

IFS Online Circle Month 6

Trauma Behind the Rage

Segment 5

Pamela: Now we'll watch Tom actually witness these parts.

Tom: When they brought my brother back, I was at Camp Hilton and I flew back to Illinois for his funeral. I remember, for three days, I stood at the head of his casket, had a tension in my dress blues and I didn't move.

What I thought about over the years is that I was marine and not a brother or a son and then I wasn't much help to my parents at that time and I'm very sorry for that. Now it's too late to tell them that I have realized that.

At the cemetery, when they played taps, I cried so hard inside that no tears came out. Riding back to the house, my grandmother had said, "I wonder if he had felt any pain." I just remember my mother screaming and all I wanted to do was just rip my uniforms off and run.

Dick: Yeah.

Tom: This is just a very short segment with Tom just beginning to witness this part and what was happening for it. You'll see that Dick was very quiet during this and very respectful. It was really more about Tom and his relationship with his own part rather than Dick becoming involved or asking a lot of questions.