MEMENTO MORI

BY JOHN SCHROEDER

DEATH FAMILY PROFESSION

CAN IT BE BALANCED

BODIES, DINNER, SLEEP, REPEAT

PICTURE THIS

You're up late gaming or doing homework
The sound of your neighbor's car engine roars
Where could he possibly be going at this hour?
I would have never expected...

Death called, Josh answered

And he needed some extra hands

THE UNEXPECTED FRIENDSHIP

- I started helping Josh transport bodies
- I developed a friendship with his nine-year-old son, Lucas
- I watched his dogs when his family went on vacation
- I even turned to Josh for life advice

- From not knowing much about him, to being close friends with Josh, I've gotten to see him navigate life, work, and his free time

His story NEEDS to be told

WHO IS JOSH LANZA ?

HUSBAND

- Married to Pam
- Helps around the house
- They enjoy watching shows together
- Pam often cooks dinner for the family

FATHER

- Father to Lucas
- They ride bikes and scooters together
- They're gaming buddies
- Pet parent to two great danes and a cat

FRIEND

- Friendly face in the neighborhood
- Involved in village politics
- Very humorous and loyal

BUT WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE PHONE RINGS AT 3AM ?

BACK TO WORK

FAMILY COMES FIRST BUT SO DOES WORK

Will Josh be able to find a balance?

VISUAL REFERENCES / APPROACH

Home life
vs
Work life

THE FUNERAL HOME

A veil between life and death…
Family and work

INTERVIEW SETTING

The location will...
- Tie into the theme of the documentary
- Encourage Josh to be authentic and relaxed
- Have good acoustics for audio recording

Possible interview location
- The funeral home as pictured below

STYLE

Camera

- Canon 90D
- Clean and clear image quality
- Interview will make use of a tripod
- B-roll and home footage will favor handheld

Audio

- Wireless lavalier mic for the interview
- Shotgun mic for the B-roll and home footage

Lighting

- Make use of ambient lighting
- Studio light on standby

LOGISTICS

Logistics

- $200 budget has been put aside (not expecting to use it all)
- Food locations near the funeral home have been scouted

Permissions

- Location agreements for the funeral home and Josh's house have been signed
- Talent release forms have been signed
- Equipment rental deadline is understood by crew

SENSITIVE CONTENT

Content Warning

- Death is a sensitive topic, I will be communicating with the crew to ensure a comfortable working environment
- Possible content warning on film?

High Risk Activities

- Filming Josh while he's driving

SCHEDULE

Our Plan

- My producer, Spencer Lyon, and I have been in communication about our film plan
- X1 day for filming the interview
- X1 day for filming around the funeral home
- X1 day for filming at Josh's house and in his car
- An additional day for extra B-roll and coverage
- Turn the camera on and observe
- We're as flexible as possible to capture Josh's story

LIFE'S SHORT

THE AFTER LIFE IS FOREVER

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