

Unsolved Iowa Murders Defy All Probe Efforts

By PAT CURRAN

DES MOINES (AP) — The stabbed body of a Guthrie Center matron is found stuffed in the trunk of her car. . . . A high school girl disappears after an Easter shopping trip and is found knifed to death nearly three days later. . . .

A middle-aged woman is found beaten to death in a house where a small fire is starting to burn. . . .

A town marshal is gunned down as he interrupts two safe crackers inside a packing plant. . . .

The remains of a teen-age girl are found near a lover's lane more than two months after she vanishes. . . .

These are among Iowa's unsolved murders which have defied the investigative efforts of experts. . . .

There is no statute of limitations on murder. . . .

"We never close a murder case until it has been solved," said T. A. Thompson, chief of the Iowa Bureau of Criminal Investigation. . . .

Police have said there is no apparent connection between the slayings of a woman and a teen-age girl, both found stabbed to death in Des Moines since April 15. . . .

The body of Mrs. Lillian Randolph, 57, of Guthrie Center was discovered May 11 crammed into the trunk of her car, which was parked at the Des Moines Municipal Airport. . . .

The slayer of Mrs. Randolph, estranged wife of a wealthy poultry and egg processor, stabbed her 12 times in the chest with a small pocket knife. Police have described the killing as the work of a professional, and have sought information on a mysterious white Cadillac seen near Mrs. Randolph's summertime home the day she disappeared. . . .

Police have questioned more than 850 persons, some of them five or six times, since the body of Janice Snow, 17, was found in a thicket in southeast Des Moines April 15. . . .

Janice, a popular high school senior, vanished after a shopping excursion with two girl friends. When discovered nearly three days later, she was dead of 17 stab wounds. Her books, shoes and purse have never been found. . . .

Police believe she may have been slain by someone passing through Des Moines. . . . Neither Mrs. Randolph nor

the Snow girl had been raped. These two killings came just about three years after the body of Ramona Cox, 26, a pretty, party-loving secretary, was found in her apartment in Des Moines. Her throat had been cut with a linoleum knife. . . .

Neighbors heard screams, and saw a man jump from her window and run down an alley. So far, the alley has been a dead end for police. . . .

Mrs. Katherine DeKora, 48, died at a Sioux City hospital last Dec. 14 after a savage beating the night before. She had attended a drinking party, and later returned to the house for help. Police and firemen discovered Mrs. DeKora on a cot inside the house when they answered a fire alarm. Police said someone started a kerosene stove to keep her warm, but it exploded and started a small fire. . . .

Still unsolved is the case of pretty Marlene Padfield, 17, of Lisbon, whose skeletal remains were found April 29, 1959, near a lover's lane southeast of Cedar Rapids. . . .

The young man who was the last known person to see her alive told authorities he was driving Marlene home from a Cedar Rapids tavern the morning of the previous Feb. 19 when she became angry, and got out of his car between Cedar Rapids and Marion. How she met death has never been determined. . . .

William L. Meadows, 36, marshal at Plainfield, was shot down as he investigated an attempted safe burglary Jan. 23, 1961, at the Hartman Packing plant there. The two men robbing the safe got no money, but escaped in a burst of gunfire. . . .

Other recent unsolved murders in Iowa include several robbery victims. . . .

George H. Geary, 40, was slain in the office of a Des Moines service station where he worked as an attendant on Jan. 13, 1963. He was shot in the head at close range, and \$252.15 was missing from a cash drawer. . . .

William H. Freimuth, 71, another service station attendant, was shot to death Feb. 16, 1961, in Fort Dodge. The gunman took \$140 from the cash register. . . .

Frederick Coste, 47, manager of a Cedar Rapids finance company, was found dead in his downtown office shortly before noon on Oct. 16, 1959. The killer

slugged and stabbed Coste and took \$258.85. . . .

Melvin James Gallagher, 22, was killed by a shotgun blast Jan. 3, 1959, as he counted receipts at the Waterloo filling station where he worked. His killer took \$179 in cash. . . .

The fatal shooting of Lilly Mae Brown, 48, has remained a mystery since June 23, 1958, when she was found lying in front of her home at Waterloo. She had been shot in the head with a .38 caliber pistol. . . .

The county medical examiner never officially called the death of Mrs. Hilda Fletcher, 53, of Sioux City a murder, but she is listed as a murder victim on police records. . . .

Her body was found beneath a blood soaked bed in her home Dec. 15, 1958. She died of a brain hemorrhage, but there were abrasions and contusions over much of her body. . . .

Mrs. Rose Grandenette, 33, was shot in the head Sept. 14, 1959, as she stood in the doorway of her Des Moines home. Her husband told police the shot was fired by one of three gunmen who accosted him as he returned home from work. . . .

Frank Eckels, 73, owner of an Oakland motel, regained consciousness long enough to tell police he was shot by a man as he locked his cafe-motel office about midnight Dec. 4, 1958. He died of a gunshot wound three days later. . . .

Iowa's most famous unsolved murders are the Villisca ax murders of 1912, in which a family of six and two neighbor children staying with them were brutally hacked to death while they slept. . . .

Many persons have confessed to the still unsolved slayings, but none of the confessions has even been verified. . . .

T-V Guide WHO CHANNEL 13

WEDNESDAY

7:00 Today Show
7:25 Daily Word
7:30 Today Show
8:25 Today Show
8:30 Today Show
9:00 Truth or Consequences
9:30 What's This Song? (C)
9:55 Mid-Morning News
10:00 Concentration
10:30 Jeopardy
11:00 Call My Bluff
11:30 I'll Bet (C)
11:55 NBC News
12:00 Noon News, Wilbanks
12:10 Cartoon Town
12:30 Movie
2:00 Another World
2:30 You Don't Say
3:00 Match Game
3:25 First Edition, Lively
3:30 Doble Gillis
3:30 Floppy Show
4:30 Cheyenne
5:30 Huntley Brinkley
5:50 Weather, Rusk
6:05 News, Shelley
6:13 Duncan-Zabel Sports
6:30 The Virginian
8:30 Dead Night at the Movies
10:00 News, Rusk
10:20 Sports, Zabel
10:30 Tonight Show

THURSDAY

7:00 Today Show
7:25 Daily Word
7:30 Today Show
8:25 Local News, Wilbanks
8:30 Today Show
9:00 Truth or Consequences
9:30 What's This Song? (C)
9:55 Mid-Morning News
10:00 Concentration
10:30 Jeopardy (C)
11:00 Call My Bluff
11:30 I'll Bet (C)
11:55 NBC News
12:00 Noon News
12:10 Cartoon Town
12:30 Movie
2:00 Another World
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6:05 News, Shelley
6:13 Duncan-Zabel Sports
6:30 The Virginian
8:30 Dead Night at the Movies
10:00 News, Rusk
10:20 Sports, Zabel
10:30 Tonight Show

KTVO CHANNEL 3

WEDNESDAY
7:00 Morning Report
7:30 Lone Ranger
8:00 Captain Kangaroo
8:30 Conversational Spanish
9:00 Andy of Mayberry
11:30 CBS News
11:35 Search for Tomorrow
11:45 Guiding Light
12:00 Mid-Day Report

Card of Thanks

Our heartfelt appreciation is extended to the many for their expressions of sympathy, including the flowers, visits, cards, letters, and food brought to the home, and most of all for your prayers. Your kindness has helped at this time of giving up our dearly beloved one. The Family of Leah Tissue.

Boy Drowns

CEDAR FALLS (AP) — Edward Ryan Saul, 5, drowned Tuesday while wading in Snag Creek here. Authorities said he wandered off and apparently stepped into a pot hole. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Saul of Cedar Falls.

12:15 Town & Country
12:30 As the World Turns
1:00 Password
1:30 House Party
2:00 To Tell the Truth
2:25 CBS News
2:30 Edge of Night
2:40 Secret Storm
3:30 Film Fill
4:00 KTVU Forum
4:30 Candy Land
4:50 Kentucky Jones
5:30 Walter Cronkite
6:00 Six O'Clock Report
6:30 Wagon Train
7:30 Beverly Hillsbillies
8:00 Dick Van Dyke
8:30 Donna Reed
9:00 Danny Kaye
10:00 Trn O'Clock Report
10:20 Limmy Dean
11:20 Tomorrow's News Ton.
11:23 Flonaca

THURSDAY

7:00 Morning Report
7:30 Lone Ranger
8:00 Conversational Spanish
8:30 Andy of Mayberry
9:00 Young Marrieds
9:30 CBS News
11:30 Search for Tomorrow
11:45 Guiding Light
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4:00 KTVU Forum
4:30 Candy Land
4:50 Woody Woodpecker
5:30 Walter Cronkite
6:00 Six O'Clock Report
6:30 Amsters
7:00 Perry Mason
8:00 Bewitched
8:30 Hazel
8:00 Defenders
9:00 Ten O'Clock Report
10:15 Weather
10:20 Sportscope
10:30 Slattery's People
11:30 Tomorrow's News Tonight
11:33 Highway Patrol

Hellyer Returned Home Sunday

PROMISE CITY — C. F. Hellyer returned home Sunday from a ten day visit with relatives in Moline, Ill. He visited in the home of Mrs. Ila Wertz and Mrs. Dorothy Lyon's home. Miss Amy Robertson and Mrs. Gerald Long visited the Sanford Museum in Cherokee and the Historical Fort at Fort Dodge Wednesday. Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Nelson of Corvallis, Ore., and Mr.

and Mrs. Clayton Hillyard of Des Moines spent the weekend with visitors in the Fred Huston home. Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Stone visited Wednesday and Thursday with relatives in Winterset. They also visited with their son-in-law's mother at Wesley Acres in Des Moines. Mr. and Mrs. Otis Owen were dinner guests Saturday evening of her mother Mrs. Jane Tiffany at Allerton. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. Okie Blevins of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Elvin Wales and daughter Mrs. Metty Bellamy both of Gary, Indiana, visited Friday with his sister and daughter, Mrs. Ada Long and Mary Helen. Enslay Roberts, a patient at the Osteopathic hospital at Kirksville, Mo., had major surgery Friday, and seems to be getting along as well as can be expected. Don Mumby and Mrs. Edra Gammon of Newtown, Mo., Mrs. Zell Summers of Ravannah, Mo. and Mrs. Georgia Norman, of Unionville were visitors Sunday afternoon of Mrs. Ada Long and Mary Helen. Mr. and Mrs. Kermit Bear and family of Des Moines were Sunday afternoon visitors in the Eudean Lord home. Miss Joyce Fox and friend

Miss Diane Woods both of Des Moines spent the weekend with Joyce's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Neal Fox and sister Julie. Saturday afternoon they visited in the Amos Stone home. Mrs. Donald Thompson went to Kirksville Wednesday and was accompanied home by her daughter Sandra, who has just finished her second year at KSTC, and a sorority sister Miss Roberta Del Vecchio of Chicago. They returned Miss Del Vecchio to Kirksville Friday and Miss Garla Phillips of Iowa City accompanied them home and visited in the Thompson home until Sunday.

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WED., MAY 26, 1965 8

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Round & Square Dancing

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FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1. Am I required to take a physical examination — NO
2. If I am 80 years old and under may I join — YES
3. Can my wife also join — YES
4. Can we be a member if we belong to another Society — YES
5. Are the Articles of Incorporation of this Society recorded with the Secretary of the State of Iowa — YES
6. Can the owner of this Society be checked through the Better Business Bureau of Des Moines, South Des Moines Chamber of Commerce, Valley Bank and Trust, Iowa-Des Moines National Bank of Des Moines — YES
7. May we visit the home office when in Des Moines — YES

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1. ELVIN THOMASSON
Rt. 1, Cincinnati ----\$10.00 Gift Certificate
2. GENE BALLARD
Rt. 1, Cincinnati ----\$10.00 Gift Certificate
3. CAROL ESSARY
1001 So. 17th, Centerville, \$5.00 Gift Cert.
4. MRS JAKE RINKEL
802 S. 16th, Centerville --1 Case Pepsi-Cola
5. MRS WAYNE CLINE
544 N. 6th, Centerville --1 Case Pepsi-Cola
6. LOUISE RICK
Box 23, Mystic -----1 Case Pepsi-Cola
7. ANITA SQUIRES
Rt. 1, Numa -----1 Case Pepsi-Cola

The cases of Pepsi above include 1 carton of Pepsi, 1 carton of Diet-Pepsi, 1 carton of Mountain Dew, and 1 carton of Teem.

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