

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:10,000

Tonight on Unsolved Mysteries.

2

00:00:10,000 --> 00:00:11,160

Come on, girl.

3

00:00:11,160 --> 00:00:13,000

We're all familiar with the incredible bond

4

00:00:13,000 --> 00:00:17,440

that exists between a dog and his master.

5

00:00:17,440 --> 00:00:19,000

But the world of medicine is beginning

6

00:00:19,000 --> 00:00:22,100

to recognize that that mysterious connection can sometimes

7

00:00:22,100 --> 00:00:25,080

defy ordinary explanations.

8

00:00:25,080 --> 00:00:27,160

Does man's best friend have the ability

9

00:00:27,160 --> 00:00:31,880

to detect life-threatening illnesses?

10

00:00:31,880 --> 00:00:34,200

One of Avesha's college freshmen without an enemy

11

00:00:34,200 --> 00:00:36,120

in the world is brutally slain.

12

00:00:36,120 --> 00:00:37,920

Her mother personally takes on the case

13

00:00:37,920 --> 00:00:39,960

to find her daughter's killer.

14

00:00:39,960 --> 00:00:41,400

Could the mother's undercover work

15

00:00:41,400 --> 00:00:44,720

of the local police department have made her 18-year-old daughter

16

00:00:44,720 --> 00:00:47,720

a target for murder?

17

00:00:47,720 --> 00:00:51,600

17 human bones are found strewn in a Kentucky stream.

18

00:00:51,600 --> 00:00:52,760

Who's are they?

19

00:00:52,760 --> 00:00:54,240

And how did they get there?

20

00:00:54,240 --> 00:00:57,360

For forensic anthropologist Dr. Emily Craig,

21

00:00:57,360 --> 00:00:59,880

solving mysteries like this has made her one of the most

22

00:00:59,880 --> 00:01:03,800

renowned experts in her field.

23

00:01:03,800 --> 00:01:05,600

When Deputy Clark Jackson decided

24

00:01:05,600 --> 00:01:08,920

to investigate a steamer trunk he found by the roadside,

25

00:01:08,920 --> 00:01:11,040

he was taken by surprise.

26

00:01:11,040 --> 00:01:13,160

He had no idea that the contents would

27

00:01:13,160 --> 00:01:17,640

lead detectives on a five-year search for a killer.

28

00:01:17,640 --> 00:01:21,160

Join me for these intriguing stories and more.

29

00:01:21,160 --> 00:01:23,360

You may be able to help solve a mystery.

30

00:01:51,160 --> 00:02:17,320

Before dawn, on crisp September morning, 18-year-old Bonnie Craig

31

00:02:17,320 --> 00:02:18,640

began her trek to school.

32

00:02:21,360 --> 00:02:24,320

Two days a week, the University of Alaska Freshman

33

00:02:24,320 --> 00:02:26,840

walked 45 minutes through the early morning darkness

34

00:02:26,840 --> 00:02:29,520

to catch the bus to campus.

35

00:02:29,520 --> 00:02:32,160

Bonnie was a diligent student who prided herself

36

00:02:32,160 --> 00:02:35,760

on arriving promptly for her 7 AM class.

37

00:02:35,760 --> 00:02:38,760

But on this day, Bonnie would never make it to school.

38

00:02:45,120 --> 00:02:48,240

Later that afternoon, another Anchorage College student

39

00:02:48,240 --> 00:02:50,600

was out shooting photographs from a hiking trail

40

00:02:50,600 --> 00:02:52,120

in a public park.

41

00:02:52,120 --> 00:02:54,280

When she made a grisly discovery,

42

00:02:54,280 --> 00:02:59,480

the lifeless body of a young woman floating in McEw Creek.

43

00:02:59,480 --> 00:03:03,400

Her remains were located at the bottom of a 33-foot cliff

44

00:03:03,400 --> 00:03:06,160

in fairly shallow water.

45

00:03:06,160 --> 00:03:08,320

It wasn't a place that you would normally

46

00:03:08,320 --> 00:03:12,360

hike along the stream to get to where she was.

47

00:03:12,360 --> 00:03:17,000

So she could have been hiking and taken a misstep somewhere

48

00:03:17,000 --> 00:03:20,560

and slipped and fallen off of the cliff.

49

00:03:21,560 --> 00:03:25,720

The following day, the victim was identified as Bonnie Craig.

50

00:03:25,720 --> 00:03:28,640

The medical examiner determined she had drowned.

51

00:03:28,640 --> 00:03:31,680

But Bonnie had also suffered severe head injuries, possibly

52

00:03:31,680 --> 00:03:34,840

resulting from a fall off a cliff.

53

00:03:34,840 --> 00:03:37,680

At the time of Bonnie's death, her mother Karen Campbell

54

00:03:37,680 --> 00:03:39,600

was on vacation in Florida.

55

00:03:39,600 --> 00:03:42,160

She rushed home when she learned the tragic news.

56

00:03:45,440 --> 00:03:48,640

They told me Bonnie had died in a hiking accident.

57

00:03:48,640 --> 00:03:52,600

And I wouldn't believe it.

58

00:03:52,600 --> 00:03:58,080

I still expected Bonnie to be coming up to me and apologizing

59

00:03:58,080 --> 00:04:00,720

and saying, I'm sorry, mom, it wasn't me.

60

00:04:07,680 --> 00:04:11,120

Viewing her daughter's body was devastating for Karen.

61

00:04:11,120 --> 00:04:14,360

However, as she took a closer look, Karen was stunned.

62

00:04:19,640 --> 00:04:23,200

This is no hiking accident.

63

00:04:23,200 --> 00:04:27,680

Her knuckles were bruised and broken.

64

00:04:27,680 --> 00:04:31,280

There were defensive wounds on her body.

65

00:04:31,280 --> 00:04:33,840

And I knew that she had been attacked.

66

00:04:36,400 --> 00:04:37,200

It was murder.

67

00:04:40,240 --> 00:04:42,520

Troubling questions had already begun to surface

68

00:04:42,520 --> 00:04:46,120

before Karen Campbell had viewed her daughter's body.

69

00:04:46,120 --> 00:04:48,680

What was Bonnie doing anywhere near McEw Creek Park

70

00:04:48,680 --> 00:04:50,400

on a school day?

71

00:04:50,400 --> 00:04:53,480

And since she didn't drive, how did Bonnie get there?

72

00:04:53,480 --> 00:04:56,880

A distance of 10 miles from where she was last seen.

73

00:04:56,880 --> 00:04:58,920

Even then, authorities were slow to conclude

74

00:04:58,920 --> 00:05:00,920

that Bonnie had been murdered.

75

00:05:00,920 --> 00:05:02,960

And what few leads investigators developed,

76

00:05:02,960 --> 00:05:05,240

they kept to themselves.

77

00:05:05,240 --> 00:05:08,280

But a frustrated Karen found an ally in television

78

00:05:08,280 --> 00:05:11,760

reporter Maria Downey.

79

00:05:11,760 --> 00:05:13,600

So you can tell me anything about cause of death,

80

00:05:13,600 --> 00:05:14,320

anything like that?

81

00:05:14,320 --> 00:05:15,200

Not at this time.

82

00:05:15,200 --> 00:05:16,480

It was really tough for the community

83

00:05:16,480 --> 00:05:19,160

to take because Bonnie was a well-liked, well-known

84

00:05:19,160 --> 00:05:20,040

young lady.

85

00:05:20,040 --> 00:05:21,360

We'll have to get an official statement.

86

00:05:21,360 --> 00:05:24,840

We talked with Karen several days after Bonnie's body was found.

87

00:05:24,840 --> 00:05:26,440

And at that time, Trouper still were not

88

00:05:26,440 --> 00:05:27,520

releasing much information.

89

00:05:30,080 --> 00:05:32,840

One piece of information Trouper's didn't release

90

00:05:32,840 --> 00:05:36,200

was a result of a sexual assault examination, which Karen

91

00:05:36,200 --> 00:05:39,520

learned of six months later.

92

00:05:39,520 --> 00:05:42,440

I had originally asked if she had been raped,

93

00:05:42,440 --> 00:05:45,600

and they told me no.

94

00:05:45,600 --> 00:05:49,920

After fighting to get information from them,

95

00:05:49,920 --> 00:05:53,000

they revealed to me that yes, Bonnie was brutally

96

00:05:53,000 --> 00:05:54,360

raped and murdered.

97

00:05:54,360 --> 00:05:56,400

The results of the autopsy show that there

98

00:05:56,400 --> 00:05:59,320

was evidence of sexual activity.

99

00:05:59,320 --> 00:06:02,560

We can't confirm whether it was a sexual assault

100

00:06:02,560 --> 00:06:04,760

or whether it was consensual sex.

101

00:06:04,760 --> 00:06:06,080

Hey, can I give you this?

102

00:06:06,080 --> 00:06:07,760

Why my daughter was recently killed over here?

103

00:06:07,760 --> 00:06:10,760

Such disputes were typical of Karen Campbell's relationship

104

00:06:10,760 --> 00:06:12,200

with police.

105

00:06:12,200 --> 00:06:14,080

Her frustrations with investigators

106

00:06:14,080 --> 00:06:17,320

soon motivated her to begin her own search for information

107

00:06:17,320 --> 00:06:19,920

about Bonnie's death.

108

00:06:19,920 --> 00:06:26,480

Everybody here in town put up signs, flyers, bumper stickers.

109

00:06:26,480 --> 00:06:30,080

We wanted to make sure that until the crime was solved,

110

00:06:30,080 --> 00:06:33,440

nobody was going to forget about it.

111

00:06:33,440 --> 00:06:37,840

Karen Campbell was no stranger to investigations or criminals.

112

00:06:37,840 --> 00:06:40,920

On several occasions, she had performed risky undercover work

113

00:06:40,960 --> 00:06:44,560

as a reserve officer with the Anchorage Police Department.

114

00:06:44,560 --> 00:06:47,440

Wearing a hood and mask to conceal her identity,

115

00:06:47,440 --> 00:06:49,520

Karen would nod silently to point out

116

00:06:49,520 --> 00:06:52,280

those who had sold her drugs.

117

00:06:52,280 --> 00:06:56,800

I was involved in what I thought was minor drug buys.

118

00:06:56,800 --> 00:07:00,760

I had gone out five or six times and bought crack

119

00:07:00,760 --> 00:07:04,200

for the Anchorage Police Department.

120

00:07:04,200 --> 00:07:06,440

Karen, you got a second?

121

00:07:06,440 --> 00:07:07,840

Sure.

122

00:07:07,840 --> 00:07:10,520

A few months into her investigation into Bonnie's death,

123

00:07:10,960 --> 00:07:12,720

Karen learned that undercover work

124

00:07:12,720 --> 00:07:17,040

might have jeopardized the lives of those closest to her.

125

00:07:17,040 --> 00:07:18,560

She was approached by an acquaintance

126

00:07:18,560 --> 00:07:21,360

who claimed to have information about Bonnie's murder.

127

00:07:21,360 --> 00:07:24,240

At his request, Karen promised to protect his identity.

128

00:07:27,240 --> 00:07:29,440

According to Karen, the man told her

129

00:07:29,440 --> 00:07:31,520

that her family had apparently been targeted

130

00:07:31,520 --> 00:07:33,800

on the orders of a local drug lord.

131

00:07:33,800 --> 00:07:35,560

After a sting she was involved in

132

00:07:35,560 --> 00:07:37,680

resulted in the arrest of several members

133

00:07:37,680 --> 00:07:39,480

of his organization.

134

00:07:39,520 --> 00:07:44,480

He told me that her murder was ordered by this drug lord

135

00:07:44,480 --> 00:07:48,440

because it was a message to the Anchorage Police Department

136

00:07:48,440 --> 00:07:49,440

to back off.

137

00:07:51,120 --> 00:07:54,240

Bonnie was murdered the day after the people

138

00:07:54,240 --> 00:08:00,240

that I identified as drug dealers were released from jail.

139

00:08:02,280 --> 00:08:04,920

Despite the precautions taken to protect her identity

140

00:08:04,920 --> 00:08:07,400

during the bus, it would not have been difficult

141

00:08:07,400 --> 00:08:09,960

for the accused to learn who had fingered them.

142

00:08:11,080 --> 00:08:14,720

Criminals always are supposed to know who their accusers are

143

00:08:14,720 --> 00:08:17,920

and so my name appears about 10 times

144

00:08:17,920 --> 00:08:20,760

in each page of the indictment.

145

00:08:20,760 --> 00:08:21,600

Right.

146

00:08:21,600 --> 00:08:22,640

Thanks for seeing me, detective.

147

00:08:22,640 --> 00:08:23,720

Thanks, have a seat.

148

00:08:23,720 --> 00:08:24,560

Thank you.

149

00:08:24,560 --> 00:08:26,520

When Karen relayed what the informant had told her

150

00:08:26,520 --> 00:08:29,000

to the lead investigator on Bonnie's murder,

151

00:08:29,000 --> 00:08:31,480

she was not satisfied with his response.

152

00:08:31,480 --> 00:08:32,320

I was about to say it's a call.

153

00:08:32,320 --> 00:08:33,760

He said this was a retribution killing

154

00:08:33,760 --> 00:08:34,840

for the undercover work I did

155

00:08:34,840 --> 00:08:36,160

with the Anchorage Police Department.

156

00:08:36,480 --> 00:08:37,600

Who's his source?

157

00:08:37,600 --> 00:08:39,720

When I gave him all the details,

158

00:08:39,720 --> 00:08:40,880

he just kept asking me,

159

00:08:40,880 --> 00:08:42,560

where are you getting this information?

160

00:08:42,560 --> 00:08:43,920

I said it was from somebody

161

00:08:43,920 --> 00:08:45,920

who did not want to be identified.

162

00:08:45,920 --> 00:08:48,520

This is not their MO, you know we're investigating this.

163

00:08:48,520 --> 00:08:49,360

Are you gonna help me here?

164

00:08:49,360 --> 00:08:50,280

Who's your source?

165

00:08:50,280 --> 00:08:52,320

I'm not gonna reveal my source to you.

166

00:08:52,320 --> 00:08:53,360

I want these leads followed.

167

00:08:53,360 --> 00:08:55,800

When I told him I wouldn't reveal my source,

168

00:08:55,800 --> 00:08:57,360

he told me well then you're hindering

169

00:08:57,360 --> 00:08:58,840

your daughter's investigation

170

00:08:58,840 --> 00:09:01,720

and I'm not gonna investigate this lead.

171

00:09:01,720 --> 00:09:04,440

And to this day, I don't know what they've done

172

00:09:04,440 --> 00:09:06,920

and probably will never know what they've done

173

00:09:06,920 --> 00:09:09,320

as far as investigating that lead.

174

00:09:09,320 --> 00:09:12,560

The fact that she feels that we may not have

175

00:09:12,560 --> 00:09:14,880

investigated thoroughly enough

176

00:09:14,880 --> 00:09:18,400

or followed up on her confidential informants lead,

177

00:09:19,320 --> 00:09:20,960

I don't believe to be true.

178

00:09:20,960 --> 00:09:22,320

We followed up all the leads

179

00:09:22,320 --> 00:09:24,760

and if she believes that we haven't,

180

00:09:24,760 --> 00:09:26,800

it might just be that we haven't filled her in

181

00:09:26,800 --> 00:09:29,000

on every single thing that we've done.

182

00:09:29,760 --> 00:09:32,000

Almost a full year after Bonnie's murder,

183

00:09:32,000 --> 00:09:33,840

the case took an unexpected turn

184

00:09:33,840 --> 00:09:35,200

when Karen was contacted

185

00:09:35,200 --> 00:09:37,600

by one of Bonnie's college instructors.

186

00:09:39,000 --> 00:09:40,320

Hello?

187

00:09:40,320 --> 00:09:42,000

Yes?

188

00:09:42,000 --> 00:09:44,600

She really felt that there was

189

00:09:44,600 --> 00:09:46,600

this one particular student

190

00:09:46,600 --> 00:09:49,000

that may have been involved in the murder.

191

00:09:49,000 --> 00:09:50,320

What kid?

192

00:09:50,320 --> 00:09:53,000

According to Karen, the instructor told her

193

00:09:53,000 --> 00:09:54,240

that her suspicions stemmed

194

00:09:54,240 --> 00:09:56,400

from reading the student's class name.

195

00:09:56,400 --> 00:09:58,360

Karen believed that her suspicions stemmed

196

00:09:58,360 --> 00:10:00,360

from reading the student's class journal

197

00:10:00,360 --> 00:10:03,360

and the references he made to the date of Bonnie's murder,

198

00:10:03,360 --> 00:10:04,800

September 28th.

199

00:10:04,800 --> 00:10:07,200

Karen believed certain entries

200

00:10:07,200 --> 00:10:09,200

in the journal could be significant.

201

00:10:10,480 --> 00:10:14,200

His journal was incredibly violent,

202

00:10:14,200 --> 00:10:15,600

filled with anger,

203

00:10:15,600 --> 00:10:17,440

and there was two incidents

204

00:10:17,440 --> 00:10:21,160

where he specifically said that September 28th

205

00:10:21,160 --> 00:10:23,360

was going to be a very tough day,

206

00:10:23,360 --> 00:10:25,560

that he was going to be put to a test.

207

00:10:27,400 --> 00:10:29,400

KNOCKING

208

00:10:29,400 --> 00:10:31,160

The instructor told Karen

209

00:10:31,160 --> 00:10:32,960

that on the day Bonnie was murdered,

210

00:10:32,960 --> 00:10:35,160

the student in question was absent.

211

00:10:35,160 --> 00:10:36,760

It was class this morning.

212

00:10:36,760 --> 00:10:39,000

I'm sorry, I just overslept.

213

00:10:39,000 --> 00:10:41,560

There was supposed to be papers handed in that day,

214

00:10:41,560 --> 00:10:44,960

and that student brought it to the teacher

215

00:10:44,960 --> 00:10:46,960

later on in the afternoon.

216

00:10:46,960 --> 00:10:48,960

You overslept the whole class?

217

00:10:48,960 --> 00:10:50,160

I'm sorry.

218

00:10:50,160 --> 00:10:53,160

He was wet like he had just gotten out of a shower,

219

00:10:53,280 --> 00:10:57,720

and she said it smelled like he had just

220

00:10:57,720 --> 00:11:00,720

poured a whole bottle of cologne on himself.

221

00:11:02,520 --> 00:11:06,800

After the murder, his journal became more peaceful.

222

00:11:06,800 --> 00:11:08,400

There wasn't the anger.

223

00:11:08,400 --> 00:11:12,000

Yet he knew that there was a student that had just died,

224

00:11:12,000 --> 00:11:15,000

and there was no references to Bonnie's murder.

225

00:11:16,400 --> 00:11:18,280

Detectives investigated the student,

226

00:11:18,280 --> 00:11:20,280

but soon ruled him out as a suspect.

227

00:11:21,280 --> 00:11:24,280

DNA evidence recovered from Bonnie at the scene

228

00:11:24,280 --> 00:11:27,280

did not match DNA evidence collected

229

00:11:27,280 --> 00:11:29,280

from the student at the college.

230

00:11:29,280 --> 00:11:32,280

I immediately told them that didn't seem right

231

00:11:32,280 --> 00:11:34,280

to rule him out because of DNA,

232

00:11:34,280 --> 00:11:36,280

because there could have been more than one person.

233

00:11:36,280 --> 00:11:39,280

If there was two people, it didn't have to be his DNA.

234

00:11:41,280 --> 00:11:43,280

Karen did some sleuthing of her own,

235

00:11:43,280 --> 00:11:45,280

and uncovered more disturbing information.

236

00:11:46,280 --> 00:11:51,280

A particular student did have an assault charge against him,

237

00:11:51,280 --> 00:11:55,280

and he had been bailed out of jail by a young man

238

00:11:55,280 --> 00:11:58,280

who had been involved in another murder.

239

00:11:58,280 --> 00:12:01,280

I found it very surprising when I saw the bail slip,

240

00:12:01,280 --> 00:12:05,280

who bailed this student, this potential suspect out of jail.

241

00:12:05,280 --> 00:12:07,280

Interaction, but I'm a team player.

242

00:12:07,280 --> 00:12:09,280

The student and several other of his friends

243

00:12:09,280 --> 00:12:12,280

were involved in a fatal shooting here several years ago.

244

00:12:13,280 --> 00:12:16,280

It doesn't sound like the type of group that

245

00:12:16,280 --> 00:12:19,280

a student who was up and up would have been involved with.

246

00:12:19,280 --> 00:12:22,280

I do believe that he could have been the murderer,

247

00:12:22,280 --> 00:12:25,280

and I'll probably never rule him out.

248

00:12:30,280 --> 00:12:32,280

Despite their disagreements,

249

00:12:32,280 --> 00:12:35,280

both Karen and investigators do agree on one thing.

250

00:12:35,280 --> 00:12:38,280

The key to this mystery might rest with Bonnie's routine.

251

00:12:39,280 --> 00:12:41,280

A young lady who was a neighbor of hers,

252

00:12:41,280 --> 00:12:43,280

who was a paper delivery type person,

253

00:12:43,280 --> 00:12:47,280

saw her around 5.20 walking down her street.

254

00:12:49,280 --> 00:12:51,280

Another gentleman who had seen Bonnie

255

00:12:51,280 --> 00:12:54,280

a couple of days prior in the area of the bus stop

256

00:12:54,280 --> 00:12:56,280

saw her again that morning,

257

00:12:56,280 --> 00:12:58,280

and that was about the last time

258

00:12:58,280 --> 00:13:01,280

that we have a confirmation of anybody who was involved.

259

00:13:01,280 --> 00:13:04,280

I think it was the first time that we saw her.

260

00:13:04,280 --> 00:13:07,280

And that was about the last time that we have a confirmation

261

00:13:07,280 --> 00:13:11,280

of anybody definitively seeing Bonnie alive

262

00:13:11,280 --> 00:13:13,280

was around 6.20 that morning.

263

00:13:15,280 --> 00:13:18,280

Could someone have been lying and wait for Bonnie Craig?

264

00:13:18,280 --> 00:13:20,280

One neighbor reported seeing an unknown car

265

00:13:20,280 --> 00:13:23,280

idling in front of Bonnie's home early that morning,

266

00:13:23,280 --> 00:13:27,280

and an anonymous caller to the police crime stoppers line

267

00:13:27,280 --> 00:13:29,280

claimed to have seen Bonnie that morning at the bus stop

268

00:13:29,280 --> 00:13:31,280

talking to two men in a vehicle.

269

00:13:35,280 --> 00:13:38,280

Karen Campbell intends to do everything she can

270

00:13:38,280 --> 00:13:41,280

to keep the investigation alive.

271

00:13:41,280 --> 00:13:44,280

Until the crime is solved,

272

00:13:44,280 --> 00:13:46,280

it just keeps going through your head

273

00:13:46,280 --> 00:13:52,280

that somebody else's child will end up murdered and raped also.

274

00:13:52,280 --> 00:13:56,280

So until this crime is solved,

275

00:13:56,280 --> 00:13:59,280

you can't give up.

276

00:14:04,280 --> 00:14:29,280

I told you before you had no right to take that money out of our account.

277

00:14:29,280 --> 00:14:33,280

A bitter argument erupts on the streets of Covington, Kentucky.

278

00:14:33,280 --> 00:14:37,280

Diane Washer and her husband Jimmy are at it again.

279

00:14:37,280 --> 00:14:43,280

A night of drinking has inflamed their already turbulent relationship.

280

00:14:43,280 --> 00:14:47,280

Diane Washer and Jimmy Washer that evening were fighting over money

281

00:14:47,280 --> 00:14:49,280

and fighting over the fact that she had just received

282

00:14:49,280 --> 00:14:53,280

a \$10,000 SSI settlement due to her bad back.

283

00:14:53,280 --> 00:14:55,280

As he approached her and they got into an argument,

284

00:14:55,280 --> 00:14:57,280

she struck him with the phone, on the pay phone,

285

00:14:57,280 --> 00:15:01,280

called 911, and by the time Covington police got there,

286

00:15:01,280 --> 00:15:05,280

Jimmy Washer had already left.

287

00:15:05,280 --> 00:15:07,280

They'd offered Diane Washer a ride.

288

00:15:07,280 --> 00:15:10,280

She refused, walked on down the street,

289

00:15:10,280 --> 00:15:14,280

and in essence they were the last ones to see her alive.

290

00:15:14,280 --> 00:15:17,280

Diane inexplicably disappears.

291

00:15:17,280 --> 00:15:21,280

The police immediately turn a suspicious eye on her husband Jimmy.

292

00:15:21,280 --> 00:15:25,280

Jimmy Washer was my number one suspect,

293

00:15:25,280 --> 00:15:29,280

primarily because he hadn't reported her missing.

294

00:15:29,280 --> 00:15:32,280

And I straight forward, feet on the floor in front of you.

295

00:15:32,280 --> 00:15:35,280

And I had asked Mr. Washer if he would consent

296

00:15:35,280 --> 00:15:38,280

to taking a polygraph in reference to his wife.

297

00:15:38,280 --> 00:15:40,280

Yes.

298

00:15:40,280 --> 00:15:42,280

Did you cause the death of Diane Washer?

299

00:15:42,280 --> 00:15:44,280

No.

300

00:15:44,280 --> 00:15:47,280

The test was ruled inconclusive.

301

00:15:47,280 --> 00:15:51,280

Some of what he was answering was truthful, some wasn't.

302

00:15:51,280 --> 00:15:54,280

There wasn't enough credibility to his answers

303

00:15:54,280 --> 00:15:58,280

to totally erase Mr. Washer as a suspect.

304

00:15:58,280 --> 00:16:02,280

The investigation into Diane's disappearance reaches a dead end.

305

00:16:02,280 --> 00:16:06,280

Her case is relegated among the many unsolved missing person cases

306

00:16:06,280 --> 00:16:10,280

on file in Kentucky's police departments.

307

00:16:10,280 --> 00:16:12,280

Three years pass.

308

00:16:12,280 --> 00:16:14,280

Outside of Covington,

309

00:16:14,280 --> 00:16:17,280

Sheriff's deputies searching for an illegal marijuana field

310

00:16:17,280 --> 00:16:20,280

make a grisly discovery.

311

00:16:20,280 --> 00:16:23,280

Looks like a skull.

312

00:16:23,280 --> 00:16:25,280

A partially crushed human skull

313

00:16:25,280 --> 00:16:29,280

and seven other bone fragments are strewn throughout the creek bend.

314

00:16:29,280 --> 00:16:31,280

Whose bones are they?

315

00:16:31,280 --> 00:16:33,280

And how did they get there?

316

00:16:33,280 --> 00:16:38,280

For the answers, the Covington police looked to Dr. Emily Craig.

317

00:16:38,280 --> 00:16:42,280

She is one of the foremost experts in forensic anthropology,

318

00:16:42,280 --> 00:16:46,280

the science of identifying even the most badly decomposed human remains.

319

00:16:46,280 --> 00:16:48,280

And here it looks like blood force trauma.

320

00:16:48,280 --> 00:16:51,280

But I'm not going to tell you until we get back to the lab.

321

00:16:51,280 --> 00:16:53,280

I'm going to take a picture of this.

322

00:16:54,280 --> 00:16:57,280

When the dead hold the key to a perplexing crime,

323

00:16:57,280 --> 00:17:01,280

Dr. Craig is often called upon to unravel the evidence.

324

00:17:01,280 --> 00:17:07,280

I was able to determine that the bones hadn't been there that long.

325

00:17:07,280 --> 00:17:12,280

The end of the long bone still had some remnants of soft tissue

326

00:17:12,280 --> 00:17:15,280

and the bones had kind of a greasy feel,

327

00:17:15,280 --> 00:17:20,280

which indicates the post-mortem interval really hasn't been that many years.

328

00:17:20,280 --> 00:17:25,280

And my initial estimate of the time since death was between 12 and 36 months.

329

00:17:25,280 --> 00:17:27,280

There's another one, there's another one.

330

00:17:27,280 --> 00:17:29,280

Oh look, there's bones all over the place.

331

00:17:29,280 --> 00:17:32,280

Once I got a good grasp of the crime scene

332

00:17:32,280 --> 00:17:35,280

and could see what a complex problem we had,

333

00:17:35,280 --> 00:17:38,280

we decided to set up an additional search

334

00:17:38,280 --> 00:17:41,280

and recruit anthropology students from the area.

335

00:17:41,280 --> 00:17:43,280

Let's get some more over here on this side too.

336

00:17:43,280 --> 00:17:46,280

We did a line search of the area.

337

00:17:46,280 --> 00:17:50,280

We started on where the bones had been found and basically worked upstream.

338

00:17:50,280 --> 00:17:52,280

Yeah, it's a jaw frag but it's non-human.

339

00:17:52,280 --> 00:17:54,280

Come on folks. Good eye though.

340

00:17:54,280 --> 00:17:57,280

Complicating Dr. Craig's effort was that the search area

341

00:17:57,280 --> 00:18:00,280

was where the county dumped its roadkill.

342

00:18:00,280 --> 00:18:03,280

The stream was littered with a bones of dozens of animals.

343

00:18:03,280 --> 00:18:09,280

Still the search team was able to distinguish a total of 17 human bones among them.

344

00:18:09,280 --> 00:18:10,280

Got it?

345

00:18:10,280 --> 00:18:11,280

Got it.

346

00:18:11,280 --> 00:18:13,280

Once we got all the evidence back to the lab,

347

00:18:13,280 --> 00:18:17,280

then we were able to get a better biological profile of the victim.

348

00:18:17,280 --> 00:18:22,280

The sex, she was female, the race, she was white.

349

00:18:22,280 --> 00:18:25,280

I was able to get a good estimate of her height,

350

00:18:25,280 --> 00:18:27,280

just a little over five feet tall.

351

00:18:27,280 --> 00:18:30,280

And I also was able to determine from the bones of the skull

352

00:18:30,280 --> 00:18:35,280

that she had sustained massive head trauma at the time of death.

353

00:18:37,280 --> 00:18:40,280

There was one particular bone that was intriguing

354

00:18:40,280 --> 00:18:43,280

and that was a bone from her lower back.

355

00:18:43,280 --> 00:18:48,280

This particular bone showed a lot more arthritis,

356

00:18:48,280 --> 00:18:54,280

some bony lipping and changes that were just not consistent with the rest of the skeleton.

357

00:18:54,280 --> 00:19:00,280

So I was able to offer an opinion that this individual suffered from back pain.

358

00:19:01,280 --> 00:19:03,280

From their missing persons files,

359

00:19:03,280 --> 00:19:07,280

police found a match for the profile Dr. Craig had assembled.

360

00:19:07,280 --> 00:19:12,280

It was Diane Washer, a Covington woman who disappeared three years earlier.

361

00:19:12,280 --> 00:19:16,280

Her medical records indicated that shortly before she vanished,

362

00:19:16,280 --> 00:19:19,280

she injured her back in a traffic collision.

363

00:19:19,280 --> 00:19:24,280

When they called me and said they found the remains of my mom,

364

00:19:24,280 --> 00:19:26,280

I totally went into shock.

365

00:19:26,280 --> 00:19:31,280

I mean, I kind of knew she was dead by that point.

366

00:19:31,280 --> 00:19:34,280

But like I said, I carried on hope.

367

00:19:34,280 --> 00:19:39,280

It did give me some sort of relief to know that my mother was dead

368

00:19:39,280 --> 00:19:42,280

and being able to bury her was great.

369

00:19:42,280 --> 00:19:44,280

It did help a lot.

370

00:19:45,280 --> 00:19:49,280

Dr. Craig's findings sparked new public awareness of Diane's case.

371

00:19:49,280 --> 00:19:53,280

As police hoped, an informant stepped forward.

372

00:19:53,280 --> 00:19:59,280

But to their surprise, he did not finger their prime suspect, Diane's husband, Jimmy.

373

00:19:59,280 --> 00:20:05,280

Instead, he said a local house painter, Larry Freeman, was responsible for Diane's death.

374

00:20:05,280 --> 00:20:07,280

This is Diane Washer right here.

375

00:20:07,280 --> 00:20:11,280

When police brought in Larry Freeman for questioning, he confessed.

376

00:20:11,280 --> 00:20:16,280

He said he and Diane had gotten drunk together, then went joyriding.

377

00:20:16,280 --> 00:20:22,280

While driving, he lost control of his car, and Diane was ejected from the passenger's door.

378

00:20:23,280 --> 00:20:26,280

When the vehicle finally came to a stop, he ran back to her,

379

00:20:26,280 --> 00:20:30,280

solid her hair was blood-soaked, and realized he had probably killed her.

380

00:20:30,280 --> 00:20:34,280

It was at that point that he took her down to an area where he was raised,

381

00:20:34,280 --> 00:20:37,280

where he felt comfortable, and threw her into the creek.

382

00:20:39,280 --> 00:20:44,280

Larry Freeman was convicted of manslaughter and is now serving a 20-year sentence.

383

00:20:44,280 --> 00:20:47,280

The mystery is one of hundreds Dr. Craig has helped solve.

384

00:20:47,280 --> 00:20:52,280

But despite her expertise, other cases remain too difficult to crack.

385

00:20:52,280 --> 00:20:58,280

Perhaps you can help Dr. Craig piece together one of the most perplexing of her career.

386

00:21:01,280 --> 00:21:06,280

It began when two teenagers were returning from exploring caves in Baron County, Kentucky.

387

00:21:10,280 --> 00:21:15,280

In the debris of a roadside dump, they discovered fragments of a human skeleton.

388

00:21:15,280 --> 00:21:19,280

The county coroner called Dr. Craig to the scene.

389

00:21:23,280 --> 00:21:29,280

At this scene, basically all we had when we first started was a pair of red jeans

390

00:21:29,280 --> 00:21:32,280

with the human leg bones still inside.

391

00:21:32,280 --> 00:21:34,280

Okay, here's a fibula.

392

00:21:37,280 --> 00:21:41,280

I see another arm bone and a shin bone.

393

00:21:42,280 --> 00:21:45,280

Dr. Craig, I think I found the skull.

394

00:21:45,280 --> 00:21:50,280

Ultimately, we were able to recover almost the entire skeleton.

395

00:21:50,280 --> 00:21:54,280

The skull is the best indicator of race and sex.

396

00:21:54,280 --> 00:22:00,280

You look at the brow ridge, you look at the nose, you look at the chin, the cheeks, just the general shape.

397

00:22:00,280 --> 00:22:07,280

Dr. Craig's analysis of the skull would later determine that the victim was a white female in her early 40s.

398

00:22:08,280 --> 00:22:13,280

And cut marks on one of the bones indicated she may have been stabbed to death.

399

00:22:14,280 --> 00:22:16,280

Okay, well let's start collecting this.

400

00:22:16,280 --> 00:22:17,280

Got a bag for me?

401

00:22:17,280 --> 00:22:18,280

Sure.

402

00:22:18,280 --> 00:22:22,280

Left tennis shoe or a sneaker, whatever you want to call it.

403

00:22:23,280 --> 00:22:28,280

And that red stuff, you know, it looks like a denim, red jeans.

404

00:22:28,280 --> 00:22:32,280

Dr. Craig hoped that the victim's clothes would yield additional clues.

405

00:22:33,280 --> 00:22:39,280

She hoped they might match the clothes indicated in one of the local police's missing persons files.

406

00:22:41,280 --> 00:22:46,280

When I got these remains back to the lab, I was able to do a very detailed study

407

00:22:46,280 --> 00:22:52,280

and within a very short time I found a file that almost exactly matched.

408

00:22:53,280 --> 00:23:05,280

Age, race, sex, height, time since death were indicative, but absolutely positive were the fact that this victim was wearing red jeans,

409

00:23:05,280 --> 00:23:08,280

white tennis shoes and a buttoned down blouse.

410

00:23:09,280 --> 00:23:12,280

The file was out of 42-year-old Nancy Dattiesman.

411

00:23:13,280 --> 00:23:18,280

Before she disappeared, she had lost custody of her five children in a bitter divorce.

412

00:23:18,280 --> 00:23:22,280

Heartbroken, she had come to Kentucky seeking a fresh start.

413

00:23:23,280 --> 00:23:29,280

Nancy had vanished on a September night two years earlier after her car had broken down in bowling green Kentucky.

414

00:23:30,280 --> 00:23:38,280

She was planning on traveling I-65 North to meet a male friend of hers in the Inapotos, Indiana area.

415

00:23:39,280 --> 00:23:42,280

We did a lot of background check on this individual.

416

00:23:42,280 --> 00:23:50,280

We was able to verify that it was not possible that he would be a suspect as far as this case is concerned.

417

00:23:51,280 --> 00:23:56,280

The hillside where Nancy's remains were found was 30 miles from where she was last seen.

418

00:23:57,280 --> 00:24:06,280

The Barron County authorities have no suspects, but believe only someone familiar with this area of Kentucky would choose to place her body there.

419

00:24:07,280 --> 00:24:12,280

Identifying the victim is the first step in solving the crime.

420

00:24:12,280 --> 00:24:16,280

We've done this first step. Now we have to find out who did it.

421

00:24:36,280 --> 00:24:49,160

The

422

00:24:49,160 --> 00:24:56,160

Dogs have been domesticated for thousands of years and man continues to rely on our canine companion sense of smell.

423

00:24:57,160 --> 00:25:05,160

Whether finding someone who's lost, tracking a fugitive or sniffing out explosives, the strength and accuracy of a dog's nose is legendary.

424

00:25:06,280 --> 00:25:18,280

If you were to take a gigantic football stadium that NFL teams play in and fill the entire stadium with yellow tennis balls and had one white tennis ball, they can smell the one white tennis ball in an entire stadium.

425

00:25:21,280 --> 00:25:27,280

Using this powerful sense of smell, is it possible a dog could actually diagnose light-threatening illnesses?

426

00:25:28,280 --> 00:25:31,280

Could these family pets possess hidden medical talents?

427

00:25:31,280 --> 00:25:40,280

You're about to meet two incredible dogs whose owners offer persuasive evidence that man's best friend may be able to save lives in mysterious ways.

428

00:25:43,280 --> 00:25:45,280

Hey, got your latte working right now?

429

00:25:46,280 --> 00:25:54,280

Nancy Best seemed to have it all. In addition to being the mother of three children, Nancy ran a thriving coffee business in Garberville, California.

430

00:25:55,280 --> 00:25:58,280

In fact, business was going so well she had recently opened a new shop.

431

00:25:59,280 --> 00:26:01,280

Blueberry muffin and coffee.

432

00:26:03,280 --> 00:26:11,280

Despite Nancy's hectic lifestyle, her beloved dog Mia was never far from her side. She'd acquired the yellow lab as a puppy.

433

00:26:12,280 --> 00:26:25,280

The friend of mine saw the dogs and called me and Mia was the first dog that ran up to me. At the time I didn't know if I wanted a boy or a girl until she came up to me and I fell in love with her instantly.

434

00:26:26,280 --> 00:26:27,280

Yes, and you were such a good dog.

435

00:26:28,280 --> 00:26:30,280

Nancy's mornings were spent running the coffee house.

436

00:26:31,280 --> 00:26:32,280

You helped mommy. Oh, thank you.

437

00:26:34,280 --> 00:26:39,280

But about one o'clock each afternoon, Nancy set aside an hour just for herself and Mia.

438

00:26:40,280 --> 00:26:48,280

I would drive home and lie on the couch and take a nap before I'd have to pick up my daughter from school so I can recharge my batteries for the rest of the day.

439

00:26:50,280 --> 00:26:54,280

Then one afternoon, out of the blue, Mia began acting strangely.

440

00:26:55,280 --> 00:27:06,280

She came up and started sniffing and licking at my breast and because she was eight months pregnant, I thought maybe she was kind of wiggling out or maybe she smelled food from the Java joint.

441

00:27:08,280 --> 00:27:11,280

So I didn't pay any attention to it. I just went and told her to lay down.

442

00:27:12,280 --> 00:27:27,280

But Mia was persistent. The following evening, as Nancy was struggling to fall asleep, Mia began tugging at the bed covers.

443

00:27:28,280 --> 00:27:35,280

She started biting my shirt away like a dog bites fleas, little tiny nibbles and was trying to pull my shirt away from my body.

444

00:27:36,280 --> 00:27:37,280

Enough, enough.

445

00:27:38,280 --> 00:27:40,280

I was starting to get upset with her.

446

00:27:41,280 --> 00:27:42,280

Out.

447

00:27:43,280 --> 00:27:46,280

Desperate for her much needed sleep, Nancy banished Mia to the backyard.

448

00:27:52,280 --> 00:27:56,280

The following day, during Nancy's afternoon break, Mia repeated the same behavior.

449

00:27:57,280 --> 00:28:00,280

But this time, Nancy finally received Mia's apparent message.

450

00:28:01,280 --> 00:28:10,280

Mia jumped up on my lap while I was sitting up and dove her nose into my chest and the force of the pressure of her nose made me rub it because it hurt.

451

00:28:11,280 --> 00:28:13,280

And when I rubbed it, it was when I felt the lump.

452

00:28:14,280 --> 00:28:17,280

Nancy was stunned to discover a lump in one of her breasts.

453

00:28:18,280 --> 00:28:23,280

I had had a negative breast exam by a physician just four months prior.

454

00:28:24,280 --> 00:28:25,280

There was no cancer in my family.

455

00:28:25,280 --> 00:28:28,280

I was 39, not old enough for a routine mammogram.

456

00:28:29,280 --> 00:28:34,280

So I was thinking this couldn't be cancer, but the lump felt very odd. It was quite large.

457

00:28:39,280 --> 00:28:43,280

Medical tests showed Nancy had what appeared to be a cancerous tumor in her breast.

458

00:28:44,280 --> 00:28:47,280

A subsequent lumpectomy confirmed her worst fears.

459

00:28:48,280 --> 00:28:53,280

Nancy had been stricken with a stage 2 invasive ductal carcinoma, an aggressive form of breast cancer.

460

00:28:56,280 --> 00:29:02,280

In the midst of her health concerns, Nancy couldn't help thinking about Mia's unusual recent behavior.

461

00:29:06,280 --> 00:29:09,280

I had remembered the days prior where she was sniffing and licking at the spot.

462

00:29:10,280 --> 00:29:13,280

It was like she was anxious to come in and say, you know, would you listen to me?

463

00:29:14,280 --> 00:29:19,280

When I first heard about Nancy Best's case, I talked to an oncologist at the Mayo Clinic about that.

464

00:29:19,280 --> 00:29:24,280

And one of the things that we surmised there was that there was a certain smell that was being secreted.

465

00:29:25,280 --> 00:29:27,280

The type of tumor that she had in her breast may have had a certain kind of an odor.

466

00:29:28,280 --> 00:29:30,280

You have to remember this kind of breed of dog is actually used for hunting.

467

00:29:31,280 --> 00:29:32,280

You know, they have a very sensitive nose.

468

00:29:36,280 --> 00:29:37,280

Come on girl.

469

00:29:38,280 --> 00:29:43,280

Nancy underwent a partial mastectomy. Months of chemotherapy and radiation therapy followed.

470

00:29:44,280 --> 00:29:45,280

She has been cancer free since 2000.

471

00:29:46,280 --> 00:29:53,280

The doctor believes that had this cancer not been detected at this time, within six months it could have entered my lymph nodes and I would have died.

472

00:29:55,280 --> 00:30:01,280

Needless to say, the experiences forge an even stronger bond between Nancy and her remarkable dog, Mia.

473

00:30:03,280 --> 00:30:09,280

I'm not the kind of person that believes in flying saucers, but I do believe that miracles happen and things happen for a reason.

474

00:30:10,280 --> 00:30:12,280

And there was a reason that I got Mia.

475

00:30:13,280 --> 00:30:14,280

There was a reason she became part of my life.

476

00:30:15,280 --> 00:30:18,280

And I believe that because of her I'm alive today.

477

00:30:19,280 --> 00:30:20,280

And I love her.

478

00:30:21,280 --> 00:30:22,280

She's my sweet girl.

479

00:30:28,280 --> 00:30:36,280

If it's possible for a dog to sniff out an early cancer diagnosis, are there other unexplainable and even more profound life-saving powers a pet can offer its master?

480

00:30:37,280 --> 00:30:44,280

Darlene Wormeyer of Spokane, Washington believes her dog, Shadow, is the most vital prescription she's ever received.

481

00:30:46,280 --> 00:30:51,280

He was the best medicine that I could have ever taken.

482

00:30:52,280 --> 00:30:55,280

If it was in a pill form he'd be a miracle drug.

483

00:30:57,280 --> 00:31:03,280

In 1991, Darlene was diagnosed with diabetes, which triggered a series of medical setbacks.

484

00:31:04,280 --> 00:31:09,280

While recovering from subsequent open heart surgery, Darlene suffered a stroke.

485

00:31:10,280 --> 00:31:12,280

For a time she lost her ability to speak.

486

00:31:18,280 --> 00:31:22,280

By 2001 she had recovered her speech, but struggled with an awkward stutter.

487

00:31:23,280 --> 00:31:28,280

While attending a family reunion, the anxiety of being in a crowd made that stutter even worse.

488

00:31:29,280 --> 00:31:32,280

I was so nervous I couldn't talk again.

489

00:31:33,280 --> 00:31:38,280

And this little schnauzer named Maggie came up to me and started licking my hand.

490

00:31:39,280 --> 00:31:41,280

I started petting her, she got in my lap.

491

00:31:44,280 --> 00:31:52,280

And I noticed as long as I sat and started petting her, I could talk so much easier.

492

00:31:53,280 --> 00:31:54,280

It was phenomenal.

493

00:31:54,280 --> 00:32:00,280

So phenomenal that as soon as she returned home, Darlene scheduled an appointment with her neurologist.

494

00:32:01,280 --> 00:32:07,280

He's like, yeah, I know about dogs. I know how they can help.

495

00:32:08,280 --> 00:32:10,280

There's been lots of studies done.

496

00:32:11,280 --> 00:32:15,280

So he wrote a written prescription for a dog.

497

00:32:16,280 --> 00:32:23,280

So on doctors' orders, Darlene adopted a schnauzer of her own and shadow became a member of her family.

498

00:32:24,280 --> 00:32:27,280

Come on, come on boy, come on shadow.

499

00:32:28,280 --> 00:32:36,280

The bond between Darlene and shadow quickly grew and while petting shadow, Darlene's speech significantly improved to the amazement of her doctor.

500

00:32:38,280 --> 00:32:43,280

We don't fully understand why dogs have such an effect on people.

501

00:32:43,280 --> 00:32:50,280

But in Darlene's case, she felt very calmed by the dog.

502

00:32:51,280 --> 00:33:01,280

Perhaps, you know, paying attention to the animal petting and the sensory effects of that could be

actually just putting her more into a meditative trance.

503

00:33:06,280 --> 00:33:11,280

A short time after adopting shadow, Darlene learned what an extraordinary animal he was.

504

00:33:14,280 --> 00:33:18,280

As Christmas neared, Darlene spent hours baking holiday cookies.

505

00:33:18,280 --> 00:33:20,280

Shadow, look what a cookie.

506

00:33:20,280 --> 00:33:22,280

Oh, look what I got for shadow.

507

00:33:23,280 --> 00:33:29,280

When a wave of exhaustion hit her, she knew she needed to get off her feet. Darlene quickly dozed off.

508

00:33:31,280 --> 00:33:36,280

But shadow was alarmed by something and would not allow Darlene to sleep.

509

00:33:38,280 --> 00:33:42,280

He starts pying at me. He wouldn't leave me alone.

510

00:33:42,280 --> 00:33:45,280

I sat up in the room just spun.

511

00:33:48,280 --> 00:33:52,280

On certain why shadow was upset, Darlene checked the glucose level of her blood.

512

00:33:54,280 --> 00:33:56,280

It was dangerously low.

513

00:33:57,280 --> 00:34:03,280

If a diabetic's blood sugar level falls too low, it can trigger unconsciousness or even a coma.

514

00:34:04,280 --> 00:34:11,280

Darlene's ever-present canine companion had somehow diagnosed her medical dilemma before Darlene was even aware of it.

515

00:34:11,280 --> 00:34:15,280

And he continues to provide her with medical alerts to this day.

516

00:34:17,280 --> 00:34:28,280

Shadow has helped Darlene in many different ways, not only in her safety as far as being able to detect the low blood sugar, but also just in her general life.

517

00:34:29,280 --> 00:34:36,280

Darlene now is able to walk without a cane. She's able to function and do the things that she wants to do on a daily basis.

518

00:34:38,280 --> 00:34:43,280

The lives of Darlene Wormeyer and Nancy Best were saved by the mysterious powers of their dogs.

519

00:34:45,280 --> 00:34:50,280

The ability of these dogs to detect a seizure or detect cancer, it's probably equal parts.

520

00:34:51,280 --> 00:34:59,280

Their incredible sense of smell, their incredible ability to read body language, and then kind of what I call not just a sixth sense, but a sixth sense.

521

00:34:59,280 --> 00:35:06,280

And that's that ability to know when something's just not quite right and then the ability to draw near to help them.

522

00:35:09,280 --> 00:35:16,280

We shouldn't be so amazed that pets are able to do this. We should be amazed on the amount that we don't know that they're able to do.

523

00:35:21,280 --> 00:35:33,280

An off-duty park ranger was heading out of Harper's Ferry Historic Park in Virginia at about 11 p.m. when something caught her eye.

524

00:35:33,280 --> 00:35:44,280

Near the trash bin was a large steamer trunk. Alone and without a radio, she decided to postpone investigating until she returned to work the next morning.

525

00:35:45,280 --> 00:35:53,280

It would be hours later when Deputy Clark Jackson was making his rounds through the National Park that the contents of the trunk would be revealed.

526

00:35:54,280 --> 00:36:02,280

I saw the black trunk just sitting right there, right past the barricade. And that's when I got out, underneath the barricade.

527

00:36:04,280 --> 00:36:07,280

I nudged it with my foot and noticed it was very heavy.

528

00:36:15,280 --> 00:36:24,280

I lifted the top of the trunk off and there was a duffel bag in it. So I unzipped the duffel bag and there was another duffel bag in it.

529

00:36:24,280 --> 00:36:30,280

And it was a fleeting moment in the back of my mind where I said, boy, it'd be strange if there was a body in this bag.

530

00:36:31,280 --> 00:36:45,280

And I unzipped the second duffel bag and there was a body in the second duffel bag. I couldn't believe I found a body.

531

00:36:50,280 --> 00:36:53,280

Officer Jackson immediately called for backup.

532

00:36:53,280 --> 00:36:59,280

I turned my alley lights on and take down lights on just to give me a little more light.

533

00:37:00,280 --> 00:37:07,280

I didn't know if someone was watching me in the woods. It made me feel a little bit more comfortable having some security with those lights.

534

00:37:10,280 --> 00:37:14,280

Over the next several hours, authorities conducted a complete search of the area.

535

00:37:15,280 --> 00:37:21,280

Prime scene specialists photographed the site including the body of an elderly man inside the trunk.

536

00:37:24,280 --> 00:37:30,280

Detectives were called in to investigate. A quest to identify the body began.

537

00:37:30,280 --> 00:37:32,280

Now you were the first on scene to discover the trunk?

538

00:37:32,280 --> 00:37:33,280

Yes, sir.

539

00:37:34,280 --> 00:37:39,280

The trunk, with its human remains, was wrapped and taken to the coroner's office.

540

00:37:40,280 --> 00:37:46,280

Male Caucasian, late 60s and 70s, found at the Potomac Wayside Overland.

541

00:37:47,280 --> 00:38:02,280

When he was taken to the morgue and removed the position he was in, his knees were up against his chest and he was folded into the duffel bag placed into this trunk, which is only 31 inches long and 15, 15 and a half inches high.

542

00:38:02,280 --> 00:38:04,280

This is a steamer trunk.

543

00:38:04,280 --> 00:38:07,280

Well, it appears that he's been dead about two to three days.

544

00:38:09,280 --> 00:38:15,280

Right. And comes from a long-term care situation, it seems.

545

00:38:15,280 --> 00:38:16,280

How can you do that?

546

00:38:16,280 --> 00:38:23,280

Well, he's found in the pajama tops and no bottoms. They do that to make it easier to remove the bedpans and take care of them.

547

00:38:23,280 --> 00:38:31,280

He appeared to be tremendously underweight. Turned out he did weigh 111 pounds and was 5'7".

548

00:38:32,280 --> 00:38:41,280

Very scrawny, stubble beard, somewhat unkempt and emaciated looking.

549

00:38:42,280 --> 00:38:50,280

The coroner would soon discover large doses of a tranquilizer in the man's system and that he died from strangulation.

550

00:38:52,280 --> 00:38:56,280

Who was the elderly man found in the steamer trunk? And who killed him?

551

00:38:57,280 --> 00:39:01,280

These key questions are mystified detectives for more than five years.

552

00:39:01,280 --> 00:39:10,280

According to experts, it is possible a man is one of thousands of elderly victims whose murders go undetected and whose killers go unpunished every year.

553

00:39:10,280 --> 00:39:17,280

The reason? The offenders are relatives, care providers or even their own children.

554

00:39:18,280 --> 00:39:27,280

When people get to a certain age, they are expected to die and those deaths do not raise any eyebrows.

555

00:39:27,280 --> 00:39:36,280

The senior population is a fastest growing sector in the nation. As they become infirm, they are often cared for in nursing facilities or by relatives.

556

00:39:36,280 --> 00:39:43,280

America's top authority on abuse of the aged believes over 3,000 elderly people are murdered every year.

557

00:39:44,280 --> 00:39:47,280

Perhaps this is the case with the man in the trunk.

558

00:39:47,280 --> 00:39:56,280

Because he was generally unkempt and appearing to be uncared for relief of burden homicide, maybe applicable here.

559

00:39:56,280 --> 00:40:02,280

That is, someone simply got tired of caring for the man and decided it was time for him to die.

560

00:40:02,280 --> 00:40:19,280

The second category that might be involved here is murder for profit, where someone has gained control of him, really doesn't care about him because obviously he was not well cared for,

561

00:40:19,280 --> 00:40:30,280

but was simply keeping him around for a while to make sure that they had gained absolute control of all of the assets, financial assets that could be gotten control of.

562

00:40:33,280 --> 00:40:41,280

Detectives speculated as to the motive behind leaving the trunk in the open, near the trash can.

563

00:40:44,280 --> 00:40:51,280

That man was put out near a trash dump or where trash was thrown away.

564

00:40:51,280 --> 00:41:06,280

So it might well be that the offender in this particular case thought that he might, the man in the trunk, might simply be picked up by a trash truck and taken to a landfill.

565

00:41:06,280 --> 00:41:13,280

Unlike the victim in the trunk, most murders of the elderly are disguised as a death by natural cause.

566

00:41:13,280 --> 00:41:18,280

Authorities aren't as likely to be aware of foul play unless an autopsy is conducted.

567

00:41:19,280 --> 00:41:33,280

One percent or less of elder deaths are subjected to a post-mortem examination, absent bullet holes, knife wounds, griding, obvious signs of trauma.

568

00:41:33,280 --> 00:41:38,280

Those cases are immediately concluded to be natural deaths.

569

00:41:38,280 --> 00:41:43,280

So there are very, very few post-mortem examinations conducted over the elderly.

570

00:41:43,280 --> 00:41:53,280

In the case of John Doe, detectives hoped an autopsy would lead not only to clues about how the victim died, but more importantly to who he may be.

571

00:41:53,280 --> 00:42:01,280

The hardest part of this investigation has been getting him identified and we're stymied.

572

00:42:01,280 --> 00:42:06,280

The whole rest of the investigation is stymied because we cannot get him identified.

573

00:42:07,280 --> 00:42:14,280

Identifying the victim could lead police to his killer, so the body became their key piece of evidence.

574

00:42:14,280 --> 00:42:18,280

His dental records have been entered into the National Crime Information Computer.

575

00:42:18,280 --> 00:42:22,280

His fingerprints were taken and we have them.

576

00:42:22,280 --> 00:42:27,280

The manual search by the FBI yielded negative results.

577

00:42:28,280 --> 00:42:38,280

At one point, detectives were hopeful they could name the man by tracking the serial number found on a micro valve implanted in his heart during a previous surgery.

578

00:42:38,280 --> 00:42:47,280

The micro valve flexible ring came with a little 3x5 card for the physicians to fill out.

579

00:42:47,280 --> 00:42:50,280

The serial number was on the card.

580

00:42:50,280 --> 00:42:56,280

Once they used it, they were supposed to send the cards back in as a way of tracking.

581

00:42:56,280 --> 00:43:02,280

Unfortunately, not all physicians returned the cards and no match could be found.

582

00:43:02,280 --> 00:43:11,280

Because detectives efforts have been stalled, the ambassador showed you the only photo available of the victim, one taken during his autopsy.

583

00:43:11,280 --> 00:43:19,280

Although difficult to view, it is considered by authorities to be their best hope for a positive identification.

584

00:43:19,280 --> 00:43:24,280

This photo was taken of the deceased in the coroner's lab.

585

00:43:24,280 --> 00:43:29,280

The FBI also commissioned this computer enhanced picture of the victim.

586

00:43:29,280 --> 00:43:33,280

Officials hope they will spark someone's memory.

587

00:43:33,280 --> 00:43:44,280

The most bothersome part of the case is that someone has for the last five years got away with this so far and that they could do it again.

588

00:43:44,280 --> 00:43:53,280

The hardest thing about this, I suppose then, is that it's really typical of what is occurring in too many areas of the country.

589

00:43:53,280 --> 00:44:02,280

And that is that even our elderly have become a throwaway item in our society.

590

00:44:44,280 --> 00:44:49,280

The case is still in the hands of the victims.

591

00:44:49,280 --> 00:44:54,280

The case is still in the hands of the victims.

592

00:44:54,280 --> 00:44:59,280

The victims are still in the hands of the victims.

593

00:44:59,280 --> 00:45:04,280

The victims are still in the hands of the victims.

594

00:45:04,280 --> 00:45:09,280

The victims are still in the hands of the victims.

595

00:45:09,280 --> 00:45:14,280

The victims are still in the hands of the victims.

596

00:45:14,280 --> 00:45:19,280

The victims are still in the hands of the victims.