

Autopsy Report

Office of the Izard County Coroner	
DATE and HOUR AUTOPSY PERFORMED: 5/10/1992; 8:30 A.M. by Peg Maciejewski, M.D. 368 Washington Avenue Melbourne, AR 72556 501-2870-XXXX (FAX 501-870-XXXX) Email: pmaciejewski@coroner.izardcounty.ar.gov	Assistant: Hilary Brandon, M.D. Full Autopsy Performed
SUMMARY REPORT OF AUTOPSY	
Name: Abigail Hunter	Coroner's Case #: 1992-017
Date of Birth: 10/24/1975	Age: 17
Race: White	Sex: Female
Date of Death: 5/08/1992	Body Identified by: Matthew Hunter, father of the deceased
Case # 001378-1Q-1992	Investigative Agency: Izard County Sheriff's Department & Doddville Police Department
<u>EVIDENCE OF TREATMENT:</u> N/A	
<u>EXTERNAL EXAMINATION:</u> The autopsy is begun at 8:30 A.M. on May 10, 1992. The body is presented in a black body bag. The victim is wearing a flowered-print short-sleeve blouse and blue jeans. Jewelry included the following: 1 Doddville high school class woman's ring (yellow gold), 1 thin, yellow gold band with one opal stone (1/4 inch); two pierced earrings: 2 matching opal stone, yellow gold pierced earrings, 1/4 -inch diameter, one in each ear, and one 1-inch wide gold clasp wristband on left wrist. Flowered-print slip-on canvas shoes were found near the victim, but not on the victim and were included in the body bag. The clothing is stained and caked in places with dried mud. The body is that of a normally developed white female measuring 66 inches and weighing 104 pounds and appearing generally consistent with the stated age of 17 years. The body is cold and unembalmed. Lividity is fixed in the distal portions of the limbs. The eyes are closed. The irises are brown and corneas are cloudy. The pupils measure 0.3 cm. The hair is brown, wavy, layered and approximately 14 inches in length at the longest point. It is caked in places with dried mud. The face was distorted with multiple contusions and abrasions. Deep laceration is noted leading from just	

above the right eye up into the hairline for a duration of 8 inches becoming a fracture in the skull. Cranium is exposed and partially outside the skull. Contusions and fractures are evident of the following facial bones: nasal, mandible, zygomatic and temporal on the right side of the face. There are injuries to the lips and teeth. Lips exhibit as swollen with contusions. On the right side on the mouth, upper and lower teeth are chipped and cracked.

Upon removal of the victim's clothing, an odor of dried mud was detected as well as evidence of mud residue was found on the forearms, under the blouse, on the bra, in the hair, around the ankles and on the feet. Following removal of the blouse, multiple contusions were visible on the victim's neck and chest. The right shoulder girdle and clavicle exhibit a compound fracture. The humerus as well displays multiple contusions and a compound fracture. Multiple fractures of the ribs on the right side are evident along with the width of the contusion marks varying between 3 and 8 cm and are also rounded in orientation. Compound fracture of the pelvic girdle is noted on the right side with a rounded contusion measuring 18 cm in diameter.

The genitalia are that of an adult female and there is no evidence of injury. Limbs are equal, symmetrically developed and show no evidence of injury. The fingernails are medium length and fingernail beds are pink. There are no residual scars, with one butterfly tattoo on the outside section of the right calf.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION:

HEAD--CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM: Subsequent autopsy shows a fracture in the skull on the right side of the head 10.28 cm in length. The brain weighs 1,356 grams and within normal limits. Cranium exhibits one lesion 5 cm in length due to impact with the fractured skull. Fracture at the seventh cervical vertebra severed the spinal column.

SKELETAL SYSTEM: Fractures noted on the following bones as follows: nasal, temporal, zygomatic, mandible, clavicle, sternum, humerus, ribs (6th – 11th), pelvic girdle, scapula,

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM--THROAT STRUCTURES: The oral cavity shows no lesions. The mucosa is intact. There are injuries to the lips (contusions with swelling), teeth (chipped and cracked) and gums recent bleeding and contusions with swelling.

There is no obstruction of the airway. The mucosa of the epiglottis, glottis, piriform sinuses, trachea and major bronchi are anatomic. No injuries are seen and there are no mucosal lesions.

Right lung has been punctured by multiple broken ribs pushed into the lungs.

The lungs weigh: right, 355 grams; left 362 grams. The lungs are unremarkable.

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM: The heart weighs 223 grams and has a normal size and configuration. No evidence of atherosclerosis is present.

GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM: The mucosa and wall of the esophagus are intact and gray-pink, without lesions or injuries. The gastric mucosa is intact and pink without injury. Approximately 125

ml of partially digested semi-solid food is found in the stomach. The mucosa of the duodenum, jejunum, ileum, colon and rectum are intact.

URINARY SYSTEM: The kidneys weigh: left, 109 grams; right, 111 grams. The kidneys are anatomic in size, shape and location. The right kidney exhibits lesions. The left kidney is without lesions.

FEMALE GENITAL SYSTEM: The structures are within normal limits. Examination of the pelvic area indicates the victim had not given birth and was not pregnant at the time of death. There is evidence of recent sexual activity, but no indications that the sexual contact was forcible. Vaginal fluid samples are removed for analysis.

TOXICOLOGY: Sample of right pleural blood and bile are submitted for toxicologic analysis. Stomach contents are saved.

SEROLOGY: A sample of right pleural blood is submitted in the EDTA tube. Routine toxicologic studies were ordered.

LABORATORY DATA

Cerebrospinal fluid culture and sensitivity:

Gram stain: Unremarkable

Culture: No growth after 72 hours

Cerebrospinal fluid bacterial antigens:

Hemophilus influenza B: Negative

Streptococcus pneumoniae: Negative

N. Meningitidis: Negative

Neisseria meningitidis B/E. Coli K1: Negative

Drug Screen Results:

Urine screen {Immunoassay} was NEGATIVE.

Ethanol: 0 gm/dl, Blood (Heart)

Ethanol: 0 gm/dl, Vitreous

Philip Schmidt, Ph.D.

Chief Toxicologist

May 25, 1992

EVIDENCE COLLECTED:

1. One (1) flowered-print short-sleeve shirt, size medium.
2. One (1) pair blue jeans, size medium.

3. Two (2) yellow gold opal earrings.
4. One yellow gold opal ring.
5. One yellow gold class ring.
6. One yellow gold heart necklace with gems.
7. Samples of Blood (type O+), Bile, and Tissue (heart, lung, brain, kidney, liver, spleen).
8. Eleven (11) autopsy photographs.
9. One postmortem CT scan.
10. One postmortem MRI.

OPINION

Time of Death: Body temperature, rigor and livor mortis, and stomach contents approximate the time of death between 7:00 and 9:00 P.M. on 05/08/1992.

Immediate Cause of Death: Blunt force trauma.

Manner of Death: Caused by an impact of body to a hard object due to vehicle overturning in rock field and ejecting victim from vehicle.

Remarks: Decedent displays injuries compatible with a vehicle rollover accident with ejection from vehicle. Victim, however, does not exhibit fractures commensurate with being ejected through the windshield. Fractures are primarily located on the right side of the body which indicates that all injuries occurred upon impact with the ground (a rock field) in which the victim landed on the right side. Lacerations do not exhibit glass fragments which would indicate impacting a windshield. Thus, this victim was either thrown out an open passenger window or was seated in an open truck bed. No drugs were found in this victim's system.

Peg Maciejewski, M.D.
Izard County Coroner's Office
May 25, 1992

Name: Abigail Hunter

Coroner's Case #: 1992-017

