

John Wayne Gacy
“The Killer Clown”



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Date	Age	Life Event
03/17/1942	0	John Wayne Gacy, Jr. born on St. Patrick’s Day to Marion and John Wayne Gacy, Sr. in Edgewater Hospital, Chicago Illinois. He was a breach birth and was born with an enlarged bottleneck heart.
1944	2	John’s younger sister Karen was born. Watched his father knock the bridge out of his mother’s mouth. Mom takes kids and moved into her in-laws for a few days.
1945	3	Mrs. Gacy returns with the kids to live with her husband.
1946	4	Caught playing “house” with a 15-year-old mentally retarded girl. His father whips and yells at him for messing with car parts. This is the beginning of the abuse.
1947	5	Starts having seizures and begins taking strong anti-seizure drugs. Gets enrolled in a Catholic school.
1948	6	Dad shoots his dog because he was mad at John. John steals a toy truck and his mother makes him return it. Dad beats him with a razor strap.
1949	7	Was active in boy scouts. His mom’s underwear was found in his sandbox under the porch. He claimed to like the feel of it and got whipped by his father.
1950	8	His teachers report that John is a good students and willing to help others. However, he is also teased by his classmates for being afraid of the “slasher” who was killing women in his neighborhood.

1951	9	He's sexually abused by a contractor friend of his father.
1952	10	Family moved to a bigger house in Chicago. He was diagnosed with a form of psychomotor epilepsy and began randomly passing out. Father is considered an alcoholic
1953	11	John steals his mom's panties and hides them under the deck. His mother made him wear them to school. His father blames John for the rain during their fishing trip and also beats him when he hears about the panties. John is stuck in the head with a swing while on the playground which causes a blood clot in his brain. Had periodic blackouts for the next 5 years.
1956	14	Transferred to public school from his private Catholic school. For his first real job delivering groceries for IGA.
1955	15	Has his tonsils taken out. He complains of stomach pain and they come to find out that his appendix ruptured and he nearly died. Again caught with women's panties. Doctors say black outs are cause by blood clots and is treated with medication.
1959	17	Diagnose with heart ailment (no evidence of problems in later years). Attends 4 different high schools and eventually drops out.
1960	18	Organizes Chi-Rho club at church to help keep teens involved with the church. Thinks about becoming a priest. Becomes a compulsively neat dresser to make up for being over weight and unpopular. Has his first sexual encounter with a girl but faints before completing the act. Becomes involved in politics and does volunteer work for local democratic campaigns. Becomes involved in civil defense. Attaches a blue police light to his car and speeds to accidents. Buys a new car with his father and makes payments to him.
1961	19	Runs away from home. Began working as an ambulance attendant in Las Vegas. Demoted to janitor in a mortuary when his age was discovered. Later told doctors he conducted experiments on the dead bodies. He memorized the embalming process. Climbs into casket out of curiosity. Gets fired after a fight with his boss who finds the clothes of the dead people lying on the floor beside the casket. Returns to Chicago.
1962	20	Enrolled in Northwestern Business college, did well and graduated with good grades.
1963	21	Got a job as manager trainee with Nunn Bush Shoes-did well and transferred to Springfield. Moved in with his aunt and uncle. Joined Springfield Junior Chamber of Commerce. Spent 23 days in the hospital for a spine injury.
1964	22	First sexual encounter with a man. September~marries Marlynn Myers. Moved to Waterloo, Iowa to manage 3 KFC franchises owned by father-in-law. Chosen Jaycee Keyman for April.
1965	23	Elected Jaycee's first VP, named outstanding first year Jaycee and 3 rd outstanding member in the state. Marlynn gets pregnant with first child. He is hospitalized for his nerves.
1966	24	His son Michael is born
1967	25	Daughter Christine is born. Assaults a 16-year old boy and tried to molest him. Starts an unofficial boys club for his male employees involving alcohol and porn. Starts blow jobs for pool games. Begins sexual relations with another 16-year-old boy. Relationship is ongoing until boy tells his father. Becomes member of Jaycee's board of directors and is outstanding man of the year. Joins the Merchant Patrol. Entered psychopathic hospital at state university of Iowa for psychiatric evaluation.
1968	26	March~ The 2 16 year old boys make statements to the police. May 2~ Fails polygraph that he requested. May 10~ Indicted on charge of sodomy July~ Requests and fails another polygraph. Claims the relationship was mutual and the boy was blackmailing him. August 30~ Hired 18 year old to beat up defendant. The boy talked when questioned by police. Sept. 9~ Charged with attempting to suborn perjury, malicious threats to extort and breaking and entering.

		Sept 10~ Pleads guilty to one count of sodomy. Sept 12~ Ordered to submit to a psychiatric evaluation. Found competent to stand trial. Diagnosed with anti-social personality disorder. Sentenced to 10 years at Iowa State reformatory for men.
1969	27	John Wayne Gacey Sr. dies and John is not allowed to attend the funeral. He is denied parole. Marlynn files for divorce and John never sees his kids again. He earns his GED. He starts a chapter of Jaycees while in jail. Plans to help and construct mini golf course while in jail. Attains kitchen post. Frequently talks about being afraid of homosexual rape while in prison.
1970	28	Paroled after serving 18 months of his sentence. Returns to Chicago to live with his mother. Works as chef at Bruno's where he hangs out with off duty police officers. Meets Detective Jack Hanley whose name he would use in his cruising.
1971	29	His probation ended and gains full rights of citizenship. Arrested when teen accused him of attempted rape. Charges were dropped when teen failed to show up in court. Begins doing contracting work and quits Bruno's. Buys house with mom. Aunt Pearl dies.
1972	30	Jan 3~ Kills timothy McCoy (WM, 15) by stabbing and buries body in his crawlspace. Gacy claimed self-defense but doesn't call police because he is scared they won't believe him. June 1~ Marries Carol Huff. Mom moved to own apartment. June 7~ Clubs down 24 year old male for refusing to perform oral sex. Posed as police officer. June 22~ Arrested and charges with aggravated battery and reckless conduct for clubbing man. Charges are dismissed when John filed similar suit against the man. Attempted to get visitation rights with kids but Marlynn refuses. John says his kids are dead to him.
1973	31	Devotes his entire time to PDM Contracting. Forces mother-in-law from house with a court order. Has a stroke.
1974	32	May~ informs Carol that they will never have sexual relations again. Starts summer theme parties.
1975	33	Achieves first political position as secretary/treasurer of Norwood Township street lighting district. Developed PoGo the clown. July~ Tony Antonucci (15) fights off Gacey. July 29~ Kills John Butovitch (WM, 17) and buries his body under the garage. Carol asks for divorce. He is named the director of Chicago's Annual Polish Day Parade. Began thinking he had multiple personalities. Started to hire teenage boys to work for him at PDM
04/06/1976	34	April 6~Daryl Sampson (18) disappeared, his remains later found in the crawl space.
05/14/1976	34	Randall Reffett (16) Samual Stapelton (14) disappear, remains found in crawl space.
06/03/1976	34	Michael Bonnin (17) disappears
06/13/1976	34	Kills William Carroll (16). remains found in crawl space
	34	July 3~David Cram moves in with Gacy
	34	August~attacks David, but he escapes
08/06/1976	34	Rick Johnston (18) went to rock concert and never returned home, remains found in crawl space
10/24/1976	34	Michael Marino (14) and Kenneth Parker (14) disappear
10/26/1976	34	William Bundy (19) disappears
12/12/1976	34	Gregory Godzik (17), linked with Gacy, never seen alive again, remains found in crawl space
01/20/1977	34	John Szyk (19) reported street hustler missing
03/15/1977	34	Kills John Prestige (20)
07/05/1977	35	Kills Matthew Bowman (19)
09/15/1977	35	Kills Robert Gillroy (18)
09/25/1977	35	Kills John Mowery (19)
10/17/1977	35	Kills Russell Nelson (21)

11/10/1977	35	Kills Robert Winch (16)
11/18/1977	35	Kills Tommy Boling (20)
12/09/1977	35	Kills David Talsma (19)
	.5	Robert Donnelly escapes Gacy's attack, goes to cops, but assistant states attorney doesn't prosecute. He has employees dig trenches in crawl space at his house.
1977-1978	35	Kills 9 more young men whose bodies were found in crawl space- never identified
02/16/1978	35	Billy Kindred (20) disappeared after telling his girlfriend he was going to the bar, remains found in crawl space
	36	March 21~ picks up 26 year old male at park, posed as police officer, chloroforms him, and brutally rapes him several times, then frees him next morning.
	36	May~ Last attempt at reconciliation with Carol failed. Arrested for kidnapping and deviant sexual assault.
	36	May 6~Polish Day parade- meets with 1 st lady, Rosalind Carter. He obtained security clearance from CIA to be near her.
	36	May 7~26 year old male files charges which were dismissed. Files civil suit against Gacy
06/23/1978	36	Tim O'Rourke found in river, and was identified by tattoo.
		September~ Civil case settled out at court for \$3000
11/04/1978	36	November 4~Carol remarries
11/04/1978	36	Kills Frank Landington (19), body found in river
11/24/1978	36	Kills James Mazzara (21), body found in river
12/11/1978	36	Gacy's uncle Harold goes into coma and dies. Kills Rob Piest (15) and dumps body. He took phone calls while killing Piest.
12/12/1978	36	Police question Gacy about Rob Piest.
12/13/1978	36	Police obtain search warrant to look for Rob
12/14/1978	36	Gacy is put under 24 hour surveillance, during which Gacy tries to become friendly with surveillance team. He buys dinners and tells them where he goes. He tries to lose them by speeding
12/21/1978	36	Arrested on Drug charge-police obtain search warrant
12/22/1978	36	Police discover bodies in crawl space
12/28/1978	36	Gacy confesses to killing 33 men. He draws a detailed map of bodies positions in crawl space, showed where boy was buried in garage.
1979	37	April~Police recover remains of Rob Piest in Illinois river. His family files \$85 million law suit for murder and Iowa Board of Parole, Department of Corrections and Chicago police for negligence.
		He later recanted confession blaming them on alter ego
1980	38	February 6~His trial began in Cook County Courts. Pleads not guilty by reason of insanity, which falls through. Jury deliberates for 2 hours
		March~Sentenced to serve 12 death sentences and 21 life sentences
1981-1994		Numerous appeals filed to delay execution. John begins a painting career painting clown pictures. He sells paintings while on death row
1985	43	March 4~US Supreme Court denies his appeal. He sells Polaroid pictures of himself for \$1, \$2 if he signed them. Grants select interviews with people to report that John is often cocky and self-assured, brags about his EASY life on death row.
1994	52	May 10~John is executed by lethal injection. During administering of chemicals, one IV line becomes clogged, he lives 18 minutes longer than expected. His last words were "Kiss my ASS!"
		June~Joe Roth bought 18 separate items belonging to Gacy and publicly burned them.
General Information		
Sex	Male	
Race	White	
Number of victims	33	
Country where killing occurred	United States	
States where killing occurred	Illinois	

Childhood Information	
Date of birth	March 17, 1942
Location	Edgewater Hospital, Chicago Illinois
Birth order	2 nd of 3
Number of siblings	2
XYY?	Yes
Raised by	Both parents
Birth category	Middle
Parent's marital status	Married
Family event	Death of Father
Age of family event	27
Problems in school?	Attended 4 different high schools senior year; eventually dropped out
Teased while in school?	Yes
Physically attractive?	No
Physical defect?	Born with enlarged bottleneck heart
Speech defect?	No
Head injury?	Yes, hit in head with a metal swing at age 11. Caused blood clots in brain.
Physically abused?	Yes, beaten by his father whenever he was displeased with John.
Psychologically abused?	Yes, taunted by his father and teased by classmates
Sexually abused?	Yes, by his father's friend as well as his next door neighbor
Father's occupation	Unknown
Age of first sexual experience	4
Age when first had intercourse	18
Mother's occupation	Was a pharmacist until married
Father abused drugs/alcohol	Severely abused alcohol
Mother abused drugs/alcohol	Alcohol
Cognitive Ability	
Highest grade in school	Not Documented, dropped out in Highschool
Highest degree	Got GED while in jail
Grades in school	N/A
IQ	118
Work History	
Served in the military?	NO
Branch	
Type of discharge	
Saw combat duty	
Killed enemy during service?	
Applied for job as a cop?	Pretended to be one
Worked in law enforcement?	No
Fired from jobs?	Yes, Ambulance attendant
Types of jobs worked	Ambulance attendant, painter, chef, manager of KFC, contracting, janitor at mortuary, manager trainee at shoe store.
Employment status during series	Employed
Relationships	
Sexual preference	Bisexual
Marital status	Married, divorced and remarried
Number of children	2
Lives with his children	No
Living with	Mother
Triad	

Animal torture	No
Fire setting	No
Bed wetting	No
Killer Psychological Information	
Abused drugs?	No
Abused alcohol?	No
Been to a psychologist?	Yes
Time in forensic hospital?	No
Diagnosis	Anti social personality disorder
Killer Criminal History	
Committed previous crimes?	No
Spend time in jail?	No
Spend time in prison?	Yes, Sentenced to 10 years only served 18 months
Killed prior to series? Age?	No
Serial Killing	
Number of victims	33
Victim type	Young men
Killer age at start of series	30
Gender of victims	Male
Race of victims	White
Age of victims	14(2), 15(3), 16(3), 17(5), 18(2), 19(7), 20(3), 21(2)
Method of killing	Beating, strangling, stabbing.
Type of serial killer	Organized lust
How close did killer live?	Walking distance but usually happened at his home
Killing occurred in home of victim?	No
Killing occurred in home of killer?	Yes
Weapon	Killer brought with him/sometimes no weapon
Behavior During Crimes	
Rape?	Yes (sodomy)
Tortured victims?	No
Stalked victims?	Yes
Overkill?	No
Quick & efficient?	Yes
Used blindfold?	No
Bound the victims?	Yes
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	Yes, watches and drivers license
Robbed victim or location	No
Disposal of Body	
Left at scene, no attempt to hide	No
Left at scene, hidden	Yes
Left at scene, buried	Yes
Moved, no attempt to hide	No
Moved, buried	Yes
Cut-up and disposed of	No

Moved, too home	Yes
Sentencing	
Date killer arrested	December 21, 1978
Date convicted	March 1980
Sentence	12 death sentences and 21 life sentences
Killer executed?	Yes
Name and state of prison	Iowa State correctional facility
Killer committed suicide?	No
Killer killed in prison?	No
Date of death	May 10, 1994

** There were some discrepancies with the exact dates of some of the events in his life.