



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

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PRESS RELEASE

Release Date: 01-04-2011

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Type of Incident: Cold case murder from 1968

Location: Newland Street and Yorktown Avenue, Huntington Beach

Date/Time of Occurrence: 03-14-1968

Case Number: 68-006079

Details:

Huntington Beach Police Department
1968 Jane Doe Cold Case Homicide
Case number 68-006079

Victim Description: Female white or Hispanic, 20 to 25 years old, 5-3 to 5-4, 140 pounds, medium build, with dark shoulder length hair, brown eyes, wearing a multi colored flower print blouse, purple capri type pants, a black imitation leather three-quarter length coat and flat loafer type shoes. Victim had a ring on her hand described as a light blue square stone in a silver metal setting. Victim had poor dental care and was missing several back upper and lower teeth. Victim's front teeth were somewhat crooked.

Details: On March 14, 1968, at 4:05 pm, Jane Doe was discovered in a large open dirt field at Newland Street and Yorktown Avenue, Huntington Beach, California. She was found face down in a drainage ditch by several young boys who were playing in the field. The victim had been beaten and sexually assaulted. The victim's throat had been slashed with a sharp cutting instrument, which caused her death. The victim was never identified in 1968 and to date is still unidentified.

Detectives in 1968 felt the victim did not live in the immediate Huntington Beach area and may have been picked up in some other location. Detectives felt the suspect left the area of the crime scene in a vehicle, unknown description, and several tire tracks were located near the victim's body.

On the same day, March 14, 1968, at about 4:30 pm, two boys playing in an oil field near Huntington Street and Utica Avenue found a white purse. This location was approximately a quarter of a mile away from the crime scene at Newland and Yorktown. Inside the purse was a matching white wallet. The wallet had no identification or money. There were six black and white wallet sized photographs inside the coin purse and matching purse and one color photo on the ground:

1. Photo one is of a young female white with dark hair wearing what looks like a high school or college graduation gown. The word "Mom" is written on the top front of this photo. The words "Love always Nancy" were written on the front bottom of the photo.
2. Photo two is a young male white dressed in a suit and tie. The word "Mom" is written on the top front of the photo and "With love Allan" is written on the front bottom of the photo.
3. Photo three is an infant baby girl in a dress lying on a blanket or pillow.
4. Photo four is a young boy crying, wearing a black cowboy hat.
5. Photo five is of two young boys, close in age, sitting together.
6. Photo six is an infant boy that is pushing himself with his arms.
7. Photo seven was found in the field, outside of the purse, and is a color photo of a young boy with curly hair, wearing a blue shirt with white stripes.

Detectives in 1968 went to the oil field and found some fresh tire tracks near where the purse had been found. The tire tracks at the oil field were similar to the tire tracks located at the crime scene.

These photographs have never been released to the public. Detectives feel this purse may have belonged to Jane Doe and could have been discarded in the oil field by the suspect after the murder.

In 2001, the Orange County crime lab obtained a male suspect DNA profile from the victim's sexual assault evidence kit. There has been "no hit" in the FBI Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) to date and no suspect(s) have been identified.

The Huntington Beach Police Department is releasing the photos found inside the white purse to the public in hopes of indentifying victim Jane Doe. We are also releasing a recently completed composite drawing of victim Jane Doe how she appeared in 1968. The photos are available to be viewed on the police department's Facebook page. www.facebook.com/HuntingtonBeachPolice

Anyone who recognizes the people in the photos obtained from the purse or anyone who may know the identity of Jane Doe is asked to call Detective Mike Reilly of the Huntington Beach Police Department Robbery/Homicide Unit at 714-536-5940. Any press inquiries should be directed to Lieutenant Russell Reinhart at 714-536-5976 or press@hbpd.org