Lauren Graham as an actress before and how does that feel seeing “a stranger” portraying yourself on the big screen? Do you think, she (Lauren as Phyllis) looks similar to you in that time?

My Mom didn't really know of Lauren prior to learning she was going to portray her. While Greg looks startlingly like my father at that age, Lauren didn't look so much like my Mom. However my Mom was thrilled at how Lauren portrayed her as such the loving wife. She was very moved by that. You can see some behind the scenes online where we watched ourselves being portrayed. Mom just couldn't get over Lauren

4. Lauren met you on the set the first time, but never talked to you before they started shooting. Did she managed to interpret you right?

When my Mom first met Lauren, they both just started crying and hugging. Lauren was very moved to have met the woman she was portraying after learning all she had been through. It was a very nice moment.



5. When you saw the film was it like: “Yes, that’s the way it was” or is it like “This is a story I know, but it doesn’t cover the real situation we have been through?”

They were condensing 30 years into 12 years for the film. And the film is only 2 hours. Given that, it was very real to us what you see on the screen. Most of the furniture and dishes, etc were simply exact! It was very flattering that they would go to those lengths to get it right. After all, who would know except us?!

6. Not to judge about the obsession of you ex-husband and the trouble he made for the family, do you think your children learned something valuable for life?

We all understood how deeply my father was wronged. Everyone was very much behind my father's efforts. Life was actually harder than depicted in the film, but no one ever thought of doing anything other than supporting my Dad.

7. Is there a life maxim you stick to and want to share it with us?

Weigh the costs if you can, but when you feel strongly about something, stick to your guns! You'll be proud you did. I've always been proud of my Dad but this film is a great reminder for me of the man he was. I miss him more than ever.

Thank you Bob for answering the questions and sharing those feelings and memories with us!

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Please do not “steal” this interview without permission. If you want to share it somewhere else, please let me know. You know, “stealing” ideas is a very bad thing to do, learn from Dr. Kearns and don’t do it!