

Herb Baumeister
“The I-70 Strangler”



Information summarized and researched by
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Date	Age	Life Event
4/7/47		Born to Dr. Herbert E. and Elizabeth Baumeister in Indiana.
1948	1	Sister Barbara born.
1954	7	Brother Brad born.
1956	9	Brother Richard born.
1961	14	Started attending high school at North Central High. Was active in biology, geology, government, international relations, and chess clubs.
	Adolescence	Friend remembers that Herb used to “ponder what it would be like to taste human urine”.
	Adolescence	Found a dead crow in the road, put it in his pocket and placed on teachers desk when she wasn’t looking.
	Adolescence	Father secretly took him to take psychological tests; limited records show diagnosed with schizophrenia with possibly more than one personality. No further documentation.
	High School	Not part of the “in-crowd”, usually alone, never dated.
1965	18	Graduated high school and was accepted into Indiana University. Met Juliana here. They were drawn to each other due to their strong conservative views.
1967	20	Dropped out of college after freshman year. Worked at the <i>Indianapolis Star</i> as copy boy.
11/1971	24	Married Juliana Saitor in United Methodist Church in Indiana.
1972	24-25	Spent two months in psychiatric hospital (6 months after being married).
1974-1985	26-38	Worked at Bureau of Motor Vehicles. Odd behavior evident during this time. Sent Christmas cards with him and another man dressed in drag. Earned title of Program Director. Urinated on a letter addressed to the governor and was terminated.
1979	32	First child Marie born.
1981	34	Second child Erich born.
1984	37	Third child Emily born.
1985	38	Body of Eric Rottger found – victim of the I-70

		Strangler
09/03/85	38	While drinking and driving he committed a hit and run.
03/27/86	39	Warrant filed for his arrest. Charged with auto theft (Class A misdemeanor) and conspiracy to commit theft (Class D).
1986	40	Beat the conspiracy charge after one day bench trial.
1986	40	Herb's father died.
1988	41-42	Borrowed \$4,000 from mother and opened a SAV-A-LOT thrift store.
8/12/89	42	Body of Steven Elliot found
1990	43-44	After making \$50,000 in his first year of owning SAV-A-LOT, he opened his second store.
1990	43	Body of Clay Boatman found
11/91	44	Moved to Westfield district.
5/93	46	Michael Riley disappears.
7/93	46	Jeffery Jones is reported missing.
7/93	46	Richard Hamilton is reported missing.
7/93	46	Johnny L. Bayer reported missing.
7/93	46	Alan Livingstone reported missing.
4/94	47	Stephen Hale reported missing.
6/6/94	47	Alan Broussard last seen leaving gay bar.
7/22/94	47	Roger Alan Goodlet disappears.
1994	47-48	SAV-A-LOT business began to plunge. Problems in marriage between Herb and Juliana. Herb started treating his employees like they were below him. Reports of him leaving the store and returning with alcohol on his breath.
1994	47-48	Arrested for drinking and driving in Rochester, Indiana. Sentenced to 3 days in jail and 1 year probation.
1994	48	Son Erich found a human skeleton in backyard. Herb assured his family that it was the remains of a cadaver from his father's medical practice.
8/29/95	49	Herb shows up at gay bar and Tony Harris gets his license plate number. Suspicion of Herb growing.
11/95	49	Police confront Juliana.
11/95	49	Herb tells his lawyer he is going to kill himself.
1/4/96	49	Juliana files for divorce.
6/96	50	Closed SAV-A-LOT stores. Herb described as deeply troubled.
6/23/96	50	Juliana tells attorney of bones found in backyard. Juliana admits that they had only consummated their marriage 6 times in 25 years of marriage.
6/30/96	50	Herb became aware of his imminent arrest and drove to Canada.
7/3/96	50	Herb left a note citing his failing marriage and business as the reason for his suicide and shot himself in the forehead with a .357 magnum.
General Information		
Sex		Male
Race		White
Number of victims		Linked to 16 but assumed to be more
Country where killing occurred		United States

States where killing occurred	Indiana and Ohio
Type of killer	Sexual
Height	Unknown
Childhood Information	
Date of birth	April 7, 1947
Location	Columbus Ohio
Birth order	1 st of 4
Number of siblings	3
XXX?	
Raised by	Both parents
Birth category	Oldest
Parent's marital status	Together
Family event	
Age of family event	
Problems in school?	Did not fit in
Teased while in school?	Yes
Physically attractive?	Yes
Physical defect?	Two screws in jaw from surgery
Speech defect?	No
Head injury?	
Physically abused?	Yes, father and classmates
Psychologically abused?	
Sexually abused?	No
Father's occupation	Anesthesiologist
Age of first sexual experience	Probably his wife. He did not date much before her.
Age when first had intercourse	Probably his wife. He did not date much before her.
Mother's occupation	Homemaker
Father abused drugs/alcohol	No
Mother abused drugs/alcohol	No
Cognitive Ability	
Highest grade in school	2 nd year in college
Highest degree	High School
Grades in school	
IQ	
Work History	
Served in the military?	No
Branch	
Type of discharge	
Saw combat duty	
Killed enemy during service?	
Applied for job as a cop?	No
Worked in law enforcement?	No
Fired from jobs?	Yes, Bureau of Motor Vehicles for urinating on desk and letter addressed to Governor.
Types of jobs worked	Copier, clerical, various part time jobs. Owner of Sav-A-Lot thrift stores.
Employment status during series	Owner Sav-A-Lot thrift stores. Possibly during other jobs.
Relationships	
Sexual preference	Bi-sexual
Marital status	Married but in middle of divorce at time of death
Number of children	Three

Lives with his children	Yes and extremely involved with their lives.
Living with	Spouse
Triad	
Animal torture	No
Fire setting	No
Bed wetting	No
Killer Psychological Information	
Abused drugs?	Yes. Cocaine and Marijuana.
Abused alcohol?	Yes
Been to a psychologist?	Hospitalized for two months.
Time in forensic hospital?	No
Diagnosis	Father secretly took him to psychologist as a child and had lengthy testing done. Report showed schizophrenia and possibly multiple personalities. No further documentation.
Killer Criminal History	
Committed previous crimes?	Yes. Charged with theft and conspiracy to commit theft.
Spend time in jail?	No
Spend time in prison?	No
Killed prior to series? Age?	No
Serial Killing	
Number of victims	16 identified to him expected to be more
Victim type	Homosexual Men
Killer age at start of series	About 33 years old
Gender of victims	Male
Race of victims	White
Age of victims	20-48 years old
Method of killing	Strangulation
Type of serial killer	Organized/lust.
How close did killer live?	Unknown
Killing occurred in home of victim?	No
Killing occurred in home of killer?	Yes
Weapon	No weapon.
Behavior During Crimes	
Rape?	No. Mutual Sex.
Tortured victims?	Strangled them.
Stalked victims?	No
Overkill?	Burned them after death.
Quick & efficient?	No
Used blindfold?	No
Bound the victims?	Yes. With handcuffs.
After Death Behavior	
Sex with the body?	No
Mutilated body?	No
Ate part of the body?	No
Drank victim's blood?	No
Posed the body?	No
Took totem – body part	No
Took totem – personal item	No
Robbed victim or location	No

Disposal of Body	
Left at scene, no attempt to hide	Yes. Used bones as gravel for his yard.
Left at scene, hidden	Yes. Put bones down a creek at his residence.
Left at scene, buried	Yes. Buried in burn pile.
Moved, no attempt to hide	No
Moved, buried	No
Cut-up and disposed of	No
Moved, too home	No
Sentencing	
Date killer arrested	Committed suicide before he could be arrested.
Date convicted	
Sentence	
Killer executed?	
Did killer plead NGRI?	
Was the NGRI plea successful?	
Name and state of prison	
Killer committed suicide?	Yes
Killer killed in prison?	
Date of death	July 3, 1996
References	
<p>Geringer, Josph. <i>"The Dark Side"</i>. Court TV's Crime Library. 2005 Courtroom Television Network LLC. http://www.crimelibrary.com/serial2/herb/.</p> <p>Kurtis B., Stack J., Garbus L., & Manhardt M., (1997). <i>The Secret Life of a Serial Killer</i>. Produced by Gabriel Films, for A & E Network. New York, NY. Distributed by New Video Group, 1997.</p> <p>Weinstein F., & Wilson M., (1998). <i>Where the bodies are buried</i>. NY: St. Martin's Press. (ISBN 0-312-96653-9).</p>	