What do you think I fought for at Omaha Beach?

For TTBB choir 7 min

Melissa Dunphy

Good morning, committee. My name is Phillip Spooner and I live at 5 Graham Street in Biddeford. I am 86 years old and a lifetime Republican and an active VFW chaplain ... I was born on a potato farm north of Caribou and Perham, where I was raised to believe that all men are created equal and I've never forgotten that.

I served in the U.S. Army, 1942-1945 ... I worked with every outfit over there, including Patton's Third Army. I saw action in all five major battles in Europe ... I was in the liberation of Paris.

(I have seen much, so much blood and guts, so much suffering, much sacrifice.)

I am here today because of a conversation I had last June when I was voting. A woman ... asked me, "Do you believe in equality for gay and lesbian people?" I was pretty surprised to be asked a question like that. It made no sense to me. Finally I asked her, "What do you think I fought for at Omaha Beach?"

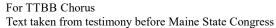
For freedom and equality. These are the values that give America a great nation, one worth dying for.

My wife and I did not raise four sons with the idea that our gay child would be left out. We raised them all to be hard-working, proud, and loyal Americans and they all did good.

-- Public testimony given before the Maine Senate by Phillip Spooner in a hearing to discuss the Marriage Equality Bill on April 22, 2009. Nearly 4,000 people attended the hearing, with marriage equality supporters out-numbering the opposition 4 to 1.

On November 2, 2009, Maine voters repealed the bill that allowed same-sex couples the right to marry.

What do you think I fought for at Omaha Beach?



by Philip Spooner



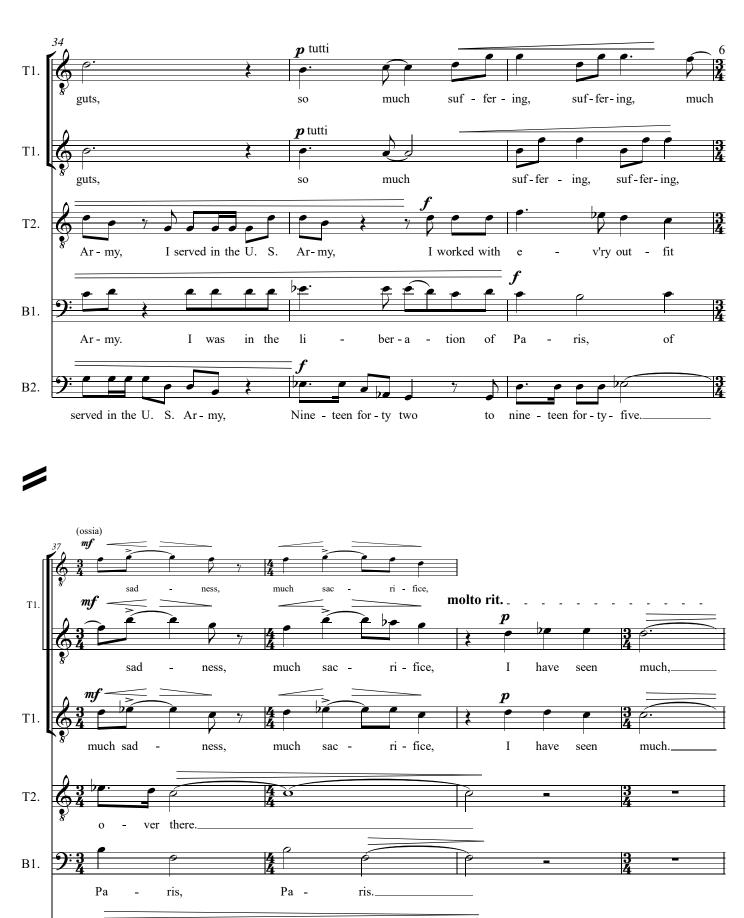


www.mormolyke.com





www.mormolyke.com



B2. 9:20 4:3 - 3 - 4



www.mormolyke.com



www.mormolyke.com



















www.mormolyke.com