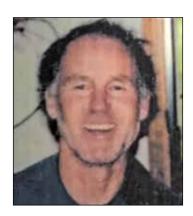


A non-profit, public benefits organization serving families and friends of homicide victims.



## **Justice for Larry Powers**

By Shellie Cervantes

Some of you may recall the story about our friend and neighbor, Larry Powers, who became a "Missing Person" case 15 years ago this month (April 2007). Note: Larry was our featured Victim Profile in the July 2009 CAH Newsletter. It was not uncommon for Larry to head south to Arizona on mining excavation trips with his good friend, Anthony Richards. However, when our neighbor's home sat idle for an uncomfortable period of time, we all knew in our hearts something was terribly amiss. Not knowing where to begin or where Larry might be, his sister, Joan Shattuck, immediately filed a missing persons report with our local Calaveras County Sheriff's Office (CCSO).

So many months had passed. We were trusting the CCSO detective assigned to Larry's missing person case would be conducting a thorough investigation and, after so much time, we believed the investigation was well underway. We were soon to discover the detective made minimal inquiries as to the nature of Larry's disappearance and actually tipped off Anthony Richards that he was THE person of interest. One frustration followed another—the CCSO detective then informed Joan they were "dropping the case". Joan was shocked to say the least. Larry's missing person case investigation was back to square one; starting from scratch.

Throughout those difficult years, we (his sister and brother-in-law, Randy, extended family and friends) remained steadfast; never giving in to doubt or giving up hope that Larry was still alive. However, as the years continued to pass, our hopes began to wane; our hearts telling us something horrific happened to Larry.

Five years had passed and in 2012, a California Superior Court judge declared Larry Powers deceased. Sadly, Larry's case transitioned from "missing" to "recovery" in an instant.

—continued on page 4

Our Next Meeting will be on Sunday, June 12, 2022 10:00 a.m.

Loch Lomond Yacht Club 95 Loch Lomond Drive, San Rafael, CA

## **Inside This Issue**

Words from Jan	2
Quote of the Month	3
CDCR's Next Manipulative Move	5
Annual Balloon Release	5
Coming Soon! Left in the Dark	6
Save the Date: Annual Charity Golf Classic	6



#### **About Us**

The majority of our CAH Board Members have lost a loved one to murder. We will never "get over" our tremendous losses, but we do "get through" the grief. Becoming proactive; assisting/supporting families throughout the most difficult time of their lives and guiding them through the complicated criminal justice system. We have joined together to create a voice for families of homicide victims.

#### **CAH Objectives**

- Assist families through the complicated criminal justice system;
- Act as Liaison between families and investigative law enforcement;
- Provide assistance with Parole Opposition Letters;
- Accompany families to parole suitability hearings (when possible);
- Provide trial and courtroom support (when possible);
- Facilitate Reward Billboards (when/ where possible);
- Provide information on pending crime legislation

#### **Protecting Your Own Interests**

We cannot prepare for the devastating event that changes our lives forever. We can only react. You will need to know how to deal with the subsequent trial, sentencing and (today) the unavoidable parole hearings. CAH will help you take action to protect your own interests.

If you know of a family or friend who may need our help, please share the information we have provided here.

#### **Location for Meetings**

We hold bi-monthly meetings on the second Sunday of the month at Loch Lomond Yacht Club - 95 Loch Lomond Drive, San Rafael, CA. The meeting starts at 10:00 a.m. We encourage anyone interested to attend.

## A Few Words From Jan

Hello, Everyone,

When I last wrote "my words", sharing with you the heartbreaking loss of my daughter, Niki in January of 2021, little did I know that it would be some 9 months before I would be writing to you again through our CAH Newsletter. Needless to say, 2021 was a very difficult year for me and my family; one we would certainly never want to live through again.

Days before our annual golf tournament in July, my sister, Alice passed away. I am sure most of you remember she was the CAH Treasurer from our beginning in 1994 until her retirement in 2016. She and I began each and every morning with a quick conversation since the late 1960's, given our age difference, we were very close. We did, in fact, proceed with our annual golf tournament (and a very big thank you to all that attended and those that could not attend, but continued to support our cause).

Shortly after the golf tournament, I contracted COVID 19. While the virus itself was not too unbearable, the recovery was slow and regaining my strength has taken a very long time.

The final blow came in September, when my husband, Jack (we would have been married 40 years in January of 2022) died on September 5th. I am sure many of you remember him, as he served on the CAH Board from its beginning and was our "Golf Chair" for many years. To be honest, after Jack's death, I found myself emotionally exhausted; not sure I had anything left to offer and considered ending my involvement with CAH (or anything else for that matter). However, with time and the continued help and support of my family—but especially Shellie, Gene and Eryn Cervantes, I am beginning to believe that I can still be helpful to the members

—continued on page 3

#### Officers

Jane Alexander Co-Founder Emeritus Ian Miller Co-Founder/President Gene & Shellie Cervantes Victim Advocates /Consultants/Newsletter Angela Bushnell Gillam Victim Advocate /Communications Boni Driskill Victim Advocate Ora Knowell Victim Representative (Vacant) Treasurer Carol Silveira Corresponding Secretary CAH Consultant Eryn Cervantes Consultant Susan Fisher Legislative (Vacant) Recording Secretary Jazzed About Printing Design & Printing

#### **Advisory Board**

Chuck Mitchell Andi Jarmicki
David Perotti Terri de la Cuesta
Kit Ball Joyce Tuhn

Ken Holmes

#### Citizens Against Homicide

The UPS Store
369-B Third Street, Box 303
San Rafael, CA 94901
Tel 415-455-5944 • Fax 415-721-0788
E-Mail: vctmsmurdr@aol.com
Website: www.citizensagainsthomicide.org

#### **CAH Victim Advocate:**

For advice regarding your individual murder case, I-209-728-2873 cahvadvocate@yahoo.com

## **Words From Jan**

—cont. from page 2

of CAH. Shellie, Gene and Eryn have been working very hard in many areas of CAH over this last year. They will share their efforts in this newsletter.

I do want to thank so many of you who sent messages of support and love. They are all greatly appreciated and while I believe I have not responded to each of you, please know I am truly thankful to have each and every one of you in my life.

I will close with some words that have helped me through my recent journey and hope these words might be of some help to all of you, too. Till we all meet again.

—Jan

#### I HOPE YOU LIVE LOUDER

"I hope you laugh more. I hope you sing at the top of your lungs. I hope you drive with the windows down and let the wind rustle through your hair. I hope you hug. I hope you kiss. I hope you surround yourself with people who make you feel alive. I hope you become the type of person that brings good energy wherever you go and the type of person people want to be around. I hope you speak what's on your mind. That you raise your voice for injustice, that you tell others that you love them, instead of waiting until it's too late. I hope you live louder, shine brighter from this moment on."

-Marisa Donnelly

# Quote of the Month



"America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves."

—Abraham Lincoln



Victor Ray Ramirez MURDERED On June 7, 2012

209-946-0600

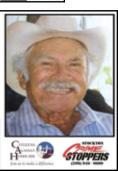










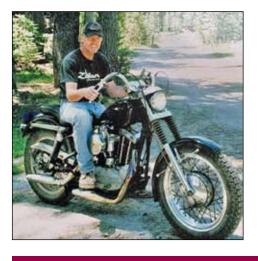


April 2022 3

## Justice for Larry Powers—cont. from page 1

Where does one begin the overwhelming odds of searching for Larry? The trail became cold at a Bagdad, Arizona mining camp he had shared with Anthony Richards. Naturally, this would be the logical place to begin. How feasible, though, could remains be recovered after so many years of exposure to elements of the harsh Arizona desert? Despite these discouraging odds, Joan remained vigilant in her quest to find her brother. She and Randy soon decided a road trip to Bagdad, Arizona was necessary to search the areas where Larry was last seen alive. They searched the campsite until exhaustion—Nothing. I remember Joan sharing with me—as they were getting ready to leave the campsite, she paused for a moment sensing an overwhelming feeling that "Larry was definitely there somewhere". She turned to take one more look before the two departed for home.

It is now 2016. By now, it would certainly take a miracle. Our miracle finally came by way of a dedicated and caring Detective Paul Chastain (Retired) and the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office (YCSO). As a result of Detective Chastain's diligence in conducting a thorough investigation, with an unwavering commitment to



solve this case, suddenly new and solid evidence surfaced. After developing information that Larry would most likely have been killed and buried in the area of that remote mining claim he was working near Bagdad, Arizona, Detective Chastain and YCSO detectives flew a drone over the area and discovered a depression in the soil.

A preliminary excavation exposed a camp chair and camping supplies, so plans were made to go back and conduct a forensic dig for evidence. The subsequent excavation yielded human remains believed to belong to Larry Powers. Anthony Richards was soon extradited from his Oregon residence and charged with the murder of Larry.

Several more years passed (for one reason or another). Finally, on Thursday, March 3, 2022, a Yavapai County Jury found Anthony James Richards (age 59) of Christmas Valley, Oregon, guilty of Second-Degree Murder of Larry Powers, Trafficking in Stolen Property, Theft of a Credit Card, Forgery and 19 counts of Taking the Identity of Another.

During the trial, the jury heard evidence that on April 9, 2007, Larry Powers and Anthony Richards came to Bagdad, Arizona to do mining and purchased mining equipment using Larry's credit card. Richards was seen around the mining communities/camps in the days following April 9—but Larry was not. Richards also offered to exchange some of the mining equipment recently purchased for a 5th wheel trailer. On April 15, Larry's credit card was used repeatedly in the Bagdad area, California and Oregon in the areas where Richards traveled and lived. Sentencing is scheduled for May 16, 2022, in the Yavapai County Superior Court.

Waking up one day to the reality that a loved one is MISSING is a nightmare from which there is no awakening. Every moment of every day is consumed with the "where's", "why's", "how's", "who could do this?", dissecting every possible scenario—and hanging onto so much HOPE. Losing a loved one to MURDER is unacceptable and beyond all human consciousness: the worst possible day in the lives of families and friends. In Larry's case, it was a terribly heart-wrenching experience when our worst thoughts (after so many years) turned into harsh reality. There is solace, however. On behalf of Joan, Randy and all who love Larry, we thank God for His guidance throughout those difficult years and the miracle He bestowed upon all of us—Larry was found, returned home and his murderer, Anthony Richards is enduring much-deserved Arizona justice.

Larry, peace be with you, my friend—and know, you are forever in our hearts.



## CDCR's Next Manipulative Move to Further Early Releases for Inmates!

Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Notice of Change to Regulations (Regarding Inmate Credit Earning)

DECREASING INMATES' TIME SERVED FOR "GOOD BEHAVIOR CREDITS FROM 33.3% TO 66.6%

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ENDS APRIL 13th! PLEASE EMAIL YOUR COMMENTS OF OPPOSITION TODAY TO: rpmb@cdcr.ca.gov. Inmate advocacy groups are inundating CDCR with comments of support. It is of utmost importance they hear from victims' families and friends as well.

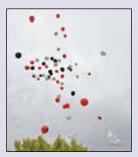
This Notice announces the proposed amendment of Sections 3043, 3043.2, 3043.3, 3043.4, 3043.5, 3043.6, 3044,

3045.I and the renumbering and amendment of Sections 3043.7 to 3044.I, 3043.8 to 3044.2, and 3047 to 3046.I, of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title I5, Crime Prevention and Corrections, Division 3, Chapter I, regarding Inmate Credit Earning.

NOTE: Misleading verbiage—"Non-Violent" includes all inmates convicted of rape, 2nd Degree Murder, Armed Robbery, etc. (excludes Death Row/LWOP inmates).

The official notice is at the following link:

https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/regulations/wp-content/uploads/sites/171/2022/02/NCR\_22-03\_ADA\_02.25.22.pdf



SACRAMENTO CHAPTER OF PARENTS OF MURDERED CHILDREN IS HOSTING ITS

## Annual Balloon Release

Monday, April 25, 2022 From 11:30 am to 1:00 pm With the Balloon Release scheduled for 12:00 pm

At the McKinley Rose Garden Sacramento California

Please contact Misty Foster Chapter Leader at SacPOMC@gmail.com with any questions.









April 2022 5

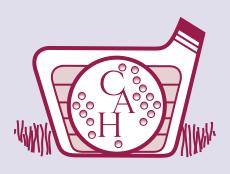


The UPS Store 369-B Third Street, Box 303 San Rafael, CA 94901

# **Coming Soon!**

WITH ALL COVID RESTRICTIONS LIFTING, WE WILL SOON BE ANNOUNCING DATE, LOCATION AND TIME.





Save the Date:

CAH 28th
Annual
Charity
Golf Classic

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 2022