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Cold Case

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Kent Hawley helped plant the oak tree in honor of Wartburg student Lisa Peak after her death in 1976. Hawley was the VP of student affairs at the time of the murder. Anelia K. Dimitrova Photo

Investigators hope to break 1976 murder of Wartburg student

by Anelia K. Dimitrova, editorcft@gmail.com

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Lisa Maria Peak was coming home from the store on Sept. 6, 1976, but she never came back.

That Labor Day, around 9:30 a.m., she left

friends to shop for school at the Willow Lawn Shopping Center or in downtown Waverly, then Bremer County Attorney Paul Riffel told the Waverly Democrat.

When Lisa did not return to her dorm room that night, friends of the 19-year-old Wartburg journalism student worried about her whereabouts. A student who was expecting to go out with her that night

wondered why his date did not show up, Lisa's mother, Mary Peak, said in a telephone interview with Waverly Newspapers.

Read more in the 5/11 Bremer County Independent.

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