

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:07,440

This program is about unsolved mysteries.

2

00:00:07,440 --> 00:00:10,080

Whenever possible, the actual family members and police

3

00:00:10,080 --> 00:00:13,040

officials have participated in recreating the events.

4

00:00:13,040 --> 00:00:15,480

What you are about to see is not a news broadcast.

5

00:00:20,240 --> 00:00:25,400

Tonight on Unsolved Mysteries, an intriguing new story.

6

00:00:25,400 --> 00:00:29,580

On April 10, 1967, Ralph probes the Cook County Illinois

7

00:00:29,580 --> 00:00:31,860

Sheriff's Officer had the night off.

8

00:00:31,860 --> 00:00:33,820

While watching television with his wife,

9

00:00:33,820 --> 00:00:38,700

Ralph went into the kitchen to make a phone call.

10

00:00:38,700 --> 00:00:40,860

Ralph never regained consciousness.

11

00:00:40,860 --> 00:00:43,980

His killer is still at large.

12

00:00:43,980 --> 00:00:47,340

In tiny lion's Nebraska, an intriguing love triangle

13

00:00:47,340 --> 00:00:52,180

left a woman murdered and the police chief on the run.

14

00:00:52,180 --> 00:00:54,740

Also tonight, the story of six Oklahoma children

15

00:00:54,740 --> 00:00:57,820

who were separated the day after their mother's funeral.

16

00:00:57,820 --> 00:00:59,980

30 years later, they are trying to reunite

17

00:00:59,980 --> 00:01:02,740

to put the pain and the past behind them.

18

00:01:02,740 --> 00:01:04,340

For every mystery, there is someone,

19

00:01:04,340 --> 00:01:06,780

somewhere who knows the truth.

20

00:01:06,780 --> 00:01:08,380

Perhaps it's you.

21

00:01:58,140 --> 00:02:01,380

Lions Nebraska, a quiet farming town of 1,200 people,

22

00:02:01,380 --> 00:02:03,780

is located 60 miles from Omaha.

23

00:02:03,780 --> 00:02:08,500

In October of 1986, Annemarie Anton, a 34-year-old divorcee,

24

00:02:08,500 --> 00:02:10,940

moved to this small, isolated community.

25

00:02:10,940 --> 00:02:13,060

She was a stranger to town.

26

00:02:13,060 --> 00:02:16,260

There was no rational reason why she would move here.

27

00:02:16,260 --> 00:02:18,540

People don't move to Lions Nebraska

28

00:02:18,540 --> 00:02:21,100

unless they have a job or family or they're

29

00:02:21,100 --> 00:02:23,220

returning to a small hometown.

30

00:02:23,220 --> 00:02:26,300

And she didn't have any of those.

31

00:02:26,300 --> 00:02:28,300

10 years before she settled in Lions,

32

00:02:28,300 --> 00:02:31,460

Anna had severely injured her leg in a car accident.

33

00:02:31,460 --> 00:02:32,060

Good morning.

34

00:02:32,060 --> 00:02:33,060

Good morning, Anna.

35

00:02:33,060 --> 00:02:34,660

How nice to see you.

36

00:02:34,660 --> 00:02:35,460

Thank you very much.

37

00:02:35,460 --> 00:02:35,960

God bless you.

38

00:02:35,960 --> 00:02:37,860

Have a nice day now.

39

00:02:37,860 --> 00:02:40,180

Anna's neighbors were happy to lend her a helping hand,

40

00:02:40,180 --> 00:02:42,060

and her fellow parishioners at St. Joseph's

41

00:02:42,060 --> 00:02:46,380

would take turns driving her to and from church.

42

00:02:46,380 --> 00:02:49,820

Anna appeared to be a very religious person.

43

00:02:49,820 --> 00:02:53,580

She had very high morals and did not drink.

44

00:02:53,580 --> 00:02:57,740

She went to church daily.

45

00:02:57,740 --> 00:03:00,100

She could find a ride.

46

00:03:00,100 --> 00:03:02,620

Shirley Edgecomb lived across the street from Anna

47

00:03:02,620 --> 00:03:05,260

would often take her grocery shopping.

48

00:03:05,260 --> 00:03:09,860

They became friends, and Anna began to confide in Shirley.

49

00:03:09,860 --> 00:03:11,780

Want me to put these away for you?

50

00:03:11,780 --> 00:03:13,540

That'd be great, sure.

51

00:03:13,540 --> 00:03:16,700

She told me that her ex-husband had been involved

52

00:03:16,700 --> 00:03:22,020

in some large drug ring, and that she had testified

53

00:03:22,020 --> 00:03:25,380

against him and other members of this drug ring.

54

00:03:25,380 --> 00:03:28,580

And she was afraid that he was going to harm her.

55

00:03:28,580 --> 00:03:30,860

Shirley, can I show you something?

56

00:03:30,860 --> 00:03:35,660

She had moved to Lions to get away from her ex-husband.

57

00:03:35,660 --> 00:03:38,100

If anything should happen to me,

58

00:03:38,100 --> 00:03:41,900

I want you to open this envelope and call the number that's

59

00:03:41,900 --> 00:03:42,820

in it.

60

00:03:42,820 --> 00:03:45,300

She did tell me that she'd chosen that apartment

61

00:03:45,300 --> 00:03:49,620

because the police chief lived right above her,

62

00:03:49,620 --> 00:03:52,380

and she thought if her ex-husband ever did find her

63

00:03:52,380 --> 00:03:54,980

that he would be leery about bothering her because the police

64

00:03:54,980 --> 00:03:56,260

car parked out in front.

65

00:04:01,820 --> 00:04:05,220

On December 16, 1986, Shirley brought some groceries

66

00:04:05,220 --> 00:04:07,180

over to Anna's apartment.

67

00:04:07,180 --> 00:04:09,180

She was surprised to find the back door locked.

68

00:04:11,820 --> 00:04:12,660

Anna?

69

00:04:12,660 --> 00:04:16,500

Shirley knocked on Anna's windows and called out her name.

70

00:04:16,500 --> 00:04:17,500

There was no response.

71

00:04:19,900 --> 00:04:22,900

Anna?

72

00:04:22,900 --> 00:04:25,580

That evening, Shirley tried to deliver the grocery several

73

00:04:25,580 --> 00:04:28,660

times, but still there was no answer.

74

00:04:28,660 --> 00:04:30,940

Anna seemed to have disappeared as mysteriously

75

00:04:30,940 --> 00:04:33,060

as she arrived.

76

00:04:33,060 --> 00:04:34,580

I hope you don't mind letting me in.

77

00:04:34,580 --> 00:04:35,980

I'm really worried about her.

78

00:04:35,980 --> 00:04:38,260

It's not like her to just disappear.

79

00:04:38,260 --> 00:04:40,900

Police chief Greg Webb, who lived upstairs from Anna,

80

00:04:40,900 --> 00:04:42,620

agreed to help.

81

00:04:42,620 --> 00:04:47,660

We went in thinking we'd probably find Anna had fallen,

82

00:04:47,660 --> 00:04:49,220

and there was no sign of her.

83

00:04:49,220 --> 00:04:51,300

Looks like she hasn't been here for a couple of days.

84

00:04:51,300 --> 00:04:52,460

She was supposed to meet me.

85

00:04:52,460 --> 00:04:54,140

I can't imagine why she didn't call.

86

00:04:54,140 --> 00:04:55,540

Let's check the bedroom.

87

00:04:55,540 --> 00:04:56,040

OK.

88

00:05:01,020 --> 00:05:05,780

There was an outfit of clothes that was laid out on the bed

89

00:05:05,780 --> 00:05:09,580

from shirt and jeans all the way down to underwear.

90

00:05:09,580 --> 00:05:11,740

Here's the shoe she always wore.

91

00:05:11,740 --> 00:05:14,500

Where would she go without these this time of year?

92

00:05:14,500 --> 00:05:17,540

And that seems strange, because this is in the winter time.

93

00:05:17,540 --> 00:05:21,980

And if you take your coat and your purse and your cane,

94

00:05:21,980 --> 00:05:24,220

seems only reasonable, you would take your shoes.

95

00:05:27,540 --> 00:05:29,580

Here it is.

96

00:05:29,580 --> 00:05:31,060

Call some of the people in this book.

97

00:05:31,060 --> 00:05:32,740

Maybe they've seen her.

98

00:05:32,740 --> 00:05:34,420

Why don't you let me do that?

99

00:05:34,420 --> 00:05:35,980

It's my job.

100

00:05:35,980 --> 00:05:36,900

OK.

101

00:05:36,900 --> 00:05:39,580

A few hours later, he called me and said

102

00:05:39,580 --> 00:05:43,020

that he had called those numbers in the book,

103

00:05:43,020 --> 00:05:45,140

but she wasn't in any of those places.

104

00:05:48,460 --> 00:05:50,620

11 days after Anna disappeared, her body

105

00:05:50,620 --> 00:05:52,940

was found in a remote field.

106

00:05:52,940 --> 00:05:56,620

She had 238 caliber bullet wounds in her torso.

107

00:05:56,620 --> 00:05:59,620

Since the crime scene was outside Lyons jurisdiction,

108

00:05:59,620 --> 00:06:02,620

state criminal investigator Jerry Krieger of the Nebraska State

109

00:06:02,620 --> 00:06:04,220

Patrol was called in on the case.

110

00:06:07,540 --> 00:06:10,180

Upon observing the surroundings around Anna,

111

00:06:10,180 --> 00:06:13,820

it was very apparent that she did not

112

00:06:13,820 --> 00:06:19,100

succumb her death there, that the body had been moved.

113

00:06:25,900 --> 00:06:29,820

Somebody had left her out and was careful in reference

114

00:06:29,820 --> 00:06:32,180

to not leaving anything behind.

115

00:06:32,180 --> 00:06:34,340

She was in an unclad condition.

116

00:06:34,340 --> 00:06:38,540

It appeared as though the body had been cleaned.

117

00:06:38,540 --> 00:06:41,420

And it also appeared that it had been there for quite some time.

118

00:06:43,860 --> 00:06:45,700

I was seeing the area and see if anybody heard anything

119

00:06:45,700 --> 00:06:46,980

or saw anything.

120

00:06:46,980 --> 00:06:47,860

OK.

121

00:06:47,860 --> 00:06:48,660

I'll get right on it.

122

00:06:48,660 --> 00:06:50,340

Surprisingly, the autopsy revealed

123

00:06:50,340 --> 00:06:53,220

that Anna's blood alcohol level was 0.22,

124

00:06:53,220 --> 00:06:57,700

extremely high for a woman who purportedly did not drink.

125

00:06:57,700 --> 00:07:01,820

After they found the body, Jerry Krieger came over

126

00:07:01,820 --> 00:07:03,020

to our place.

127

00:07:03,020 --> 00:07:06,020

He wanted to know everything about Anna.

128

00:07:06,020 --> 00:07:07,620

This is the note that Anna gave me.

129

00:07:07,620 --> 00:07:10,580

She told me to open it if anything should ever happen to her.

130

00:07:10,580 --> 00:07:13,700

Shirley, do you know why Anna would leave you a note?

131

00:07:13,700 --> 00:07:16,500

She told me she was afraid of her ex-husband.

132

00:07:16,500 --> 00:07:20,740

Her feelings were that Anna's ex-husband had caused death.

133

00:07:20,740 --> 00:07:23,100

She had related to me that her ex-husband had been

134

00:07:23,100 --> 00:07:27,660

involved in narcotics, that he was a heavy drug dealer,

135

00:07:27,660 --> 00:07:30,900

and that she was very fearful of her life.

136

00:07:30,900 --> 00:07:32,460

Within a short period of time, we

137

00:07:32,460 --> 00:07:35,620

were able to determine that Anna's ex-husband did have

138

00:07:35,620 --> 00:07:40,260

an alibi, and he was not involved in any drug activity.

139

00:07:40,260 --> 00:07:42,020

And I just couldn't understand why Anna

140

00:07:42,020 --> 00:07:43,660

would fabricate this information.

141

00:07:47,860 --> 00:07:49,660

The police officers working on the case

142

00:07:49,660 --> 00:07:53,620

agreed to meet in Lyons at the highway cafe to compare notes.

143

00:07:53,620 --> 00:07:55,460

Chief Webb is among them.

144

00:07:55,460 --> 00:07:58,300

Knowing that Anna lived in the same building as the chief,

145

00:07:58,300 --> 00:08:02,060

Jerry Krieger quizzed him about his neighbor.

146

00:08:02,060 --> 00:08:04,340

How long did you know Anna Anton?

147

00:08:04,340 --> 00:08:05,860

Two, two and a half months.

148

00:08:05,860 --> 00:08:08,540

Where did you meet her?

149

00:08:08,540 --> 00:08:10,740

Arnold's Park.

150

00:08:10,740 --> 00:08:13,900

Were you and she ever intimately involved?

151

00:08:13,900 --> 00:08:14,400

No.

152

00:08:19,380 --> 00:08:20,900

Were you and she ever intimately involved?

153

00:08:23,980 --> 00:08:25,900

Yes.

154

00:08:25,900 --> 00:08:28,340

On the night she moved in.

155

00:08:28,340 --> 00:08:30,140

Officer Webb, would you please excuse us?

156

00:08:30,140 --> 00:08:33,020

Do the fact that he had lied to me,

157

00:08:33,020 --> 00:08:34,700

being a police officer, especially

158

00:08:34,700 --> 00:08:38,780

a chief of police during a major investigation like this,

159

00:08:38,780 --> 00:08:41,740

and also thinking back to the crime scene,

160

00:08:41,740 --> 00:08:43,820

my thoughts were thinking strongly

161

00:08:43,820 --> 00:08:47,340

to the fact that Greg was a suspect.

162

00:08:47,340 --> 00:08:50,420

OK, Reno, let's go over here by the chair and work our way back.

163

00:08:50,420 --> 00:08:51,300

OK.

164

00:08:51,300 --> 00:08:53,380

Two days after Anna's body was found,

165

00:08:53,380 --> 00:08:55,940

Krieger and lab technicians performed a test in Anna's

166

00:08:55,940 --> 00:08:59,380

apartment to search for blood stains.

167

00:08:59,380 --> 00:09:04,780

Throughout the test, Greg Webb was upstairs in his apartment.

168

00:09:04,780 --> 00:09:07,860

There were times that we would hear somebody walking

169

00:09:07,900 --> 00:09:10,020

or moving upstairs.

170

00:09:10,020 --> 00:09:14,540

It did sound as though he might have been illicit.

171

00:09:14,540 --> 00:09:16,420

The police use a special chemical called

172

00:09:16,420 --> 00:09:19,380

Illumina, which makes drops of blood hemoglobin

173

00:09:19,380 --> 00:09:22,260

glow in the dark, even if they have been washed away

174

00:09:22,260 --> 00:09:24,300

or are small and faded.

175

00:09:24,300 --> 00:09:27,860

We found traces of blood in the living room and dining room

176

00:09:27,860 --> 00:09:29,820

area of Anna Anton's apartment.

177

00:09:29,820 --> 00:09:31,020

Oh, look at that.

178

00:09:31,020 --> 00:09:33,220

Look at that.

179

00:09:33,220 --> 00:09:36,900

The trail of blood just outside of Anna Anton's door

180

00:09:36,940 --> 00:09:38,340

was quite heavy.

181

00:09:38,340 --> 00:09:42,060

The trail then led up the stairs to Greg Webb's apartment.

182

00:09:42,060 --> 00:09:42,940

Right here.

183

00:09:42,940 --> 00:09:44,820

Right here at the top of the step.

184

00:09:44,820 --> 00:09:46,780

OK.

185

00:09:46,780 --> 00:09:48,620

My main concern at that particular time

186

00:09:48,620 --> 00:09:53,020

was attempting to obtain a search warrant for Greg Webb's

187

00:09:53,020 --> 00:09:55,500

apartment.

188

00:09:55,500 --> 00:09:57,100

During the police investigation,

189

00:09:57,100 --> 00:09:59,540

Greg Webb left his apartment.

190

00:09:59,540 --> 00:10:03,180

The next day, he withdrew \$3,000 and then disappeared.

191

00:10:07,900 --> 00:10:09,900

Five days later, armed with a warrant,

192

00:10:09,900 --> 00:10:12,700

investigator Krieger searched the chief's apartment.

193

00:10:12,700 --> 00:10:14,940

Why don't you go ahead and get the kitchen here?

194

00:10:14,940 --> 00:10:16,540

OK.

195

00:10:16,540 --> 00:10:18,460

We did find a mop.

196

00:10:18,460 --> 00:10:21,100

It did have a trace of blood that was later

197

00:10:21,100 --> 00:10:25,900

shown to be the same type as Anna Anton's.

198

00:10:25,900 --> 00:10:27,780

Jerry, you want to take a look at this?

199

00:10:27,780 --> 00:10:29,300

In the bedroom closet, the police

200

00:10:29,300 --> 00:10:33,500

found a military-style coat with several spots of blood.

201

00:10:33,500 --> 00:10:35,700

These stains proved to be the same blood type

202

00:10:35,780 --> 00:10:37,340

as Anna Anton's.

203

00:10:37,340 --> 00:10:38,500

Package in legal.

204

00:10:38,500 --> 00:10:40,700

OK.

205

00:10:40,700 --> 00:10:43,380

Once I started checking into Anna Anton's background,

206

00:10:43,380 --> 00:10:45,900

I had learned that she had two separate lives.

207

00:10:45,900 --> 00:10:48,700

One life down here in Lyons, Nebraska,

208

00:10:48,700 --> 00:10:50,540

where she was very religious.

209

00:10:50,540 --> 00:10:52,100

And then the other top of Arnold's Park,

210

00:10:52,100 --> 00:10:56,060

where she would refer to as a bar foods.

211

00:10:56,060 --> 00:10:56,980

Danny!

212

00:10:56,980 --> 00:10:57,780

Danny!

213

00:10:57,780 --> 00:10:58,780

Hi, how are you?

214

00:10:58,780 --> 00:11:00,100

Good, how are you?

215

00:11:00,100 --> 00:11:02,460

She would carry on with men.

216

00:11:02,460 --> 00:11:03,700

Hi.

217

00:11:03,700 --> 00:11:05,220

You get better looking every day.

218

00:11:05,940 --> 00:11:09,420

This is where Anna Anton and Greg Webb had met.

219

00:11:09,420 --> 00:11:13,140

I want to introduce you to a friend of mine.

220

00:11:13,140 --> 00:11:14,100

This is Greg Webb.

221

00:11:14,100 --> 00:11:17,340

He's the chief of police at Lyons, Nebraska.

222

00:11:17,340 --> 00:11:19,460

Greg and Anna became friends.

223

00:11:19,460 --> 00:11:22,140

When Anna told him she was looking for a place to live,

224

00:11:22,140 --> 00:11:25,060

Webb suggested that she move into an unoccupied apartment

225

00:11:25,060 --> 00:11:27,460

in his building.

226

00:11:27,460 --> 00:11:30,740

I think Anna Anton moved here with the anticipation

227

00:11:30,740 --> 00:11:36,020

that her and Greg Webb may have something in common

228

00:11:36,020 --> 00:11:38,980

and possibly maybe even eventually getting together

229

00:11:38,980 --> 00:11:41,740

and maybe even marriage.

230

00:11:41,740 --> 00:11:43,420

You're on duty tomorrow.

231

00:11:43,420 --> 00:11:44,980

Monday off.

232

00:11:44,980 --> 00:11:47,500

Anna was infatuated with Webb, but she soon

233

00:11:47,500 --> 00:11:50,260

learned that he had another girlfriend.

234

00:11:50,260 --> 00:11:54,140

Anna seemed to be preoccupied with the fact

235

00:11:54,140 --> 00:11:58,660

that Greg had this girlfriend and the fact

236

00:11:58,660 --> 00:12:01,620

that they were not married but evidently sleeping together.

237

00:12:05,220 --> 00:12:08,060

She talked about laying in bed at night

238

00:12:08,060 --> 00:12:11,140

and hearing them upstairs making love.

239

00:12:11,140 --> 00:12:12,140

And it bothered her.

240

00:12:12,140 --> 00:12:13,500

She would turn the stereo on.

241

00:12:21,580 --> 00:12:24,700

She felt that it was a sin to the point

242

00:12:24,700 --> 00:12:26,900

that she would get holy water and sprinkle it up

243

00:12:26,940 --> 00:12:30,060

down the steps and on the door knobs.

244

00:12:33,020 --> 00:12:36,020

Investigator Krieger has learned that the night of Anna's death,

245

00:12:36,020 --> 00:12:38,540

Greg Webb was intoxicated.

246

00:12:38,540 --> 00:12:42,660

I believe Anna Anton's death could have resulted from a fight

247

00:12:42,660 --> 00:12:44,580

that might have occurred due to the fact

248

00:12:44,580 --> 00:12:48,700

that Anna Anton had found out about this other woman

249

00:12:48,700 --> 00:12:50,660

and confronted Greg Webb about this.

250

00:12:50,660 --> 00:12:51,420

Give me that key.

251

00:12:51,540 --> 00:12:52,540

I'm not going to leave.

252

00:12:55,020 --> 00:12:57,300

It was learned that during the following day,

253

00:12:57,300 --> 00:12:58,980

in the early morning hours, Greg Webb

254

00:12:58,980 --> 00:13:01,180

was seen carrying something from his house

255

00:13:01,180 --> 00:13:03,980

out to the trunk of his car.

256

00:13:03,980 --> 00:13:06,860

And it was learned later that what he was carrying

257

00:13:06,860 --> 00:13:08,420

was actually Anna Anton.

258

00:13:12,500 --> 00:13:14,900

The police believe Webb removed all of Anna's clothes

259

00:13:14,900 --> 00:13:17,140

and carefully washed her body before she was carried

260

00:13:17,140 --> 00:13:17,940

from the apartment.

261

00:13:22,420 --> 00:13:24,020

It is possible that Anna's body was

262

00:13:24,020 --> 00:13:25,820

left in that particular farmer's field,

263

00:13:25,820 --> 00:13:28,860

because Webb knew the land was part of an Indian reservation,

264

00:13:28,860 --> 00:13:31,420

which would cause jurisdiction problems for the authorities.

265

00:13:40,980 --> 00:13:43,380

I feel that Greg Webb might have thought

266

00:13:43,380 --> 00:13:46,060

that he had committed the perfect crime in the way

267

00:13:46,060 --> 00:13:49,540

he had disposed of the body and also to the fact

268

00:13:49,620 --> 00:13:54,460

that he would have known about Anna Anton's ex-husband.

269

00:13:54,460 --> 00:13:58,660

On January 6, 1987, a warrant was issued for police chief Greg

270

00:13:58,660 --> 00:13:59,940

Webb's arrest.

271

00:13:59,940 --> 00:14:01,700

He was charged with first degree murder.

272

00:14:04,300 --> 00:14:07,700

Update, Greg Webb is now in custody.

273

00:14:07,700 --> 00:14:11,460

When this story was rerun in February of 1993,

274

00:14:11,460 --> 00:14:13,580

an alert viewer in Orlando, Florida,

275

00:14:13,580 --> 00:14:17,020

recognized Webb as a man he knew as Jim Weber,

276

00:14:17,060 --> 00:14:19,140

a construction worker.

277

00:14:19,140 --> 00:14:21,980

Well, when I was watching it and they showed Greg

278

00:14:21,980 --> 00:14:25,780

when he came on, they mentioned him as Greg Webb.

279

00:14:25,780 --> 00:14:28,980

And I mean, it looked just like the guy I knew as Jim.

280

00:14:28,980 --> 00:14:33,580

And again, they had said it was Greg and this Greg Webb.

281

00:14:33,580 --> 00:14:35,980

And I knew him as Gregory James Weber.

282

00:14:35,980 --> 00:14:37,660

And he went by Jim Weber.

283

00:14:37,660 --> 00:14:39,260

So I just put the two together.

284

00:14:39,260 --> 00:14:40,980

Like I say, it just looked just like him.

285

00:14:40,980 --> 00:14:43,540

So it was quite a shock.

286

00:14:43,540 --> 00:14:45,500

Florida had been charged with a crime

287

00:14:46,380 --> 00:14:49,820

Florida had faxed me photographs of the driver's

288

00:14:49,820 --> 00:14:52,900

license that was issued under Gregory James Weber.

289

00:14:52,900 --> 00:14:54,740

And once I did see the photographs,

290

00:14:54,740 --> 00:14:59,020

I knew that that was Gregory John Webb.

291

00:14:59,020 --> 00:15:02,140

The arrest went very well.

292

00:15:02,140 --> 00:15:04,380

There wasn't any resistance whatsoever.

293

00:15:04,380 --> 00:15:06,300

We took him by surprise.

294

00:15:06,300 --> 00:15:11,300

And he was arrested at an offsite construction site.

295

00:15:15,860 --> 00:15:21,220

Next, the story of two brothers who had a heartwarming reunion.

296

00:15:21,220 --> 00:15:23,140

Deserted gas station in rural Oklahoma

297

00:15:23,140 --> 00:15:25,580

25 years after they were separated.

298

00:15:25,580 --> 00:15:27,660

They are looking for their lost siblings.

299

00:15:27,660 --> 00:15:29,580

Perhaps you can help find them.

300

00:15:37,260 --> 00:15:40,260

Sadly, we were not able to find them.

301

00:15:40,260 --> 00:15:42,260

We were not able to find them.

302

00:15:42,620 --> 00:15:45,180

Sadly, one out of every 30 children in America

303

00:15:45,180 --> 00:15:47,180

suffers from child abuse.

304

00:15:47,180 --> 00:15:48,700

For these victims, healing the wounds

305

00:15:48,700 --> 00:15:50,940

is a long, painful process.

306

00:15:50,940 --> 00:15:53,020

In our next story, five brothers and their sister

307

00:15:53,020 --> 00:15:55,820

were put up for adoption after particularly brutal and violent

308

00:15:55,820 --> 00:15:56,820

childhood.

309

00:15:56,820 --> 00:15:59,980

And for 23 years, never saw each other again.

310

00:15:59,980 --> 00:16:03,220

Now they want to purge the hate and bitterness from their past.

311

00:16:03,220 --> 00:16:05,420

They are hoping that if they can be reunited,

312

00:16:05,420 --> 00:16:08,100

they will be able to exercise those terrible memories that

313

00:16:08,100 --> 00:16:10,100

are still a part of their lives.

314

00:16:11,100 --> 00:16:13,340

Locusts grew of Oklahoma.

315

00:16:13,340 --> 00:16:16,780

In 1959, Edith Rogers, her husband Top Rogers,

316

00:16:16,780 --> 00:16:20,260

and their six children all lived in this remote rural community.

317

00:16:24,220 --> 00:16:26,220

Life was hard for the Rogers family.

318

00:16:26,220 --> 00:16:30,740

It was little money, even for the necessities of life.

319

00:16:30,740 --> 00:16:34,860

Bores, clothing, and food, we never ran out of them.

320

00:16:34,860 --> 00:16:36,860

We were not able to find them.

321

00:16:37,220 --> 00:16:40,900

Bores, clothing, and food, we never had much clothing.

322

00:16:40,900 --> 00:16:44,420

And I can remember we didn't ever wear shoes.

323

00:16:44,420 --> 00:16:46,980

And there was one time there I can remember going out

324

00:16:46,980 --> 00:16:50,700

without food for several days.

325

00:16:50,700 --> 00:16:51,300

And getting wet.

326

00:16:51,300 --> 00:16:53,100

I got this week that I was in bed,

327

00:16:53,100 --> 00:16:56,220

and it seemed like the people of the town of Locust Grove

328

00:16:56,220 --> 00:16:58,740

brought us some food out to eat.

329

00:16:58,740 --> 00:17:01,820

I think that's one of those times that mom and dad

330

00:17:01,820 --> 00:17:05,780

run off on one of their drunks.

331

00:17:05,780 --> 00:17:07,300

Hey, nobody in this house going to keep me from eating.

332

00:17:07,300 --> 00:17:10,100

Top Rogers' frequent drinking led to regular beatings

333

00:17:10,100 --> 00:17:11,980

for his wife and children.

334

00:17:11,980 --> 00:17:15,260

One night, I grabbed a stick of wood out of the stove box

335

00:17:15,260 --> 00:17:16,020

and ran at him.

336

00:17:16,020 --> 00:17:17,580

He hit me, knocked me across the floor,

337

00:17:17,580 --> 00:17:21,220

and threw him a kitchen knife at me.

338

00:17:21,220 --> 00:17:22,500

Oh, you'll never find that.

339

00:17:22,500 --> 00:17:23,980

And the twins beat the tar out of my arm.

340

00:17:23,980 --> 00:17:26,380

Come off and tell me where the bottle is.

341

00:17:26,380 --> 00:17:29,820

I got memories of him being a good man.

342

00:17:29,820 --> 00:17:33,140

But 90% of the time, he seemed like he was drunk.

343

00:17:33,140 --> 00:17:34,260

And that's when he was mean.

344

00:17:36,060 --> 00:17:38,420

Thank you, Robert.

345

00:17:38,420 --> 00:17:41,540

By 1960, the family had only a little happiness

346

00:17:41,540 --> 00:17:42,820

and no real future.

347

00:17:46,220 --> 00:17:49,340

Well, mom came in the house, gave us a present,

348

00:17:49,340 --> 00:17:53,660

said this would be the last chance you'd get to give it to us.

349

00:17:53,660 --> 00:17:56,500

Said that you and your kids are going to have to go away.

350

00:18:01,540 --> 00:18:03,820

In the spring of 1960, the court ruled

351

00:18:03,860 --> 00:18:05,900

that Edith and Topper unfit parents

352

00:18:05,900 --> 00:18:07,620

and in June, social workers arrived

353

00:18:07,620 --> 00:18:10,420

at the Rogers Log Cabin.

354

00:18:10,420 --> 00:18:13,460

The children were taken away to the local prior orphanage home.

355

00:18:17,260 --> 00:18:19,060

They said they was going to take us away,

356

00:18:19,060 --> 00:18:22,540

and we'd never get to come back again.

357

00:18:22,540 --> 00:18:24,860

It didn't really hit us right then what was happening.

358

00:18:24,860 --> 00:18:27,340

It was later on, it really took effect.

359

00:18:27,340 --> 00:18:30,060

We lost our mom and dad.

360

00:18:30,060 --> 00:18:32,140

She didn't even really have any family.

361

00:18:32,140 --> 00:18:35,700

She's dad and us kids.

362

00:18:35,700 --> 00:18:38,500

There's just nothing else to live for except for the same

363

00:18:38,500 --> 00:18:43,540

that she got from him, a few more beatings.

364

00:18:43,540 --> 00:18:47,660

She missed us so bad, I know how that must have tore her heart

365

00:18:47,660 --> 00:18:48,160

out.

366

00:18:54,140 --> 00:18:57,140

Six months later, Edith Rogers committed suicide

367

00:18:57,140 --> 00:19:00,060

by swallowing poison.

368

00:19:00,060 --> 00:19:02,220

I can't say that I would have done the same thing.

369

00:19:02,220 --> 00:19:07,660

I just wish she'd have been strong enough to endure it.

370

00:19:07,660 --> 00:19:09,860

We were all she had when we were gone.

371

00:19:09,860 --> 00:19:11,380

Her life was over.

372

00:19:11,380 --> 00:19:15,980

She probably died before she even died.

373

00:19:15,980 --> 00:19:17,660

The children's father, Top Rogers,

374

00:19:17,660 --> 00:19:19,380

had been arrested in Arkansas charged

375

00:19:19,380 --> 00:19:21,540

with killing a man in a fight.

376

00:19:21,540 --> 00:19:23,900

Handcuffed, he was escorted back to Oklahoma

377

00:19:23,900 --> 00:19:27,180

to attend his wife's funeral.

378

00:19:27,180 --> 00:19:29,300

Here, with these few sad moments,

379

00:19:29,300 --> 00:19:32,060

Rogers children are reunited for the last time.

380

00:19:32,060 --> 00:19:35,780

For the memorial service of Edith Rogers.

381

00:19:35,780 --> 00:19:39,580

It has been requested that we close the service today

382

00:19:39,580 --> 00:19:42,060

with singing the old hymn, Silent Night.

383

00:19:42,060 --> 00:19:44,420

Would you please join me please?

384

00:19:44,420 --> 00:19:51,460

Silent night, holy night.

385

00:19:51,460 --> 00:19:54,420

All is calm.

386

00:19:54,420 --> 00:19:56,620

At the time, I thought that it was a strange song

387

00:19:56,620 --> 00:19:59,020

to be singing at a funeral.

388

00:19:59,740 --> 00:20:02,220

It'd get me down every time I'd hear that song after.

389

00:20:06,700 --> 00:20:09,180

It wasn't a Christmas treat over me.

390

00:20:09,180 --> 00:20:10,020

It was a death song.

391

00:20:23,020 --> 00:20:26,500

Losing your mother and all your brothers,

392

00:20:26,540 --> 00:20:29,860

you might as well shot me in the heart.

393

00:20:29,860 --> 00:20:31,220

It wouldn't have been any more painful.

394

00:20:36,260 --> 00:20:39,900

After the service, the children were once again separated.

395

00:20:39,900 --> 00:20:42,500

They were subsequently adopted into six different homes

396

00:20:42,500 --> 00:20:44,620

where they grew up isolated from each other.

397

00:20:44,620 --> 00:20:56,580

23 years later, Ella May, who is now called Celia Wangler,

398

00:20:56,580 --> 00:20:58,420

wrote a letter to the Oklahoma Department

399

00:20:58,420 --> 00:21:00,660

of Human Services.

400

00:21:00,660 --> 00:21:04,060

At the same time, Johnny Lee, whose name is now John Reager,

401

00:21:04,060 --> 00:21:07,460

also contacted the same authorities.

402

00:21:07,460 --> 00:21:10,420

On February 10, 1984, Celia and John

403

00:21:10,420 --> 00:21:12,700

were reunited in the suburb of Oklahoma City.

404

00:21:14,700 --> 00:21:16,620

And right when irrigation started,

405

00:21:16,620 --> 00:21:18,520

they looked for a way out.

406

00:21:18,520 --> 00:21:27,100

And every 2021 The

407

00:21:27,100 --> 00:21:31,040

West soybeans were buds of mind and foundation.

408

00:21:31,040 --> 00:21:32,960

At the end of a let-on night, they

409

00:21:32,960 --> 00:21:34,220

were together once again.

410

00:21:34,220 --> 00:21:38,560

Our young daughter and beloved son-in-law

411

00:21:38,560 --> 00:21:40,660

had a son meeting at Sioux█ Farmsology

412

00:21:40,660 --> 00:21:42,980

in a window in the North klimber Sanghe.

413

00:21:42,980 --> 00:21:45,860

on my life, and that was the strangest part.

414

00:21:45,860 --> 00:21:49,060

We sat and vested for hours.

415

00:21:49,060 --> 00:21:54,140

And within three weeks of that, we found Robert.

416

00:21:54,140 --> 00:21:56,900

When they told me I'd never see my brother and sister,

417

00:21:56,900 --> 00:21:59,060

and again, I know better than that,

418

00:21:59,060 --> 00:22:01,180

because I knew I loved them, and they was my family,

419

00:22:01,180 --> 00:22:02,300

and I was going to find them.

420

00:22:02,300 --> 00:22:05,220

And that never left my mind for 26 years.

421

00:22:08,100 --> 00:22:10,300

Robert and John agreed to meet on a Sunday morning

422

00:22:10,300 --> 00:22:14,620

in April 1984 at a gas station only 20 miles from their childhood

423

00:22:14,620 --> 00:22:15,660

home in Locust Grove.

424

00:22:22,140 --> 00:22:23,780

Well, when he got out of his pickup,

425

00:22:23,780 --> 00:22:25,580

it just seemed like an empty spot,

426

00:22:25,580 --> 00:22:27,620

and my heart had been filled.

427

00:22:27,620 --> 00:22:28,660

Hello, big brother.

428

00:22:28,660 --> 00:22:31,660

Little brother, my foot, you're bigger than I am.

429

00:22:31,660 --> 00:22:32,580

How are you?

430

00:22:32,580 --> 00:22:33,580

Just fine, are you?

431

00:22:33,580 --> 00:22:34,780

I'm good.

432

00:22:34,780 --> 00:22:37,260

I've waited all my life.

433

00:22:37,260 --> 00:22:38,420

So have I.

434

00:22:38,420 --> 00:22:41,460

There was a great love there.

435

00:22:41,460 --> 00:22:44,140

They could have sent 10 people to replace John,

436

00:22:44,140 --> 00:22:45,300

and I don't think I'd have felt it.

437

00:22:45,300 --> 00:22:46,660

I think I'd have seen through it.

438

00:22:46,660 --> 00:22:47,740

And I can't explain it.

439

00:22:47,740 --> 00:22:48,860

That's just the way it was.

440

00:22:53,300 --> 00:22:57,980

In the spring of 1984, a third brother, Vernon, was found.

441

00:22:57,980 --> 00:23:01,260

In April, John and Seaton agreed to meet Robert in Locust Grove,

442

00:23:01,260 --> 00:23:02,940

where they had all been born, and try

443

00:23:02,940 --> 00:23:04,940

to exercise the ghosts of their past.

444

00:23:08,980 --> 00:23:11,020

It would be the first time in 24 years

445

00:23:11,020 --> 00:23:12,820

that they would be going home.

446

00:23:12,820 --> 00:23:15,500

All three had mixed feelings about the trip.

447

00:23:15,500 --> 00:23:17,540

They worried that seeing the log cabin again

448

00:23:17,540 --> 00:23:20,420

would awaken long-buried memories of a truly unhappy

449

00:23:20,420 --> 00:23:21,420

child.

450

00:23:25,420 --> 00:23:30,340

I came to find answers to the questions of who I am,

451

00:23:30,340 --> 00:23:34,940

and my past, my roots.

452

00:23:34,940 --> 00:23:37,940

Parents teach their children to love when they're little,

453

00:23:37,940 --> 00:23:41,100

or they teach them to hate when they're taught me to hate.

454

00:23:47,100 --> 00:23:49,820

You pull up there to the log cabin,

455

00:23:49,820 --> 00:23:53,420

and it's like you finally found your roots.

456

00:23:53,420 --> 00:23:54,860

It's like going home, you know?

457

00:23:58,860 --> 00:24:01,660

Yeah, it'll look like it's been lived in the wall.

458

00:24:01,660 --> 00:24:02,660

Sure does.

459

00:24:02,660 --> 00:24:03,660

For something.

460

00:24:07,940 --> 00:24:09,740

Listen, for you, they'll be the baby.

461

00:24:22,980 --> 00:24:26,020

Well, kids, what do you think of this place?

462

00:24:26,020 --> 00:24:27,940

It's all.

463

00:24:27,940 --> 00:24:29,820

That's where we used to live.

464

00:24:29,820 --> 00:24:31,780

Check it out.

465

00:24:31,780 --> 00:24:33,700

You know, when mom and dad adopted me,

466

00:24:33,700 --> 00:24:39,500

dad, he told me that I had scars on my back,

467

00:24:39,500 --> 00:24:42,260

and on my legs, and way more scars

468

00:24:42,260 --> 00:24:46,740

than what most normal kids my age should have.

469

00:24:46,740 --> 00:24:48,500

We all got a lot of weapons, and they

470

00:24:48,500 --> 00:24:51,660

was usually severe beatings.

471

00:24:51,660 --> 00:24:56,260

I didn't have any physical scars, but they were mental.

472

00:24:56,260 --> 00:24:59,580

You know, myself, I feel we're way better off getting

473

00:24:59,580 --> 00:25:01,540

adopted out.

474

00:25:01,540 --> 00:25:05,580

I imagine both of y'all feel the same way, don't you?

475

00:25:05,580 --> 00:25:06,580

Right.

476

00:25:09,380 --> 00:25:11,300

Later that day, they went to the cemetery

477

00:25:11,300 --> 00:25:13,620

to find their mother's grave.

478

00:25:13,620 --> 00:25:18,060

They discovered their father had also died eight years before.

479

00:25:18,060 --> 00:25:19,020

Here it is.

480

00:25:19,020 --> 00:25:20,140

I found it over here.

481

00:25:28,380 --> 00:25:29,860

I hated my father very much.

482

00:25:29,860 --> 00:25:32,940

I hated him at least 18 solid years.

483

00:25:32,940 --> 00:25:36,860

That's what lived in my mind.

484

00:25:36,860 --> 00:25:39,300

Some of the things that he done to me when I was a child,

485

00:25:39,300 --> 00:25:42,980

I had full intentions of going back.

486

00:25:42,980 --> 00:25:48,580

When I got older and giving him a chance to do it again,

487

00:25:48,580 --> 00:25:52,460

the day that I got to my father's grave,

488

00:25:52,460 --> 00:25:54,100

the hate kind of left me.

489

00:25:54,100 --> 00:25:56,060

It died.

490

00:25:56,060 --> 00:25:58,980

And I wish then that he was still alive,

491

00:25:58,980 --> 00:26:00,340

so I could say I was sorry.

492

00:26:00,340 --> 00:26:01,980

And maybe he would tell me he was sorry.

493

00:26:09,220 --> 00:26:12,620

As much alike as the three of us are,

494

00:26:12,620 --> 00:26:17,300

I tend to believe that the other two are a lot similar

495

00:26:17,300 --> 00:26:21,260

and probably have the same needs and pains

496

00:26:21,260 --> 00:26:22,660

that we went through.

497

00:26:22,660 --> 00:26:25,460

And I think finding the other two brothers,

498

00:26:25,460 --> 00:26:28,300

when that day comes, it will be the climax

499

00:26:28,300 --> 00:26:32,220

of the whole story fresh, you know?

500

00:26:32,220 --> 00:26:34,100

Of the remaining two untraced brothers,

501

00:26:34,100 --> 00:26:36,060

Billy is the youngest of the six children

502

00:26:36,060 --> 00:26:38,620

and was born in 1959.

503

00:26:38,620 --> 00:26:41,540

Billy would now be 30 years old.

504

00:26:41,540 --> 00:26:46,340

Joey was born in 1957 and is a brother between Robert and John.

505

00:26:46,340 --> 00:26:48,140

He would probably remember his brothers

506

00:26:48,140 --> 00:26:51,660

and would currently be 32 years old.

507

00:26:51,660 --> 00:26:53,740

The happy ending to this story to me

508

00:26:53,740 --> 00:26:57,260

is when I get a phone call from my other brothers

509

00:26:57,260 --> 00:27:02,180

that that'd be the truly happy ending to found him.

510

00:27:04,900 --> 00:27:06,980

Thanks to our broadcast, John Rieger's dream

511

00:27:06,980 --> 00:27:09,460

of a happy ending became a reality.

512

00:27:09,460 --> 00:27:10,860

The morning after the story aired,

513

00:27:10,860 --> 00:27:13,180

John contacted his brothers Joey and Billy

514

00:27:13,180 --> 00:27:15,860

for the first time in almost 30 years.

515

00:27:15,860 --> 00:27:17,980

The Rogers children immediately made arrangements

516

00:27:17,980 --> 00:27:21,020

for a reunion.

517

00:27:21,020 --> 00:27:23,460

Joey was five and Billy just a year old

518

00:27:23,460 --> 00:27:24,700

when the family was separated.

519

00:27:28,260 --> 00:27:36,540

The morning of October 27, 34-year-old Joey,

520

00:27:36,540 --> 00:27:38,740

who's adopted name is Rusty Dunham,

521

00:27:38,740 --> 00:27:41,340

arrived at his sister Celia's home in Oklahoma City.

522

00:27:41,340 --> 00:27:42,240

Hi.

523

00:27:42,240 --> 00:27:43,140

Rusty.

524

00:27:43,140 --> 00:27:44,540

Been waiting a long time, buddy.

525

00:27:44,540 --> 00:27:46,260

I haven't seen you in a long time.

526

00:27:46,260 --> 00:27:49,500

Rusty lives only 36 miles from his brother John.

527

00:27:49,500 --> 00:27:51,380

Amazingly, they have mutual friends

528

00:27:51,380 --> 00:27:53,740

and have even met socially on a number of occasions.

529

00:27:53,740 --> 00:27:54,640

Right.

530

00:27:54,640 --> 00:27:55,540

You're a kid.

531

00:27:55,540 --> 00:27:56,340

Coffee.

532

00:27:56,340 --> 00:27:58,620

We brush shoulders several times.

533

00:27:58,620 --> 00:28:01,020

We've been to several places.

534

00:28:01,020 --> 00:28:03,580

We were within speaking distance of each other.

535

00:28:03,580 --> 00:28:04,820

And I've seen him out of eye.

536

00:28:04,820 --> 00:28:09,820

And I never would have known he was my brother.

537

00:28:09,820 --> 00:28:12,780

Later that day, the youngest of the Rogers children, Billy,

538

00:28:12,780 --> 00:28:15,660

whose name is now Chuck Young, arrived at the airport

539

00:28:15,660 --> 00:28:17,540

and was greeted by his brothers and sister.

540

00:28:27,340 --> 00:28:28,140

Yeah.

541

00:28:28,140 --> 00:28:30,220

Chuck, who lives in Tennessee, watched our broadcast

542

00:28:30,220 --> 00:28:32,340

and was shocked when he realized that he was

543

00:28:32,340 --> 00:28:34,820

one of the missing brothers.

544

00:28:34,820 --> 00:28:37,940

At the end of the show, they put the family picture together.

545

00:28:37,940 --> 00:28:39,900

Well, I seen me sitting there.

546

00:28:39,900 --> 00:28:43,140

And I just got up out of the chair and I said, that's me.

547

00:28:43,140 --> 00:28:44,040

That's me.

548

00:28:44,040 --> 00:28:44,740

They're looking for me.

549

00:28:47,380 --> 00:28:49,380

The Rogers family, this reunion

550

00:28:49,380 --> 00:28:54,340

marks the beginning of a new chapter in their lives.

551

00:28:54,340 --> 00:28:56,140

I think what we were all looking for

552

00:28:56,140 --> 00:29:00,940

was the part of our hearts that was torn out years ago.

553

00:29:00,940 --> 00:29:03,820

And now, you know, I don't hurt anymore

554

00:29:03,820 --> 00:29:07,780

because that part of my heart's been replaced.

555

00:29:07,780 --> 00:29:09,020

It's back again.

556

00:29:09,020 --> 00:29:11,780

And it feels good.

557

00:29:11,780 --> 00:29:13,420

This is a toast to us.

558

00:29:13,420 --> 00:29:15,540

And I want you all to know I love all of you.

559

00:29:15,540 --> 00:29:16,380

We love you too.

560

00:29:16,380 --> 00:29:17,260

I love you all too.

561

00:29:17,260 --> 00:29:20,140

I'm glad to be here today.

562

00:29:24,340 --> 00:29:34,700

Two-thirds of the fugitives profiled on unsolved mysteries

563

00:29:34,700 --> 00:29:36,700

have been captured because of vital information

564

00:29:36,700 --> 00:29:38,660

received from our viewers.

565

00:29:38,660 --> 00:29:40,660

One of those fugitives was John Mooney,

566

00:29:40,660 --> 00:29:42,940

who eight years ago escaped from a Georgia prison

567

00:29:42,940 --> 00:29:45,140

where he was serving a life sentence for murder.

568

00:29:48,460 --> 00:29:51,820

In the early morning hours of August 30, 1977,

569

00:29:51,820 --> 00:29:54,700

an Athens, Georgia restaurant owner named T.K. Hardy

570

00:29:54,700 --> 00:29:57,020

was murdered while reading in his study at home.

571

00:30:01,820 --> 00:30:04,620

The prime suspect in the case was John Mooney,

572

00:30:04,620 --> 00:30:07,860

a rival restaurant owner who had a long running feud with Hardy.

573

00:30:10,980 --> 00:30:14,340

Four weeks later, police got their first break in the case.

574

00:30:14,340 --> 00:30:16,300

A local restaurant manager told them

575

00:30:16,300 --> 00:30:18,780

that an Atlanta electrician named Elmo Florence

576

00:30:18,780 --> 00:30:20,940

had bragged that he killed T.K. Hardy

577

00:30:20,940 --> 00:30:22,820

and that John Mooney had paid him to do it.

578

00:30:25,780 --> 00:30:28,740

On June 20, 1978, Elmo Florence was

579

00:30:28,740 --> 00:30:31,980

convicted of first-degree murder.

580

00:30:31,980 --> 00:30:34,740

John Mooney was also convicted of first-degree murder

581

00:30:34,740 --> 00:30:38,060

and was sentenced to life in a maximum security prison.

582

00:30:38,060 --> 00:30:39,980

But three months later, he was transferred

583

00:30:39,980 --> 00:30:42,220

to a minimum security facility.

584

00:30:42,220 --> 00:30:44,980

On March 16, 1980, he escaped.

585

00:30:44,980 --> 00:30:50,740

Update, Scottsdale, Arizona.

586

00:30:50,740 --> 00:30:53,100

Within minutes of our broadcast, two viewers

587

00:30:53,100 --> 00:30:56,100

called our telecenter to report that John Mooney was

588

00:30:56,100 --> 00:30:59,260

living in this house under the assumed name Robert J. Kelly.

589

00:31:02,060 --> 00:31:04,900

On August 8, John Mooney, alias Robert Kelly,

590

00:31:04,900 --> 00:31:07,700

was arrested at his home by the Mesa police.

591

00:31:07,700 --> 00:31:10,940

Mooney had been living in Arizona since 1982.

592

00:31:10,940 --> 00:31:13,660

He was enrolled at Arizona State University.

593

00:31:13,660 --> 00:31:16,220

For the past several years, he's been working as an accountant

594

00:31:16,220 --> 00:31:19,100

for various companies in the Scottsdale area.

595

00:31:19,100 --> 00:31:21,980

Mooney married six years ago and has a one-year-old child.

596

00:31:25,260 --> 00:31:29,340

On September 16, 1989, over nine years after he escaped,

597

00:31:29,340 --> 00:31:31,100

John Mooney was returned to Georgia.

598

00:31:43,660 --> 00:31:48,660

Outside the Academy Theater, the atmosphere is electric,

599

00:31:48,660 --> 00:31:51,660

even though I have attended 15 other ceremonies.

600

00:31:51,660 --> 00:31:56,660

April 10, 1967, the night of the Oscars.

601

00:31:56,660 --> 00:31:59,340

Like millions of Americans, Ralph Probst and his wife,

602

00:31:59,340 --> 00:32:01,660

Marlene, settle down in front of the television

603

00:32:01,660 --> 00:32:04,660

to watch the ceremony.

604

00:32:04,660 --> 00:32:08,660

Well, we were watching the Academy Awards on TV that night.

605

00:32:08,660 --> 00:32:10,660

And I must have dozed off.

606

00:32:10,660 --> 00:32:13,660

And the next thing I knew, there was this loud explosion

607

00:32:13,660 --> 00:32:14,660

that woke me up.

608

00:32:16,660 --> 00:32:20,660

I saw this cloud of smoke from behind the television set.

609

00:32:20,660 --> 00:32:24,660

When I went in the kitchen, Ralph was laying on the kitchen floor.

610

00:32:24,660 --> 00:32:29,660

Ralph Probst had been shot once in the back of the head.

611

00:32:29,660 --> 00:32:34,660

By the time Marlene was able to summon help, her husband was dead.

612

00:32:34,660 --> 00:32:36,660

He never regained consciousness.

613

00:32:37,660 --> 00:32:40,660

Ralph Probst was a 30-year-old Cook County, Illinois,

614

00:32:40,660 --> 00:32:42,660

sheriff's officer.

615

00:32:42,660 --> 00:32:45,660

In addition to Marlene, Ralph left behind three small children

616

00:32:45,660 --> 00:32:49,660

and a series of baffling questions that over 23 years later

617

00:32:49,660 --> 00:32:51,660

remain unanswered.

618

00:32:54,660 --> 00:32:56,660

Four days after his murder,

619

00:32:56,660 --> 00:32:58,660

Officer Probst was laid to rest.

620

00:33:00,660 --> 00:33:03,660

Among the mourners was a young man,

621

00:33:04,660 --> 00:33:07,660

among the mourners was a fellow officer, Bob Borowski.

622

00:33:07,660 --> 00:33:11,660

On that afternoon, he made a silent pledge.

623

00:33:12,660 --> 00:33:15,660

As I stood beside the casket and looked on at Ralph,

624

00:33:15,660 --> 00:33:19,660

I made a vow to him that I would find his killer

625

00:33:19,660 --> 00:33:22,660

and I would not rest until I get him.

626

00:33:23,660 --> 00:33:26,660

I figured it would be solved quickly,

627

00:33:26,660 --> 00:33:29,660

but it didn't turn out that way.

628

00:33:30,660 --> 00:33:34,660

Bob Borowski is still trying to keep his promise.

629

00:33:37,660 --> 00:33:40,660

It is said that there is no such thing as the perfect crime,

630

00:33:40,660 --> 00:33:42,660

but for more than two decades,

631

00:33:42,660 --> 00:33:45,660

the murder of Ralph Probst has come uncomfortably close.

632

00:33:45,660 --> 00:33:48,660

Evidence left at the scene pointed to a carefully planned

633

00:33:48,660 --> 00:33:50,660

and premeditated crime,

634

00:33:50,660 --> 00:33:52,660

but to date, no motive has been established.

635

00:33:52,660 --> 00:33:54,660

Today, 23 years later,

636

00:33:54,660 --> 00:33:57,660

Bob Borowski carries on the search for his partner,

637

00:33:57,660 --> 00:33:59,660

his killer.

638

00:33:59,660 --> 00:34:03,660

Bob Borowski and Ralph Probst met for the first time in 1964,

639

00:34:03,660 --> 00:34:06,660

shortly after Ralph graduated from the police academy.

640

00:34:09,660 --> 00:34:12,660

The two men were both assigned to an elite unit

641

00:34:12,660 --> 00:34:14,660

called the Tactical Squad.

642

00:34:14,660 --> 00:34:17,660

Ralph had originally been a chemical engineer,

643

00:34:17,660 --> 00:34:20,660

but then decided to pursue a career in law enforcement.

644

00:34:20,660 --> 00:34:22,660

Looking good.

645

00:34:22,660 --> 00:34:25,660

Probst and Borowski, you've got stick to your head.

646

00:34:25,660 --> 00:34:28,660

We had a lot of problems out there last night.

647

00:34:28,660 --> 00:34:31,660

Everybody else in the department looked up to the attack unit.

648

00:34:31,660 --> 00:34:33,660

We were a very elite unit.

649

00:34:33,660 --> 00:34:36,660

We were all spit and polish, and we were a very proud bunch.

650

00:34:36,660 --> 00:34:39,660

Ralph was not only a partner, but he was also a friend,

651

00:34:39,660 --> 00:34:41,660

and it was that sort of relationship.

652

00:34:41,660 --> 00:34:44,660

You could depend on him, and he could depend on you.

653

00:34:46,660 --> 00:34:50,660

Ralph soon earned the reputation as a man who played strictly by the rules.

654

00:34:50,660 --> 00:34:53,660

This inflexibility earned him at least one.

655

00:34:53,660 --> 00:34:57,660

A few months before his death, Ralph and Bob were two of the officers

656

00:34:57,660 --> 00:35:01,660

assigned a guard duty in a notorious mobster, Sam Di Stefano.

657

00:35:01,660 --> 00:35:05,660

Di Stefano had been convicted and sentenced on charges of conspiracy,

658

00:35:05,660 --> 00:35:08,660

but had been transferred from prison to a local hospital

659

00:35:08,660 --> 00:35:10,660

after complaining of stomach trouble.

660

00:35:10,660 --> 00:35:12,660

You two lackeys are going to guard me.

661

00:35:12,660 --> 00:35:14,660

Sam, you can't have any visitors here.

662

00:35:14,660 --> 00:35:16,660

You folks are going to have to go. Come on.

663

00:35:16,660 --> 00:35:18,660

You're my doctor?

664

00:35:18,660 --> 00:35:20,660

Call the doctor.

665

00:35:20,660 --> 00:35:22,660

Take this.

666

00:35:23,660 --> 00:35:25,660

Don't steal my apples, copper.

667

00:35:25,660 --> 00:35:27,660

Man, you're going to have to go too.

668

00:35:27,660 --> 00:35:30,660

Get your hands off of her. Call my lawyer.

669

00:35:30,660 --> 00:35:33,660

You're also going to have to eat the regular hospital food

670

00:35:33,660 --> 00:35:35,660

just like everyone else in the hospital.

671

00:35:35,660 --> 00:35:37,660

No way, Ann.

672

00:35:37,660 --> 00:35:39,660

As a matter of fact, I do. That's why you're here.

673

00:35:39,660 --> 00:35:41,660

Now, lie down on the bed.

674

00:35:41,660 --> 00:35:43,660

Hey, what are you doing?

675

00:35:43,660 --> 00:35:45,660

When Ralph handcuffed Di Stefano to the bed,

676

00:35:45,660 --> 00:35:48,660

he became very irate and threatened to kill him.

677

00:35:48,660 --> 00:35:51,660

Better grow eyes in the back of your head.

678

00:35:51,660 --> 00:35:53,660

If you need us, we'll be outside.

679

00:35:53,660 --> 00:35:55,660

Get out. Get out of here.

680

00:35:55,660 --> 00:35:58,660

We really didn't take it very serious.

681

00:35:58,660 --> 00:36:01,660

We felt that he was just a big bag of wind

682

00:36:01,660 --> 00:36:04,660

and just brushed it off.

683

00:36:04,660 --> 00:36:07,660

I don't think that the risk ever entered Ralph's mind.

684

00:36:07,660 --> 00:36:10,660

I really don't. I think it to him it was a job he enjoyed it.

685

00:36:10,660 --> 00:36:14,660

And I don't think he was ever afraid.

686

00:36:14,660 --> 00:36:18,660

I imagine in the back of anyone's mind something could happen.

687

00:36:18,660 --> 00:36:21,660

But I don't think he dwelled on it.

688

00:36:22,660 --> 00:36:24,660

On the night of Ralph's death,

689

00:36:24,660 --> 00:36:26,660

police were confronted by an unusual pattern

690

00:36:26,660 --> 00:36:29,660

of circumstantial evidence.

691

00:36:29,660 --> 00:36:34,660

It appeared as if Ralph had been shot through the kitchen window.

692

00:36:34,660 --> 00:36:36,660

Okay, now secure the house.

693

00:36:36,660 --> 00:36:38,660

Make sure nobody gets into it or doesn't belong.

694

00:36:38,660 --> 00:36:40,660

I don't care who it is.

695

00:36:40,660 --> 00:36:42,660

Police canvassed the neighborhood looking for witnesses.

696

00:36:42,660 --> 00:36:45,660

Though the killer was allegedly standing outside the house,

697

00:36:45,660 --> 00:36:47,660

nobody saw the gunman.

698

00:36:47,660 --> 00:36:49,660

But a few people did hear a shot.

699

00:36:49,660 --> 00:36:51,660

We want a good, clear shot of this ricochet mark.

700

00:36:51,660 --> 00:36:53,660

The bullet that killed Ralph

701

00:36:53,660 --> 00:36:55,660

had ricocheted off a kitchen cabinet

702

00:36:55,660 --> 00:36:57,660

and then fallen onto the stove.

703

00:36:57,660 --> 00:37:00,660

This bullet had been fired from a rare 41 caliber magnum,

704

00:37:00,660 --> 00:37:04,660

a gun that had only recently been manufactured.

705

00:37:05,660 --> 00:37:08,660

Keep your eyes and ears working as what's going on on the street.

706

00:37:08,660 --> 00:37:10,660

See if there's any talk.

707

00:37:10,660 --> 00:37:11,660

Contact all your informants.

708

00:37:11,660 --> 00:37:14,660

Though there were only 2,000 of these guns in the United States,

709

00:37:14,660 --> 00:37:17,660

police were unable to locate the murder weapon.

710

00:37:17,660 --> 00:37:19,660

And in spite of a huge manhunt,

711

00:37:19,660 --> 00:37:22,660

there were no suspects and no other leads.

712

00:37:22,660 --> 00:37:24,660

Okay, we don't have a motive on this one yet.

713

00:37:24,660 --> 00:37:27,660

It could be some nut who just doesn't like police officers.

714

00:37:27,660 --> 00:37:29,660

So when you're out there, be very careful.

715

00:37:29,660 --> 00:37:31,660

One likely suspect, Sam DiStefano,

716

00:37:31,660 --> 00:37:34,660

was immediately cleared of complicity in the murder.

717

00:37:34,660 --> 00:37:39,660

There were no other suspects, save one, Ralph's wife, Marlene.

718

00:37:40,660 --> 00:37:42,660

I know from the beginning of the investigation,

719

00:37:42,660 --> 00:37:47,660

I think what puzzled everybody is how I had seen smoke inside the house.

720

00:37:47,660 --> 00:37:50,660

But if the gunman had been outside, there wasn't any smoke inside.

721

00:37:50,660 --> 00:37:53,660

And yet when I woke up, that's the first thing I saw

722

00:37:53,660 --> 00:37:56,660

was this small cloud of smoke coming up

723

00:37:56,660 --> 00:37:59,660

from like in back of my television set.

724

00:38:02,660 --> 00:38:05,660

This telltale puff of smoke led police to suspect

725

00:38:05,660 --> 00:38:08,660

that the shot had been fired from inside the house.

726

00:38:08,660 --> 00:38:11,660

In addition, glass was found in the yard,

727

00:38:11,660 --> 00:38:13,660

not on the kitchen floor.

728

00:38:14,660 --> 00:38:17,660

When you have a murder investigation,

729

00:38:17,660 --> 00:38:22,660

one of the first places you start with is with the family.

730

00:38:23,660 --> 00:38:27,660

And it's just normal, unless you have immediate evidence

731

00:38:27,660 --> 00:38:30,660

to lead you away from the family.

732

00:38:30,660 --> 00:38:32,660

Are you set inside? Yeah.

733

00:38:32,660 --> 00:38:34,660

The investigators conducted an experiment

734

00:38:34,660 --> 00:38:37,660

to see if Marlene was telling the truth.

735

00:38:38,660 --> 00:38:41,660

First they fired from 15 feet away.

736

00:38:41,660 --> 00:38:45,660

There was no smoke and the glass fell inside.

737

00:38:45,660 --> 00:38:49,660

But then they fired two inches away from the window.

738

00:38:51,660 --> 00:38:56,660

There it was, the puff of smoke inside the house.

739

00:38:56,660 --> 00:39:01,660

We found the glass came out, back onto the shooter

740

00:39:01,660 --> 00:39:03,660

and fell to the ground,

741

00:39:03,660 --> 00:39:06,660

and we had the puff of smoke inside the house.

742

00:39:06,660 --> 00:39:11,660

From that point on, we knew that Marlene was telling the truth.

743

00:39:13,660 --> 00:39:16,660

We determined that the shooter would have half

744

00:39:16,660 --> 00:39:19,660

to have been five foot eleven or taller

745

00:39:19,660 --> 00:39:24,660

in order for that projectile to follow the path to where it struck Ralph.

746

00:39:26,660 --> 00:39:29,660

To strike the center of the back of the head,

747

00:39:29,660 --> 00:39:33,660

where the entry point was, took one terrific shot.

748

00:39:33,660 --> 00:39:37,660

He could have been a professional hit man.

749

00:39:37,660 --> 00:39:41,660

And he could always have been a law enforcement person.

750

00:39:43,660 --> 00:39:46,660

There was another baffling facet to this case.

751

00:39:46,660 --> 00:39:51,660

How was a killer able to know that Ralph would be standing by the kitchen window?

752

00:39:51,660 --> 00:39:54,660

If anyone had been watching the house,

753

00:39:54,660 --> 00:39:58,660

they wouldn't have been able to know even what room we were sitting in

754

00:39:58,660 --> 00:40:01,660

unless they were standing by that kitchen window.

755

00:40:01,660 --> 00:40:03,660

There was no other window in our house

756

00:40:03,660 --> 00:40:06,660

that they could have seen through but the kitchen window.

757

00:40:06,660 --> 00:40:09,660

Every other window was covered.

758

00:40:09,660 --> 00:40:17,660

My theory on Ralph's murder is that somebody knew Ralph was going to be in that position at that certain time.

759

00:40:17,660 --> 00:40:19,660

There was too much light in the driveway

760

00:40:19,660 --> 00:40:25,660

and that person did not stay there and wait for hours for Ralph to get in that certain position.

761

00:40:25,660 --> 00:40:29,660

Whoever did it knew Ralph was going to be there at that time

762

00:40:29,660 --> 00:40:31,660

and that person was there at that time.

763

00:40:31,660 --> 00:40:33,660

It wasn't somebody that was laying for him.

764

00:40:33,660 --> 00:40:37,660

Ralph was set up to be in that position.

765

00:40:37,660 --> 00:40:43,660

I believe that possibly he was going to receive a phone call or he was going to make a phone call.

766

00:40:47,660 --> 00:40:54,660

We have information that prior to coming home and watching TV with his wife,

767

00:40:54,660 --> 00:40:58,660

that Ralph went to a gas station and made a phone call.

768

00:40:58,660 --> 00:41:03,660

That could have been where he received information that he was going to receive a phone call

769

00:41:03,660 --> 00:41:05,660

or to make a phone call.

770

00:41:05,660 --> 00:41:10,660

Therefore, put him in that position by the window at that certain time.

771

00:41:15,660 --> 00:41:21,660

The biggest question I think in my mind is why he was killed.

772

00:41:21,660 --> 00:41:24,660

Who did it and why?

773

00:41:24,660 --> 00:41:31,660

I can remember a conversation with Ralph where he made a statement that I'm working on something

774

00:41:31,660 --> 00:41:34,660

and when I saw that they're going to make me a sergeant.

775

00:41:34,660 --> 00:41:36,660

You're going to be a sergeant.

776

00:41:36,660 --> 00:41:38,660

I'm telling you, I'm going to make a sergeant.

777

00:41:38,660 --> 00:41:41,660

And of course my reaction was, yeah, sure, Ralph, okay, you know,

778

00:41:41,660 --> 00:41:43,660

and they're going to make me the President of the United States.

779

00:41:43,660 --> 00:41:47,660

And it was just laughed off and he said no more on it.

780

00:41:47,660 --> 00:41:49,660

And apparently he was serious.

781

00:41:49,660 --> 00:41:52,660

You're going to be sorry, huh?

782

00:41:56,660 --> 00:42:00,660

Borowski believes that Ralph may have been working on his own secretly

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00:42:00,660 --> 00:42:02,660

in order to bring down a vice ring.

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00:42:02,660 --> 00:42:07,660

Support for this theory came when it was discovered that several days before his death,

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00:42:07,660 --> 00:42:11,660

Ralph had been seen at the home of ex-convict Frank Calvese.

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00:42:11,660 --> 00:42:16,660

Ralph had spoken with Calvese's wife and then left.

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00:42:16,660 --> 00:42:18,660

Come on in, I'll show you around. I think you'll like it.

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00:42:18,660 --> 00:42:22,660

One week before the murder, a man closely resembling Calvese

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00:42:22,660 --> 00:42:26,660

paid a visit to a house for sale across the street from Ralph's home.

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00:42:26,660 --> 00:42:32,660

As they toured the house, the visitor asked if the floor plan was similar to the probes' residence.

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00:42:32,660 --> 00:42:33,660

It was.

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00:42:33,660 --> 00:42:35,660

And we just put in new cabinets.

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00:42:35,660 --> 00:42:40,660

Hey, I just was wondering, all the houses on this block have the same floor plan?

794

00:42:40,660 --> 00:42:44,660

Most of the houses in this area were built about the same time, yeah.

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00:42:44,660 --> 00:42:49,660

However, after identifying Calvese in a police lineup, the neighbor changed his story.

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00:42:49,660 --> 00:42:53,660

Some believe he was frightened into retracting his testimony.

797

00:42:53,660 --> 00:42:54,660

Not bad. Not bad.

798

00:42:54,660 --> 00:42:56,660

How been touch?

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00:42:56,660 --> 00:42:59,660

He stated to one of the investigators,

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00:42:59,660 --> 00:43:04,660

you realize that if they shot Ralph probes across the street,

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00:43:04,660 --> 00:43:08,660

they wouldn't hesitate to kill me too.

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00:43:08,660 --> 00:43:13,660

So that left us at a dead end on Frank Calvese.

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00:43:13,660 --> 00:43:16,660

That house over there is the same as yours?

804

00:43:16,660 --> 00:43:19,660

Frank Calvese died in 1974.

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00:43:19,660 --> 00:43:23,660

No charges were ever filed in connection with Ralph's death.

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00:43:23,660 --> 00:43:31,660

Ralph had information on something, whether it be vice pornography, fencing operation,

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00:43:31,660 --> 00:43:37,660

and whoever killed him knew that he was going to talk about it,

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00:43:37,660 --> 00:43:41,660

and they killed him before he could.

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00:43:41,660 --> 00:43:47,660

Immediately after Ralph probes murdered, 30 officers were assigned to the investigation.

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00:43:47,660 --> 00:43:51,660

Today, only two Cook County officers are on the case.

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00:43:51,660 --> 00:43:55,660

Bob Boroski works on his own.

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00:43:55,660 --> 00:43:59,660

At this time, I am unofficially still working on a case,

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00:43:59,660 --> 00:44:05,660

and whoever did it, I've been making him awful nervous because he knows that I'm not giving up.

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00:44:05,660 --> 00:44:10,660

That somehow, somehow, somebody's going to say something and he's going to get caught.

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00:44:10,660 --> 00:44:15,660

So somewhere, somebody's awful nervous, and I'm going to keep him that way.

816

00:44:40,660 --> 00:44:44,660

A week for another edition of Unsolved Mysteries.