

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:09,600

This program is about unsolved mysteries. Whenever possible, the actual family members

2

00:00:09,600 --> 00:00:13,680

and police officials have participated in recreating the events. What you are about

3

00:00:13,680 --> 00:00:21,240

to see is not a news broadcast.

4

00:00:21,240 --> 00:00:26,400

In Illinois, a lonely widow met a fortune teller who seemed to create money out of thin air.

5

00:00:26,400 --> 00:00:31,880

Joan was amazed, and within the next two years gave the fortune teller \$80,000, most of her

6

00:00:31,880 --> 00:00:39,120

jewelry, brand new Cadillac. Then the fortune teller disappeared. On a lonely country road

7

00:00:39,120 --> 00:00:43,480

in North Carolina, a teenage girl was murdered by a single bullet fired through the trunk

8

00:00:43,480 --> 00:00:49,280

of her car. An eyewitness has now come forward and under hypnosis may have described Rhonda's

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00:00:49,280 --> 00:00:51,600

unknown killer.

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00:00:51,680 --> 00:00:57,120

77-year-old Howard Drummond was an eccentric who died as he lived, alone. Howard Drummond

11

00:00:57,120 --> 00:01:02,120

left behind 50 empty coffee jars, 80 pairs of white socks, and an unclaimed fortune of

12

00:01:02,120 --> 00:01:08,560

over \$250,000. Someone watching may be his heir.

13

00:01:08,560 --> 00:01:13,160

Also tonight, a different kind of mystery in the world of medicine and science. Doctors

14

00:01:13,160 --> 00:01:17,120

are giving up nearly all hope for young Don Helen. He accidentally shot himself while

15

00:01:17,160 --> 00:01:21,960

hunting. Don lost more than half of his blood, had no blood pressure and virtually no brain

16

00:01:21,960 --> 00:01:27,960

activity. Yet Don's family never lost faith and never left his bedside. Incredibly, Don

17

00:01:27,960 --> 00:01:33,960

recovered. Modern medicine has no explanation, but perhaps there is one. A mirror.

18

00:02:17,120 --> 00:02:24,120

During the holiday season, office Christmas parties are a traditional way of easing into

19

00:02:35,520 --> 00:02:41,880

the festive spirit. On the night of December 22, 1981, marked the first company Christmas

20

00:02:42,200 --> 00:02:47,000

party for a 19-year-old girl named Rhonda Hinson, Rhonda had recently graduated from

21

00:02:47,000 --> 00:02:52,000

high school in Valdez, North Carolina, and was celebrating her first job as a clerical

22

00:02:52,000 --> 00:02:59,000

worker for a local steel company. At midnight, Rhonda left the party with two girlfriends.

23

00:03:01,600 --> 00:03:07,640

At approximately 12.30, after dropping off her companions, Rhonda would begin the 10-mile

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00:03:07,680 --> 00:03:14,680

drive to her home, where she still lived with her parents. At exactly 1 a.m., Rhonda's mother

25

00:03:20,920 --> 00:03:27,920

awoke from a sound sleep with a strange premonition. I woke up feeling panicky, scared, because

26

00:03:29,760 --> 00:03:35,040

I felt like something had happened to Rhonda. I felt like Rhonda was dead. I felt like she

27

00:03:35,120 --> 00:03:41,160

had been in an automobile accident. I got up and I had a little sleepy scanner that you

28

00:03:41,160 --> 00:03:46,600

listen to, you know, accidents and all that stuff on it. And for some odd reason, I just

29

00:03:46,600 --> 00:03:49,920

turned it on, you know, thought maybe, you know, if it had been an accident out here

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00:03:49,920 --> 00:03:55,000

on the scanner. And the minute I turned it on, it came over, which, you know, it had

31

00:03:55,000 --> 00:04:02,000

been a homicide. 120 glambar. 120 check, a vehicle in the ditch, good of mineral springs,

32

00:04:02,800 --> 00:04:09,800

mountain, and I-40. Complainant reports of blood in the front-sated side. Rhonda's car

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00:04:09,880 --> 00:04:14,520

was discovered on mineral springs, mountain road, just a half a mile from her home. The

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00:04:14,520 --> 00:04:20,520

driver's door was open, and just a few feet away, Rhonda was found dead. She was lying

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00:04:20,520 --> 00:04:27,040

on her back, and her arms appeared to have been deliberately placed at her side. Tests

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00:04:27,080 --> 00:04:32,840

show that Rhonda Hinson had been killed by a single bullet fired by a high-powered rifle.

37

00:04:32,840 --> 00:04:37,600

This bullet had passed through the trunk of her car, through her seat, and penetrated

38

00:04:37,600 --> 00:04:44,600

her heart. The hardest thing is living every day wondering who did this. Rhonda was the

39

00:04:49,480 --> 00:04:56,480

most loving, caring person that you've ever known. Rhonda was the type of doctor that

40

00:04:58,000 --> 00:05:05,000

everybody would like to have. The murder of Rhonda Hinson had first appeared to be

41

00:05:05,000 --> 00:05:10,680

a random act of violence, but as the investigation proceeded, disturbing clues began to surface,

42

00:05:10,680 --> 00:05:15,360

suggesting that Rhonda may have been murdered by someone who knew her closely. Eight years

43

00:05:15,360 --> 00:05:22,360

of pass since Rhonda's death, and police are still at a loss for an explanation or a suspect.

44

00:05:22,680 --> 00:05:28,160

In high school, Rhonda was a popular girl, an expert tennis player who had many close

45

00:05:28,160 --> 00:05:33,840

friends, but several weeks after her graduation, she began to behave strangely, though normally

46

00:05:33,840 --> 00:05:39,520

happy to drive along. Rhonda began to ask her father to accompany her on trips into town,

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00:05:39,520 --> 00:05:42,720

and on one of these trips, she made a disturbing statement.

48

00:05:42,720 --> 00:05:46,720

Dan, I've got something to tell you, but I'm afraid to.

49

00:05:46,720 --> 00:05:50,720

I said, what is it, Rhonda? I said, no matter what it's good or bad, tell me.

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00:05:51,080 --> 00:05:56,440

Now, what do you have to say? And she said, I'll think about it. And she never did explain,

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00:05:56,440 --> 00:06:01,440

never did tell me why, what it was, you know, she's afraid to tell me.

52

00:06:01,440 --> 00:06:07,240

Well, you keep your mind on your job, okay? Her mother also recalled an uncharacteristic

53

00:06:07,240 --> 00:06:14,240

conversation shortly before Rhonda's death. I was wondering if it's ever okay to go with

54

00:06:14,240 --> 00:06:19,740

a married man. I said, Rhonda, there's never a time that it's alright to go with a married

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00:06:19,760 --> 00:06:26,760

man. The only thing that comes from that is people getting hurt. I didn't ask her if

56

00:06:27,100 --> 00:06:33,540

she was asking for herself, if she's asking for somebody else. I don't know what she...

57

00:06:33,540 --> 00:06:38,540

Rhonda wanted to do, the things that pleased us.

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00:06:38,540 --> 00:06:45,540

In the weeks prior to Rhonda's murder, her parents began to notice that she suffered from

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00:06:45,540 --> 00:06:52,540

insomnia. Rhonda also began getting up in the middle of the night to take showers. According

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00:06:52,620 --> 00:06:59,620

to authorities, such obsessive behavior is common in women who have been sexually abused.

61

00:07:00,580 --> 00:07:06,020

The shower would wake me up. It should turn the shower off and answer me and say, I just

62

00:07:06,020 --> 00:07:13,020

can't sleep, I feel dirty. I'm really angry at myself. I should have been angry.

63

00:07:15,540 --> 00:07:22,540

I should have talked to her. I should have asked her what was wrong. If I had asked enough,

64

00:07:22,540 --> 00:07:27,820

I would have gotten some answers.

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00:07:27,820 --> 00:07:31,940

This unusual behavior suggested to police that Rhonda was under some kind of personal

66

00:07:31,940 --> 00:07:37,580

pressure. Could this pressure have resulted in her murder? The police investigation began

67

00:07:37,580 --> 00:07:43,940

to uncover evidence that someone may have been stalking Rhonda the night of her death.

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00:07:43,940 --> 00:07:50,940

During 1215 and 1230 on the morning that Rhonda Henson was murdered, a witness drove under

69

00:07:51,980 --> 00:07:58,980

the Interstate 40 Bridge on Mental Springs Mountain Road. She observed a blue General

70

00:08:00,540 --> 00:08:07,540

Motor Chevrolet facing in a northerly direction with two white males in the vehicle.

71

00:08:08,540 --> 00:08:13,340

The car was parked next to the same off-ramp that Rhonda would use to exit. It was spotted

72

00:08:13,340 --> 00:08:18,820

30 minutes before the fatal bullet was fired and just 200 yards from where her body was

73

00:08:18,820 --> 00:08:22,860

found.

74

00:08:22,860 --> 00:08:27,740

Later that evening, another witness traveling down the same road passed a similar blue vehicle

75

00:08:27,740 --> 00:08:34,260

with a single man at the wheel speeding away from the murder site. As he continued down

76

00:08:34,260 --> 00:08:38,420

the road, the witness saw Rhonda's vehicle parked at the same spot where her body would

77

00:08:38,420 --> 00:08:45,420

be found. A woman was slumped over the steering wheel and a man was standing at her car door.

78

00:08:45,620 --> 00:08:50,220

The witness was unable to get a close look at this man and assuming the couple were drunk

79

00:08:50,220 --> 00:08:53,380

and drove on.

80

00:08:53,380 --> 00:08:59,180

There were some latent prints on the driver's door, but these latent prints have not been

81

00:08:59,180 --> 00:09:03,180

identified as of this date.

82

00:09:04,100 --> 00:09:08,980

With so few clues to go on, police put their witness under hypnosis and asked him to recall

83

00:09:08,980 --> 00:09:14,140

more details about the murder scene. This is the actual audio tape from the hypnotized

84

00:09:14,140 --> 00:09:15,140

subject.

85

00:09:15,140 --> 00:09:20,140

That was Chabelle. It was blue.

86

00:09:20,140 --> 00:09:24,140

Seventy miles, I believe.

87

00:09:24,140 --> 00:09:28,140

Looks like the front end has been messed up.

88

00:09:29,100 --> 00:09:36,100

The witness also recalled seeing a second car parked down the road from Rhonda's vehicle.

89

00:09:36,220 --> 00:09:43,220

This car was a black or dark blue trans-am. Some believe that car may have been driven

90

00:10:00,220 --> 00:10:03,340

by the murder.

91

00:10:03,340 --> 00:10:10,340

There's so many unanswered questions. We have a very attractive young girl whose life was

92

00:10:11,140 --> 00:10:18,140

taken and as far as we know her character is unblemished. It's hard for me to understand

93

00:10:20,700 --> 00:10:27,700

why a young person like this would, life, be taken away and not have an answer for it.

94

00:10:28,180 --> 00:10:33,260

Who killed Rhonda Hinson and why? Authorities a certain issue would never have stopped

95

00:10:33,260 --> 00:10:38,680

for a stranger. Was she pulled over by someone who knew her? Someone who then fired the fatal

96

00:10:38,680 --> 00:10:40,260

shot?

97

00:10:40,260 --> 00:10:47,260

Who was a man seen at Rhonda's car? The murderer or a passerby who left the area when he discovered

98

00:10:48,340 --> 00:10:55,260

that Rhonda was dead? Police still have no idea.

99

00:10:55,260 --> 00:11:00,500

We have some different stories but to really be able to substantiate these stories we don't

100

00:11:00,540 --> 00:11:05,060

have that information. That's what we're looking for. Those little pieces of information that

101

00:11:05,060 --> 00:11:12,060

we can substantiate what happened.

102

00:11:12,500 --> 00:11:16,980

Eight years have passed since that Christmas party ended in tragedy. Rhonda's mother still

103

00:11:16,980 --> 00:11:22,100

keeps her daughter's room exactly the way it was when Rhonda was alive.

104

00:11:22,100 --> 00:11:27,980

I can almost imagine Rhonda still in there. We have a baby doll that she had years and

105

00:11:28,020 --> 00:11:34,980

years ago. We've kept that out. We've kept some of her trophies out.

106

00:11:34,980 --> 00:11:40,780

The grave marker I think says it all. On the grave marker there are the words always

107

00:11:40,780 --> 00:11:47,780

array of sunshine. That's the best description that we have of Rhonda. It's a perfect description.

108

00:11:47,780 --> 00:11:54,780

In a moment we'll see how viewers help capture and allege Conn would infiltrate at a nudist

109

00:11:59,140 --> 00:12:04,140

camp. He'll also tell you how you may be able to help authorities track down two Conn

110

00:12:04,140 --> 00:12:13,140

women posing as fortune tellers.

111

00:12:18,780 --> 00:12:25,780

Last September we examined the case of a Florida nudist resort whose members were allegedly

112

00:12:25,900 --> 00:12:32,900

victimized by a smooth talking Conn man calling himself Rusty. In February of 1988 Rusty arrived

113

00:12:34,940 --> 00:12:39,380

at the Sunny Sands Nudist Resort and quickly ingratiated himself with many of the club's

114

00:12:39,380 --> 00:12:46,380

members. He opened a video rental store at a nearby town and convinced some of Sunny

115

00:12:46,660 --> 00:12:53,660

Sands residents to invest thousands of dollars in his business. But just seven months after

116

00:12:53,860 --> 00:12:59,260

he arrived at Sunny Sands Rusty's upstanding reputation in the community began to crumble

117

00:12:59,260 --> 00:13:05,060

when a neighbor's 11 year old daughter accused him of molesting her. Rusty was arrested for

118

00:13:05,060 --> 00:13:12,060

sexual battery against a child under 12 in order to be held without bail. However many

119

00:13:12,660 --> 00:13:17,380

of Sunny Sands residents believed that Rusty was unjustly accused and convinced the judge

120

00:13:17,380 --> 00:13:24,380

to release him on \$25,000 bail. Two days later Rusty disappeared allegedly taking with him

121

00:13:25,740 --> 00:13:32,140

more than \$50,000 of investors money. No matter what happens we know we'll never get our

122

00:13:32,140 --> 00:13:39,140

money back. But right at this point the money is immaterial. Right now the big thing I want

123

00:13:39,460 --> 00:13:45,180

Rusty caught is what he did to that child. Police later learned that Rusty's true identity

124

00:13:45,180 --> 00:13:52,180

was William Eugene Hilliard and that he was wanted in both Florida and Texas for fraud.

125

00:13:54,060 --> 00:13:58,160

Within minutes of our broadcast several viewers from South Carolina called our telecenter

126

00:13:58,160 --> 00:14:05,160

to report that they recognized William Eugene Hilliard. The morning after our broadcast

127

00:14:06,160 --> 00:14:10,800

Hilliard was arrested by Georgetown County Sheriff's deputies at a convenience store

128

00:14:10,800 --> 00:14:15,920

in Murl's and Litt, South Carolina, a small town just south of Myrtle Beach. He is living

129

00:14:15,920 --> 00:14:22,920

under the assumed name Ronald Edward Kent. On October 20th Hilliard was returned to Florida

130

00:14:22,920 --> 00:14:28,360

to face charges of fraud and sexual battery against a child under 12. If convicted of

131

00:14:28,360 --> 00:14:35,360

the sexual battery charge Hilliard could receive the death penalty.

132

00:14:51,400 --> 00:14:58,240

Fortunes told tarot cards and tea leaves sounds intriguing and many of us have wanted to

133

00:14:58,560 --> 00:15:03,120

know what goes on inside a fortune teller's potter after the doors closed. But let the

134

00:15:03,120 --> 00:15:07,800

buyer beware. The sad fact is that some of them are more interested in fortune taking

135

00:15:07,800 --> 00:15:12,880

and fortune telling. Across the United States each year tens of thousands of victims are

136

00:15:12,880 --> 00:15:17,720

built out of millions of dollars by fraudulent fortune tellers. Tonight we present the story

137

00:15:17,720 --> 00:15:24,720

of two of these victims who embarrassed by their own naivete have requested anonymity.

138

00:15:25,720 --> 00:15:32,720

Peoria, Illinois August 1987. A respected educator we will call Karen had been devastated

139

00:15:34,800 --> 00:15:40,800

mentally and physically by an automobile accident. Friends urged her to see Ann Corricelli, a

140

00:15:40,800 --> 00:15:45,800

fortune teller, who was reputed to have psychic powers.

141

00:15:45,800 --> 00:15:52,800

The last thought of my mind was to go see a psychic. But why thought? Well, if it doesn't

142

00:15:52,800 --> 00:15:57,800

work it doesn't work. It's ten bucks for a half an hour. What have I got to lose?

143

00:15:57,800 --> 00:16:04,800

I see that you've had family problems lately and you've been very depressed lately.

144

00:16:04,800 --> 00:16:06,800

Yes, I have.

145

00:16:06,800 --> 00:16:11,800

Have you considered suicide before?

146

00:16:11,800 --> 00:16:18,800

She told me that I had had suicidal thoughts and I hadn't ever told anyone. So I was convinced

147

00:16:18,800 --> 00:16:22,800

she was psychic and she had the answer to my problem.

148

00:16:22,800 --> 00:16:25,800

This is a curse that someone's put on you.

149

00:16:25,800 --> 00:16:30,800

And I looked at her like you have got to be kidding.

150

00:16:30,800 --> 00:16:32,800

God loves you.

151

00:16:32,800 --> 00:16:39,800

But she said it so believably and she held my hand and she leaned forward and said we can do something about this.

152

00:16:39,800 --> 00:16:43,800

I'll help you and we can overcome this together. I'll help you.

153

00:16:43,800 --> 00:16:51,800

At the point she told me there was a curse on me, I think I would have been ready to believe anything.

154

00:16:51,800 --> 00:16:55,800

It was an answer to a problem.

155

00:17:00,800 --> 00:17:05,800

Ann told Karen that she must follow a strict regimen in order to lift the curse.

156

00:17:05,800 --> 00:17:23,800

I was taking ritual baths and scented oils. I was blessing the doors, the windows, the cars, people

with holy water.

157

00:17:23,800 --> 00:17:27,800

But I couldn't let anyone know what was going on.

158

00:17:28,800 --> 00:17:34,800

Each time that I saw her she gave me more things to do, which was great. I loved it.

159

00:17:34,800 --> 00:17:38,800

I felt like I was beginning to get control back of my life.

160

00:17:41,800 --> 00:17:48,800

Ann told Karen to come with her to a nearby bridge and bring \$4,000 wrapped in a white package.

161

00:17:48,800 --> 00:17:54,800

I brought the money. This money has taken all the evil from your body.

162

00:17:54,800 --> 00:18:05,800

She told me that we had to destroy the money because Satan was of the earth in what better way to control him but with his own dirty money.

163

00:18:05,800 --> 00:18:10,800

So we took the bundle of money and threw it off the bridge.

164

00:18:11,800 --> 00:18:15,800

Is it gone? It's gone. It's gone. The money is gone.

165

00:18:16,800 --> 00:18:25,800

Karen now believes that she was duped by Ann Coricelli, the daughter in a sophisticated mother-daughter fortune-telling team.

166

00:18:25,800 --> 00:18:35,800

Lena Marie Wilson, 53 years old, is Ann's mother, though she sometimes pretends to be her grandmother. Together they pray mainly on vulnerable women.

167

00:18:37,800 --> 00:18:43,800

Another victim of the fortune-telling scam in Peoria was a 69-year-old woman we will call Joan.

168

00:18:44,800 --> 00:18:48,800

On her second husband died, she was left with a considerable amount of money.

169

00:18:48,800 --> 00:18:52,800

Despite the financial security, Joan felt lost.

170

00:18:54,800 --> 00:19:00,800

I think at the time I was very vulnerable because I had lost my husband two years before.

171

00:19:01,800 --> 00:19:08,800

I was lonely. I was searching, maybe for answers in different places.

172

00:19:09,800 --> 00:19:18,800

And so it was only \$10 to go and see her and I thought why not find out and see what she said about my future, my life and things in general.

173

00:19:25,800 --> 00:19:33,800

When Joan visited the fortune-tellers, they were operating under the name of Calvin. The first person she met was Ann Coricelli.

174

00:19:33,800 --> 00:19:35,800

Thank you.

175

00:19:37,800 --> 00:19:51,800

It was a regular house. There was a small room off the living room and there was an altar and many holy pictures all over the wall, many, many candles and many pictures of Jesus.

176

00:20:03,800 --> 00:20:13,800

I can tell that you've had a recent spiritual crisis in your life.

177

00:20:16,800 --> 00:20:20,800

I can also tell that you have a recent death in the family.

178

00:20:21,800 --> 00:20:23,800

Yes, my husband two years ago.

179

00:20:24,800 --> 00:20:32,800

Okay. I can also see that there's something evil in your charts. Something that I am going to have to ask my grandmother to help us with.

180

00:20:33,800 --> 00:20:35,800

And I'm going to go ahead and get her now, is that all right?

181

00:20:35,800 --> 00:20:37,800

That's fine.

182

00:20:49,800 --> 00:20:52,800

Hi. My granddaughter told me you need help.

183

00:20:52,800 --> 00:20:53,800

Yes.

184

00:20:53,800 --> 00:20:54,800

I can help you.

185

00:20:54,800 --> 00:20:59,800

Please. She told me there were zealots in those cars but I'm doubtful of that.

186

00:20:59,800 --> 00:21:01,800

Let's see.

187

00:21:03,800 --> 00:21:08,800

I have the power to rebuild your problems. Take this rat and tie three knots.

188

00:21:08,800 --> 00:21:09,800

Three knots?

189

00:21:09,800 --> 00:21:10,800

Yes.

190

00:21:12,800 --> 00:21:22,800

She told me that my life had had a curse on it for over 40 years. That was put on by a girlfriend of my first husband.

191

00:21:22,800 --> 00:21:28,800

And she actually named the person that my husband went with before he married me.

192

00:21:28,800 --> 00:21:38,800

She said, will you come back and bring with you a \$1, \$5, \$10 and a \$20 bill?

193

00:21:38,800 --> 00:21:40,800

Did you bring the money with you?

194

00:21:40,800 --> 00:21:41,800

Yes.

195

00:21:41,800 --> 00:21:42,800

Just as you asked me.

196

00:21:42,800 --> 00:21:47,800

Lena Marie had also instructed Joan to bring a sheet which she had tied around both of their necks.

197

00:21:47,800 --> 00:21:49,800

To multiply and restore this money.

198

00:21:49,800 --> 00:21:52,800

Rip this money and I will prove that I do have the power.

199

00:21:52,800 --> 00:21:56,800

She told me to tear these bills in half.

200

00:21:56,800 --> 00:22:03,800

And she said, if this money will go back together and become whole, then I can help you.

201

00:22:03,800 --> 00:22:04,800

Otherwise I can't.

202

00:22:04,800 --> 00:22:09,800

And then she wrapped them up in the white handkerchief and tied it all together.

203

00:22:09,800 --> 00:22:13,800

Our father who art in heaven, Halloween.

204

00:22:13,800 --> 00:22:19,800

Lena Marie held the torn money under the sheet and rubbed it over Joan's arms and legs.

205

00:22:19,800 --> 00:22:21,800

To restore the money.

206

00:22:21,800 --> 00:22:23,800

Yes, I believe you have the power.

207

00:22:23,800 --> 00:22:25,800

Do you believe in Jesus?

208

00:22:25,800 --> 00:22:27,800

Yes, I believe in Jesus.

209

00:22:27,800 --> 00:22:29,800

Do you believe I have the power?

210

00:22:29,800 --> 00:22:30,800

Yes, I do believe you have the power.

211

00:22:30,800 --> 00:22:36,800

When Lena Marie unwrapped the money, the bills appeared magically restored and indeed even multiplied.

212

00:22:36,800 --> 00:22:38,800

To Joan, it seemed like a miracle.

213

00:22:38,800 --> 00:22:39,800

Oh, you're afraid.

214

00:22:39,800 --> 00:22:42,800

I can't believe it.

215

00:22:42,800 --> 00:22:44,800

I deal down and thank God.

216

00:22:44,800 --> 00:22:51,800

And so I knelt down before the altar and kept saying over the our father.

217

00:22:51,800 --> 00:22:53,800

You tell anybody, the curse will be back on you.

218

00:22:53,800 --> 00:22:54,800

Do you understand?

219

00:22:54,800 --> 00:22:55,800

Oh, yes I do.

220

00:22:55,800 --> 00:23:01,800

They always associate their special powers with God or religion or the church.

221

00:23:01,800 --> 00:23:07,800

And more importantly with this particular type of trick, with making the money multiply,

222

00:23:07,800 --> 00:23:12,800

is to get in the victim's mind that money means nothing.

223

00:23:12,800 --> 00:23:15,800

The next step is to convince the victim that they are cursed.

224

00:23:15,800 --> 00:23:17,800

I don't have the power to take the devil's life.

225

00:23:17,800 --> 00:23:23,800

Lena Marie told Joan to fill a shoe box with dirt and leave it in her garage for three days.

226

00:23:23,800 --> 00:23:26,800

Now look at this, what I'm going to do.

227

00:23:26,800 --> 00:23:36,800

She had a pitcher of water and she said, now we will pour this over the box and see whether or not the devil is in there.

228

00:23:36,800 --> 00:23:43,800

She took a stick and moved the dirt around and then I saw this water turn to blood.

229

00:23:43,800 --> 00:23:46,800

You see this blood? The devil.

230

00:23:46,800 --> 00:23:53,800

She had put this fear into me that all this would happen if we didn't get rid of the devil in my life.

231

00:23:53,800 --> 00:23:56,800

And here it was in front of me in this box.

232

00:23:56,800 --> 00:23:58,800

She said, we've got to get rid of this devil.

233

00:23:58,800 --> 00:24:01,800

It is in your life and it is all around you.

234

00:24:01,800 --> 00:24:06,800

And she said she had to have money because this would give her more power

235

00:24:06,800 --> 00:24:12,800

and the more money I could give her the more power she would have to help me.

236

00:24:12,800 --> 00:24:18,800

Over the next year and a half, Joan gave Lena Marie more than \$81,000 in cash.

237

00:24:18,800 --> 00:24:23,800

She also gave Lena Marie most of her jewelry and bought her a brand new Cadillac.

238

00:24:23,800 --> 00:24:27,800

Well this money will help to take the evil out of your body.

239

00:24:28,800 --> 00:24:34,800

Marie had the type of personality that made you feel that she was helping you.

240

00:24:34,800 --> 00:24:41,800

And I believed in her. She had me so convinced. I believed everything.

241

00:24:41,800 --> 00:24:48,800

She had me so controlled that anything she would ask me to do, I would do.

242

00:24:48,800 --> 00:24:50,800

Sister, I'm so glad to see you, sister.

243

00:24:50,800 --> 00:24:51,800

Are you feeling fine with it?

244

00:24:51,800 --> 00:24:52,800

I'm just feeling good.

245

00:24:52,800 --> 00:24:56,800

Finally, Lena Marie had Joan hand over the last of her life savings.

246

00:24:56,800 --> 00:24:59,800

\$40,000.

247

00:24:59,800 --> 00:25:04,800

She said, now we have to burn this money because money is evil.

248

00:25:04,800 --> 00:25:11,800

She put it in a garbage can and then put lighter fluid on it and burned it.

249

00:25:14,800 --> 00:25:20,800

She had me so convinced that all material things, all possessions, all money,

250

00:25:20,800 --> 00:25:27,800

was evil because the curse had been on me and everything that I owned and possessed.

251

00:25:27,800 --> 00:25:30,800

She had actually brainwashed me.

252

00:25:30,800 --> 00:25:38,800

The money that the individual thinks is going into the fire does not actually go into the fire.

253

00:25:38,800 --> 00:25:41,800

Kneel down and pray. Money is evil.

254

00:25:41,800 --> 00:25:42,800

And in order to purify you...

255

00:25:42,800 --> 00:25:48,800

There might be a \$1 bill or a \$100 bill wrapped around play money.

256

00:25:48,800 --> 00:25:52,800

And this is what actually goes into the fire and is actually burnt.

257

00:25:52,800 --> 00:25:54,800

Real money never goes into the fire.

258

00:25:54,800 --> 00:25:55,800

Did you see this?

259

00:25:55,800 --> 00:26:02,800

The crime that they're committing is they're taking valuables from people by the means of deception.

260

00:26:02,800 --> 00:26:07,800

But the majority of the people would just assume cut their losses and not come forward.

261

00:26:07,800 --> 00:26:14,800

They do not want to suffer the embarrassment of the community, of their peers, of their family.

262

00:26:14,800 --> 00:26:19,800

The embarrassment is a very hard thing to overcome.

263

00:26:19,800 --> 00:26:27,800

I gave her close to \$150,000 in money, possessions, and jewelry.

264

00:26:27,800 --> 00:26:31,800

I look at myself and I say, how could I be so stupid?

265

00:26:31,800 --> 00:26:34,800

I'm a college educated person. I'm a professional.

266

00:26:34,800 --> 00:26:36,800

I've seen enough news reports.

267

00:26:36,800 --> 00:26:43,800

I've lived in the world long enough to know what real crime is and that people in any opportunity are very willing to steal your money.

268

00:26:43,800 --> 00:26:47,800

And I cannot believe that I was a victim of this crime.

269

00:26:47,800 --> 00:26:51,800

I feel like the stupidest person on the face of the earth.

270

00:26:51,800 --> 00:26:53,800

The evil from your body has gone into this money.

271

00:26:53,800 --> 00:27:01,800

The money that was in the bundle had been wrapped in a handkerchief and she had refolded it several times before it was ever thrown into the river.

272

00:27:01,800 --> 00:27:06,800

I never saw the actual \$4,000.

273

00:27:06,800 --> 00:27:09,800

I had my eyes closed in prayer.

274

00:27:09,800 --> 00:27:10,800

Is it gone?

275

00:27:10,800 --> 00:27:11,800

It's gone. It's gone.

276

00:27:11,800 --> 00:27:12,800

Do you believe in the power?

277

00:27:12,800 --> 00:27:13,800

I do believe in the power.

278

00:27:13,800 --> 00:27:16,800

Every time she handled the money, she could have switched it.

279

00:27:16,800 --> 00:27:17,800

You believe in the power.

280

00:27:17,800 --> 00:27:21,800

What confirmed that a switch probably happened was that she took off.

281

00:27:21,800 --> 00:27:22,800

Yes, I did.

282

00:27:22,800 --> 00:27:23,800

Praise the lord.

283

00:27:25,800 --> 00:27:34,800

Based on the testimony of Karen, Joan, and 16 other victims, warrants were issued in Illinois for the arrest of Ann Corricelli and Lena Marie Wilson.

284

00:27:34,800 --> 00:27:40,800

The two women were nowhere to be found.

285

00:27:40,800 --> 00:27:48,800

Four days later, police in North Kansas City, Missouri, noticed some suspicious looking people in a motel parking lot.

286

00:27:48,800 --> 00:27:50,800

Boy, did you see them looking at us, Cal?

287

00:27:50,800 --> 00:27:52,800

I'll check those plates.

288

00:27:56,800 --> 00:28:00,800

They ran a license plate check and found that the car belonged to Lena Marie Wilson's daughter.

289

00:28:00,800 --> 00:28:05,800

Ann Corricelli was not in the car, but the Lena Marie was.

290

00:28:05,800 --> 00:28:06,800

Are you Lena Wilson?

291

00:28:06,800 --> 00:28:07,800

Yes, I am.

292

00:28:07,800 --> 00:28:08,800

You're under arrest.

293

00:28:08,800 --> 00:28:09,800

What's in the bag?

294

00:28:09,800 --> 00:28:10,800

Nothing.

295

00:28:10,800 --> 00:28:14,800

You have no right to do this to me.

296

00:28:14,800 --> 00:28:20,800

When police searched the car, they found over \$250,000 worth of stolen jewelry.

297

00:28:20,800 --> 00:28:23,800

It's like a jewelry store here.

298

00:28:23,800 --> 00:28:26,800

You guys are wrong doing this.

299

00:28:26,800 --> 00:28:29,800

The police never found Ann Corricelli.

300

00:28:29,800 --> 00:28:34,800

Lena Marie Wilson jumped bail six days after she was apprehended.

301

00:28:35,800 --> 00:28:40,800

Lena Marie Wilson is 4'10" tall and weighs 130 pounds.

302

00:28:40,800 --> 00:28:45,800

She's 53 years old and has a dark complexion, brown hair and brown eyes.

303

00:28:45,800 --> 00:28:52,800

She uses the aliases of Lena Calvin, Marie Marks and Lena Marks.

304

00:28:52,800 --> 00:28:58,800

Ann Corricelli is 5' tall and weighs between 140 and 170 pounds.

305

00:28:58,800 --> 00:29:00,800

She's 26 years old.

306

00:29:00,800 --> 00:29:04,800

Has a medium complexion, brown hair and brown eyes.

307

00:29:04,800 --> 00:29:10,800

She uses the aliases Lori Wilson, Lori Calvin and Ann Marks.

308

00:29:10,800 --> 00:29:15,800

The police are also searching for Joe Marks, a convicted male accomplice.

309

00:29:15,800 --> 00:29:20,800

He's 5'7" tall and weighs 120 pounds.

310

00:29:20,800 --> 00:29:22,800

He's 39 years old.

311

00:29:22,800 --> 00:29:26,800

Has a dark complexion, brown hair and brown eyes.

312

00:29:27,800 --> 00:29:30,800

Update. Joe Marks has been captured.

313

00:29:30,800 --> 00:29:34,800

Within minutes of our broadcast, the Springfield, Missouri police department

314

00:29:34,800 --> 00:29:37,800

received a call from a viewer who recognized Joe Marks.

315

00:29:37,800 --> 00:29:41,800

On November 20, Green County, Missouri shares deputies

316

00:29:41,800 --> 00:29:43,800

arrested Marks at his parents' home,

317

00:29:43,800 --> 00:29:46,800

where his mother was operating a pawn-reading business.

318

00:29:46,800 --> 00:29:49,800

Four days later, Marks was extradited back to Illinois,

319

00:29:49,800 --> 00:29:53,800

where he is currently serving a six-year prison term for theft and murder.

320

00:29:53,800 --> 00:29:57,800

Qui is currently serving a six-year prison term for theft and conspiracy.

321

00:30:17,800 --> 00:30:20,800

In one moment, the fascinating story of an eccentric reckless

322

00:30:20,800 --> 00:30:22,800

lived in a tiny room at a YMCA,

323

00:30:22,800 --> 00:30:25,400

His friends were astounded when he left behind

324

00:30:25,400 --> 00:30:28,400

an unclaimed fortune of \$250,000.

325

00:30:28,400 --> 00:30:35,400

MUSIC

326

00:30:43,400 --> 00:30:46,260

Our next story is about one of the most frugal and unusual

327

00:30:46,260 --> 00:30:48,840

people we have ever encountered.

328

00:30:48,840 --> 00:30:50,940

He was reclusive, eccentric, a man

329

00:30:50,940 --> 00:30:53,440

who spent his time dreaming up the most peculiar ways

330

00:30:53,440 --> 00:30:55,140

to conserve money.

331

00:30:55,140 --> 00:31:00,420

When he died, he left the fortune valued at more than \$250,000.

332

00:31:00,420 --> 00:31:03,180

This mysterious man devoted all his time and energy

333

00:31:03,180 --> 00:31:04,740

to saving money.

334

00:31:04,740 --> 00:31:08,580

Yet ironically, the fortune he amassed now sits unclaimed.

335

00:31:08,580 --> 00:31:11,940

Perhaps someone in our audience tonight is his heir.

336

00:31:11,940 --> 00:31:16,260

MUSIC

337

00:31:16,260 --> 00:31:18,860

Howard Drummond moved to the Lansing, Michigan YMCA

338

00:31:18,860 --> 00:31:22,820

in 1985 when he was 74 years old.

339

00:31:22,820 --> 00:31:25,500

He rented a room for just \$49 a week

340

00:31:25,500 --> 00:31:28,060

but chose not to pay an extra \$5 a day

341

00:31:28,060 --> 00:31:29,420

for his own private bathroom.

342

00:31:32,540 --> 00:31:35,500

He always ordered the same breakfast, fried eggs, bacon,

343

00:31:35,500 --> 00:31:40,220

and rye toast for only \$1.99.

344

00:31:40,220 --> 00:31:42,420

He also bought two extra breakfasts, packed them

345

00:31:42,420 --> 00:31:45,020

in his ever-present gym bag, and took them back to his room

346

00:31:45,020 --> 00:31:48,380

at the YMCA for lunch and dinner.

347

00:31:48,420 --> 00:31:51,460

Howard's daily expenditure on food was only \$6.

348

00:31:55,380 --> 00:31:56,860

Howard was a pack rat.

349

00:31:56,860 --> 00:31:59,300

He saved money and everything else.

350

00:31:59,300 --> 00:32:03,300

In his room at the Y, he kept 50 coffee jars, all empty.

351

00:32:03,300 --> 00:32:05,780

He collected hundreds of magazines and countless rubber

352

00:32:05,780 --> 00:32:07,780

bands.

353

00:32:07,780 --> 00:32:09,820

Howard owned 80 pairs of white socks

354

00:32:09,820 --> 00:32:11,540

and eight identical suits and hats

355

00:32:11,540 --> 00:32:14,140

so he could wear the exact same outfit every day.

356

00:32:14,540 --> 00:32:17,140

Howard lived his life according to a rigid set of rules

357

00:32:17,140 --> 00:32:19,700

that only he fully understood.

358

00:32:19,700 --> 00:32:22,740

He seemed to have no friends and only a few acquaintances.

359

00:32:22,740 --> 00:32:24,140

Good morning. Good morning.

360

00:32:24,140 --> 00:32:25,140

Howard, how are you?

361

00:32:25,140 --> 00:32:28,420

Primarily, Howard had a very regimented lifestyle.

362

00:32:28,420 --> 00:32:31,740

He would pay his rent at a certain time every month,

363

00:32:31,740 --> 00:32:34,140

the same amount every month.

364

00:32:34,140 --> 00:32:37,500

His receipt, he would want stapled to a certain piece

365

00:32:37,500 --> 00:32:40,820

of paper a certain way every time it was done.

366

00:32:40,860 --> 00:32:42,580

However, there was another side to Howard

367

00:32:42,580 --> 00:32:45,580

that I found that people rarely saw.

368

00:32:45,580 --> 00:32:47,180

He was a very gentle person.

369

00:32:47,180 --> 00:32:49,660

He was very appreciative of all the small things

370

00:32:49,660 --> 00:32:52,260

that you did for him, and he was very willing to say thank you

371

00:32:52,260 --> 00:32:55,260

for everything that you did.

372

00:32:55,260 --> 00:32:59,020

Every day, Howard went to the downtown Lansing Post Office.

373

00:32:59,020 --> 00:33:01,940

He subscribed to the Wall Street Journal, Forbes Magazine,

374

00:33:01,940 --> 00:33:05,820

Psychology Today, Foreign Affairs, and Soviet Life.

375

00:33:11,820 --> 00:33:14,820

He regularly received envelopes from banks

376

00:33:14,820 --> 00:33:17,820

and sent out registered letters to banks.

377

00:33:17,820 --> 00:33:20,820

Howard never failed to stop for a visit with postal worker

378

00:33:20,820 --> 00:33:21,820

Francis Dodge.

379

00:33:21,820 --> 00:33:22,820

Good morning.

380

00:33:22,820 --> 00:33:24,820

He often presented her with unusual shopping

381

00:33:24,820 --> 00:33:26,820

written on the backs of old envelopes.

382

00:33:26,820 --> 00:33:27,820

Just in case you were to see.

383

00:33:27,820 --> 00:33:30,820

Howard always gave Francis money to cover the items he asked

384

00:33:30,820 --> 00:33:33,820

for, and she was usually able to find what he needed.

385

00:33:33,820 --> 00:33:35,820

Do you have any rubber bands?

386

00:33:35,820 --> 00:33:38,820

And I need some coffee.

387

00:33:38,820 --> 00:33:39,820

I've got some coffee.

388

00:33:39,820 --> 00:33:40,820

Oh, good.

389

00:33:40,820 --> 00:33:42,820

Yeah, I brought you some coffee, and I brought you some,

390

00:33:42,820 --> 00:33:43,820

uh, just a minute.

391

00:33:43,820 --> 00:33:46,820

Let me look.

392

00:33:46,820 --> 00:33:48,820

Oh, good.

393

00:33:48,820 --> 00:33:50,820

They also brought you some washcloths.

394

00:33:50,820 --> 00:33:53,820

Oh, I can use those.

395

00:33:53,820 --> 00:33:54,820

How are you today?

396

00:33:54,820 --> 00:33:56,820

Oh, I'm feeling fine.

397

00:33:56,820 --> 00:33:57,820

Good.

398

00:33:57,820 --> 00:33:59,820

Um, I'll see you tomorrow.

399

00:33:59,820 --> 00:34:01,820

OK.

400

00:34:01,820 --> 00:34:03,820

I thought he didn't have anything.

401

00:34:03,820 --> 00:34:06,820

Why would anyone go around in the same clothes all the time?

402

00:34:06,820 --> 00:34:08,820

He just looked really poor to me.

403

00:34:08,820 --> 00:34:12,820

I always asked him why he wore that same hat all the time.

404

00:34:12,820 --> 00:34:15,820

And he said, well, it's not worn out yet.

405

00:34:18,820 --> 00:34:20,820

After completing his daily routine in Lansing,

406

00:34:20,820 --> 00:34:23,820

Howard returned to his room at the YMCA.

407

00:34:23,820 --> 00:34:26,820

He never allowed anyone inside.

408

00:34:26,820 --> 00:34:29,820

He died on January 28, 1989.

409

00:34:36,820 --> 00:34:39,820

Two days later, Paul Rosenbaum, a county-appointed attorney,

410

00:34:39,820 --> 00:34:41,820

visited the YMCA.

411

00:34:41,820 --> 00:34:44,820

Since Howard had left no will, it was Rosenbaum's job

412

00:34:44,820 --> 00:34:47,820

to subtly estate and find Howard's heirs.

413

00:34:47,820 --> 00:34:50,820

Looking for clues, Rosenbaum spread the contents of Howard's

414

00:34:50,820 --> 00:34:55,820

room at the Y over the conference table at his law office.

415

00:34:55,820 --> 00:34:58,820

It took probably two and a half weeks to sort out everything.

416

00:34:58,820 --> 00:35:03,820

He had every single piece of paper from probably 25 years.

417

00:35:03,820 --> 00:35:07,820

He had a diary that was one of the most unbelievable things

418

00:35:07,820 --> 00:35:13,820

I have ever witnessed in my life in which he kept an hour by hour account

419

00:35:13,820 --> 00:35:18,820

of the headlines in news stations across the whole United States.

420

00:35:18,820 --> 00:35:22,820

He had three watches that wouldn't work.

421

00:35:22,820 --> 00:35:26,820

There were thousands of view shoelaces,

422

00:35:26,820 --> 00:35:29,820

unlimited amount of newspaper clippings,

423

00:35:29,820 --> 00:35:33,820

which a lot of it had to do with the royal family and Princess Di.

424

00:35:33,820 --> 00:35:35,820

He was infatuated with her.

425

00:35:35,820 --> 00:35:38,820

It was unique, to say the least.

426

00:35:38,820 --> 00:35:43,820

To the best of my knowledge, he had 11 separate bank accounts

427

00:35:43,820 --> 00:35:47,820

from coast to coast with a quarter of a million dollars in cash

428

00:35:47,820 --> 00:35:50,820

in the bank accounts, and that quarter of a million dollars

429

00:35:50,820 --> 00:35:52,820

is not even the tip of the iceberg.

430

00:35:52,820 --> 00:35:56,820

He has a whole lot more money out there.

431

00:35:56,820 --> 00:35:58,820

Strangely, the gym bag Howard always carried with him

432

00:35:58,820 --> 00:36:00,820

was not found in his room.

433

00:36:00,820 --> 00:36:07,820

Some say Howard kept his most important papers in that bag.

434

00:36:07,820 --> 00:36:09,820

Among Howard's possessions,

435

00:36:09,820 --> 00:36:12,820

Rosenbaum did find a key marked number 29.

436

00:36:12,820 --> 00:36:14,820

The key seems to open a standard locker,

437

00:36:14,820 --> 00:36:16,820

a type you might find in a bus station.

438

00:36:16,820 --> 00:36:20,820

Could Howard's missing gym bag be in the unknown locker?

439

00:36:20,820 --> 00:36:23,820

Could the papers inside lead the way to even more money?

440

00:36:23,820 --> 00:36:27,820

Authorities in Michigan are still searching for Howard's missing heirs.

441

00:36:28,820 --> 00:36:32,820

We have very little information about Howard Thomas Drummond.

442

00:36:32,820 --> 00:36:35,820

He was born in Houston, Texas in 1911,

443

00:36:35,820 --> 00:36:38,820

the only child of impoverished parents.

444

00:36:38,820 --> 00:36:42,820

He served in the Army from 1942 to 1945.

445

00:36:42,820 --> 00:36:46,820

He was fired from a job at a California bank for stealing Scotch tape,

446

00:36:46,820 --> 00:36:49,820

then became a postal employee in Pasadena.

447

00:36:49,820 --> 00:36:53,820

He lived at YMCA's in Pasadena, Denver and Dayton

448

00:36:53,820 --> 00:36:56,820

before moving to Lansing, Michigan.

449

00:36:56,820 --> 00:36:59,820

He died at the age of 77 and went to his grave

450

00:36:59,820 --> 00:37:03,820

holding the secret of his \$250,000 fortune.

451

00:37:19,820 --> 00:37:21,820

In a moment a mystery with a happy ending,

452

00:37:21,820 --> 00:37:25,820

a mystery of a life saved when all hope was gone.

453

00:37:26,820 --> 00:37:30,820

The End

454

00:37:40,820 --> 00:37:43,820

June 10th, 1989.

455

00:37:43,820 --> 00:37:48,820

Don Hamilton and Donna Johnson are married in Maple Plain, Minnesota.

456

00:37:50,820 --> 00:37:53,820

This happy day is in a way a miracle.

457

00:37:54,820 --> 00:38:00,820

Punch, pull back, let's isolate that vein and artery, retraction.

458

00:38:00,820 --> 00:38:03,820

Just 20 months earlier, teams of specialists have been working

459

00:38:03,820 --> 00:38:06,820

around the clock to save Don's life.

460

00:38:06,820 --> 00:38:09,820

He was in a deep coma.

461

00:38:09,820 --> 00:38:12,820

Some of the doctors thought Don was already dead.

462

00:38:12,820 --> 00:38:14,820

Cut these holes.

463

00:38:14,820 --> 00:38:17,820

Don was not breathing, did not have an effective heartbeat.

464

00:38:17,820 --> 00:38:20,820

He had serious damage to body organs when he arrived.

465

00:38:20,820 --> 00:38:25,820

Statistically, Don's likelihood of surviving was very, very low, maybe zero.

466

00:38:25,820 --> 00:38:28,820

And that night I stood by his bedside most of the night

467

00:38:28,820 --> 00:38:31,820

and just wiped the blood because he said this probably would be his last night

468

00:38:31,820 --> 00:38:34,820

and he was bleeding from his eyes, nose and mouth again.

469

00:38:34,820 --> 00:38:38,820

And it was just like it was the last thing I could do for my son.

470

00:38:38,820 --> 00:38:43,820

Don Hamilton's recovery is a shining example of happy endings do occur.

471

00:38:43,820 --> 00:38:47,820

His story is one of those unexplained events in the field of science and medicine

472

00:38:47,820 --> 00:38:51,820

which proves that medical science and simple faith can turn out to be

473

00:38:51,820 --> 00:38:54,820

wondrous and mysterious partners.

474

00:38:59,820 --> 00:39:04,820

November 8th, 1987, just before Don, Don Hamilton and a group of friends

475

00:39:04,820 --> 00:39:09,820

set out deer hunting 175 miles north of their hometown, Maple Plain, Minnesota.

476

00:39:09,820 --> 00:39:12,820

I'll go way off to the right here, down to the end.

477

00:39:12,820 --> 00:39:14,820

OK, I think we're going to take off over here.

478

00:39:14,820 --> 00:39:16,820

All right, we'll see you guys.

479

00:39:16,820 --> 00:39:20,820

We all got rid of the deer and I took my ATV and drove out through the field,

480

00:39:20,820 --> 00:39:24,820

parked at the edge of the woods, and then walked into the woods to the tree

481

00:39:24,820 --> 00:39:28,820

that I had previously planned out that I would be in.

482

00:39:28,820 --> 00:39:34,820

And with my climbing harness and straps, I got myself strapped into the tree

483

00:39:34,820 --> 00:39:42,820

and then I pulled the gun up to me and loaded it and just sort of sat back, relaxed on a branch.

484

00:39:42,820 --> 00:39:45,820

And I just loosened up on the gun.

485

00:39:45,820 --> 00:39:48,820

I had a balance on my legs and currently I shifted enough

486

00:39:48,820 --> 00:39:52,820

so I got off balance and when I loosened my grip, it slid off.

487

00:39:57,820 --> 00:39:58,820

Glenn!

488

00:39:58,820 --> 00:39:59,820

Steve!

489

00:39:59,820 --> 00:40:01,820

Sounds like somebody's been shot!

490

00:40:01,820 --> 00:40:03,820

Danny!

491

00:40:05,820 --> 00:40:09,820

For 25 agonizing minutes, Don Hamilton's friends searched the dark woods.

492

00:40:09,820 --> 00:40:10,820

There he is, Glenn.

493

00:40:10,820 --> 00:40:13,820

Finally, they found Don in the tree.

494

00:40:13,820 --> 00:40:17,820

A bullet from his own rifle had severed crucial veins in his leg,

495

00:40:17,820 --> 00:40:19,820

Don seeming completely lifeless.

496

00:40:25,820 --> 00:40:29,820

20 minutes later, an ambulance rushed down to the nearest hospital.

497

00:40:29,820 --> 00:40:31,820

OK, is he breathing?

498

00:40:31,820 --> 00:40:32,820

No.

499

00:40:32,820 --> 00:40:36,820

Technically, he was alive, but he had no blood pressure at all.

500

00:40:36,820 --> 00:40:38,820

Bag him deep.

501

00:40:38,820 --> 00:40:39,820

Got to watch the main bill.

502

00:40:39,820 --> 00:40:40,820

Yeah.

503

00:40:40,820 --> 00:40:42,820

Get those blood pumps on.

504

00:40:42,820 --> 00:40:44,820

This guy has nothing circulating.

505

00:40:44,820 --> 00:40:45,820

I'm going to call the lab.

506

00:40:45,820 --> 00:40:46,820

Let's get another...

507

00:40:46,820 --> 00:40:49,820

When we started to work on Don, he was not breathing.

508

00:40:49,820 --> 00:40:50,820

He was not moving.

509

00:40:50,820 --> 00:40:53,820

He was comatose and his heart was not pumping blood.

510

00:40:53,820 --> 00:40:55,820

There was no blood to pump.

511

00:40:55,820 --> 00:40:57,820

Stop CPR. OK, check that pulse.

512

00:40:57,820 --> 00:40:58,820

No carotid pulse.

513

00:40:58,820 --> 00:41:00,820

OK, he's in electromechanical dissociation.

514

00:41:00,820 --> 00:41:01,820

Let's go.

515

00:41:01,820 --> 00:41:02,820

Continue CPR.

516

00:41:02,820 --> 00:41:06,820

He'd lost more than half of his total blood volume

517

00:41:06,820 --> 00:41:09,820

and maybe close to two thirds or more.

518

00:41:09,820 --> 00:41:11,820

Continue CPR.

519

00:41:11,820 --> 00:41:14,820

I was afraid through the whole process of working on Don.

520

00:41:14,820 --> 00:41:18,820

I was afraid simply because I knew it would take everything

521

00:41:18,820 --> 00:41:20,820

our team could do to pull him through.

522

00:41:20,820 --> 00:41:24,820

The farther along we went, the more afraid I became in a different way.

523

00:41:24,820 --> 00:41:28,820

I was afraid that we as a team, doctors, nurses, anesthetists,

524

00:41:28,820 --> 00:41:31,820

respiratory therapists, lab personnel,

525

00:41:31,820 --> 00:41:34,820

would have saved a body, but not a brain.

526

00:41:34,820 --> 00:41:35,820

One more.

527

00:41:35,820 --> 00:41:36,820

That's it.

528

00:41:36,820 --> 00:41:39,820

One more, Kelly, please.

529

00:41:39,820 --> 00:41:41,820

Hold these, Jan.

530

00:41:41,820 --> 00:41:45,820

We ran out of options for Don in our hospital very quickly.

531

00:41:45,820 --> 00:41:47,820

We resuscitated him.

532

00:41:47,820 --> 00:41:52,820

Our surgeon operated to repair massive damage to the veins in his left leg.

533

00:41:52,820 --> 00:41:55,820

We gave Don all the blood and blood products we had,

534

00:41:55,820 --> 00:41:57,820

and he needed more.

535

00:41:57,820 --> 00:42:00,820

Hold and I'll cauterize and we'll come off with him.

536

00:42:00,820 --> 00:42:01,820

Off.

537

00:42:02,820 --> 00:42:04,820

The only thing we could do is transfer Don.

538

00:42:07,820 --> 00:42:10,820

Don was helicoptered to the North Memorial Medical Center

539

00:42:10,820 --> 00:42:12,820

in Minneapolis, 200 miles away.

540

00:42:12,820 --> 00:42:15,820

There a team of specialists waited for him.

541

00:42:15,820 --> 00:42:18,820

They stabilized Don's physical condition,

542

00:42:18,820 --> 00:42:21,820

but his brain showed no sign of life.

543

00:42:21,820 --> 00:42:25,820

First thing I'm going to do is open your eye and shine a light in.

544

00:42:25,820 --> 00:42:29,820

When I did the initial evaluation on Don,

545

00:42:29,820 --> 00:42:31,820

he failed all the tests.

546

00:42:31,820 --> 00:42:35,820

In essence, he basically did not have any breathing,

547

00:42:35,820 --> 00:42:40,820

any response to pain, any basic deep-seated reflexes

548

00:42:40,820 --> 00:42:42,820

that are very well protected in the brain.

549

00:42:42,820 --> 00:42:46,820

I'm sorry to tell you this, but your son has brain debt.

550

00:42:46,820 --> 00:42:48,820

I can't accept that.

551

00:42:48,820 --> 00:42:52,820

Dr. Norbach said that it's the same as if someone has been underwater for an hour.

552

00:42:52,820 --> 00:42:55,820

He said, have you ever heard anybody underwater for an hour

553

00:42:55,820 --> 00:42:57,820

and has lived and had a brain?

554

00:42:57,820 --> 00:42:59,820

And I still told him that I couldn't believe it.

555

00:42:59,820 --> 00:43:01,820

I just couldn't accept that yet.

556

00:43:01,820 --> 00:43:04,820

She had that feeling in her eye that said,

557

00:43:04,820 --> 00:43:06,820

okay, I've heard your side of the story.

558

00:43:06,820 --> 00:43:08,820

Well, let's just see.

559

00:43:08,820 --> 00:43:10,820

I have my own side of the story.

560

00:43:10,820 --> 00:43:14,820

Oh God, our Heavenly Father, we earnestly pray for Don's recovery.

561

00:43:14,820 --> 00:43:17,820

We knew that our church was praying for him.

562

00:43:17,820 --> 00:43:20,820

And they were of support the whole time.

563

00:43:20,820 --> 00:43:23,820

We pray that you will be the great physician.

564

00:43:23,820 --> 00:43:25,820

From 7 o'clock in the morning to 11 o'clock at night,

565

00:43:25,820 --> 00:43:26,820

we were never alone.

566

00:43:26,820 --> 00:43:28,820

There was someone with us.

567

00:43:28,820 --> 00:43:33,820

And they even had a schedule made up so that we wouldn't be alone when he died.

568

00:43:33,820 --> 00:43:36,820

Tragically, Don's body began to fail.

569

00:43:36,820 --> 00:43:40,820

First his kidney stopped functioning, then his lungs.

570

00:43:40,820 --> 00:43:43,820

Once he even suffered a cardiac arrest.

571

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

Don, it's really going to be nice to get you out there again.

572

00:43:47,820 --> 00:43:49,820

Nevertheless, Don's family talked to him

573

00:43:49,820 --> 00:43:52,820

so he could hear every word they said.

574

00:43:52,820 --> 00:43:56,820

They prayed and searched in vain for a glimmer of response.

575

00:43:58,820 --> 00:44:02,820

Doctors offered them the option of turning off Don's life support systems.

576

00:44:02,820 --> 00:44:04,820

They refused.

577

00:44:04,820 --> 00:44:08,820

And despite the overwhelming odds, never gave up.

578

00:44:08,820 --> 00:44:12,820

They kept up the hope of survival

579

00:44:12,820 --> 00:44:15,820

even when it seemed like it would never occur.

580

00:44:15,820 --> 00:44:19,820

And lots of times when we would bring bleak news,

581

00:44:19,820 --> 00:44:23,820

they would accept it because they had to accept it.

582

00:44:23,820 --> 00:44:26,820

But you could tell that they were going to rise above that

583

00:44:26,820 --> 00:44:28,820

and somehow Donny was going to make it.

584

00:44:28,820 --> 00:44:31,820

My feeling was very positive all the time.

585

00:44:31,820 --> 00:44:34,820

I just knew that he was going to be okay.

586

00:44:34,820 --> 00:44:36,820

I just couldn't help but know that.

587

00:44:36,820 --> 00:44:42,820

After five weeks, his friend Karen Speeder and I went in to see him.

588

00:44:42,820 --> 00:44:45,820

Hi, Don. How are you doing?

589

00:44:45,820 --> 00:44:48,820

Don, Karen Speeder is here to see you.

590

00:44:51,820 --> 00:44:52,820

He nodded.

591

00:44:52,820 --> 00:44:55,820

You do know Karen Speeder, don't you, Don?

592

00:44:55,820 --> 00:44:58,820

To me, this was the breaking point.

593

00:44:58,820 --> 00:45:01,820

And I said, isn't that nice of Karen to come and see you

594

00:45:01,820 --> 00:45:03,820

and those three same short nods.

595

00:45:03,820 --> 00:45:06,820

So we knew because it was answers to questions.

596

00:45:06,820 --> 00:45:09,820

And he was nodding yes three times.

597

00:45:09,820 --> 00:45:11,820

So we knew that he was hearing us.

598

00:45:11,820 --> 00:45:14,820

By that time, of course, we'd been dealing on a day-to-day basis

599

00:45:14,820 --> 00:45:19,820

with the family and kept giving this news that was always couched with,

600

00:45:19,820 --> 00:45:23,820

well, I don't think things are still going to go well long range.

601

00:45:23,820 --> 00:45:27,820

And then all of a sudden to see just like a flower opening

602

00:45:27,820 --> 00:45:32,820

that he started to get markedly better over a period of just a day or two

603

00:45:32,820 --> 00:45:35,820

was just a great feeling all the way around.

604

00:45:37,820 --> 00:45:40,820

In four weeks, Don Hamilton made the miraculous journey

605

00:45:40,820 --> 00:45:44,820

from brain death to walking away from the hospital on crutches.

606

00:45:44,820 --> 00:45:47,820

Within six months, he threw the crutches away.

607

00:45:47,820 --> 00:45:50,820

The doctors and Don's family were united in the awesome feeling

608

00:45:50,820 --> 00:45:54,820

that they had witnessed a wonderful and mysterious event.

609

00:45:56,820 --> 00:45:59,820

This was a very memorable case.

610

00:45:59,820 --> 00:46:02,820

We loved being wrong in situations like this.

611

00:46:02,820 --> 00:46:06,820

It sort of balances the leisure, shall we say,

612

00:46:06,820 --> 00:46:10,820

a little bit for all those other ones where things don't quite go as well.

613

00:46:10,820 --> 00:46:15,820

If you believe in God, you'll call Don Hamilton's survival a miracle.

614

00:46:15,820 --> 00:46:17,820

I happen to believe in God.

615

00:46:17,820 --> 00:46:20,820

The doctors don't know why I lived,

616

00:46:20,820 --> 00:46:23,820

and I think God had a reason why I'm supposed to be here,

617

00:46:23,820 --> 00:46:25,820

and he pulled me through.

618

00:46:26,820 --> 00:46:30,820

Twenty months after his accident, Don married Donna Johnson.

619

00:46:30,820 --> 00:46:33,820

Every day, Don Hamilton feels awe.

620

00:46:33,820 --> 00:46:38,820

He no longer takes life's joys or life itself for granted.

621

00:46:49,820 --> 00:46:52,820

Next week on Unsolved Mysteries,

622

00:46:52,820 --> 00:46:55,820

in 1962, Sonny Liston was the toughest man on earth,

623

00:46:55,820 --> 00:46:57,820

the heavyweight champion of the world.

624

00:46:57,820 --> 00:46:59,820

Nine years later, he was dead.

625

00:46:59,820 --> 00:47:01,820

Police say he killed himself,

626

00:47:01,820 --> 00:47:04,820

his friends and family say Sonny Liston was murdered.

627

00:47:04,820 --> 00:47:07,820

Also the story of Sharon Stevens,

628

00:47:07,820 --> 00:47:10,820

a woman whose life has been haunted by the abuse she suffered as a child.

629

00:47:10,820 --> 00:47:13,820

But Sharon does have one happy memory,

630

00:47:13,820 --> 00:47:15,820

a couple who briefly were her foster parents

631

00:47:15,820 --> 00:47:18,820

and taught her the true meaning of the word love.

632

00:47:18,820 --> 00:47:20,820

I know that had been for them,

633

00:47:20,820 --> 00:47:25,820

I probably would have been a child abuser,

634

00:47:25,820 --> 00:47:29,820

drug addict, a prostitute,

635

00:47:29,820 --> 00:47:32,820

a very active alcoholic.

636

00:47:32,820 --> 00:47:38,820

I feel I would have turned out very bad if it hadn't been for them.

637

00:47:38,820 --> 00:47:41,820

Sharon was to reunite with his couple

638

00:47:41,820 --> 00:47:44,820

and thank them for literally saving her life.

639

00:47:44,820 --> 00:47:49,820

Join me next week for another edition of Unsolved Mysteries.

640

00:48:29,820 --> 00:48:34,820

Unsolved Mysteries

