When I asked what she meant, she said, "Well, it is not like I can look at my neighbor and say: you, your ancestor enslaved my ancestor, and so it is your fault. We are all the same, so it is nobody's fault. I didn't know her too well but I couldn't help saying, "You know, that isn't really what racism is about in America. It is a part of it, but it's not like my ancestors enslaved your ancestors, so..." Brokaw wrote several books on American history and culture, including The Greatest Generation (1998), Boom!: Voices of the Sixties (2007), The Time of Our Lives: A Conversation About America (2011), and The Fall of Richard Nixon: A Reporter Remembers Watergate (2019). A Long Way from Home: Growing Up in the American Heartland (2002) and A Lucky Life Interrupted: A Memoir of Hope (2015) documented, respectively, his childhood and his battle with cancer. Get a Britannica Premium subscription and gain access to exclusive content. Subscribe Now.