

John Joubert
“Woodford Slasher”



Information researched and summarized by
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Date	Age	Life Event
07/02/1963	0	Born in Lawrence, Massachusetts
1969	6	Parents divorced. He was forced to live with his mother in Lawrence, Massachusetts. He was not allowed to visit his father and grew to hate his controlling mother. He also had a babysitter who he fantasized about murdering and cannibalizing. He thought that the babysitter and his mother were planning to break up his family.
1971	8	Moved out of his house into a rundown apartment with his mother. At this time he was an outcast at school. He was skinny and teased a lot by his peers. This is when he decided to join cub scouts. Around this time is when he began wondering what it would feel like to kill someone.
1974	11	He moved to Portland, Maine.
1975	12	He admitted that he was a homosexual. This devastated him at school because he was teased and made fun of a lot.
1976 - 1979	13-16	He stabbed a 9-year-old girl, Sarah Canty, in the back with a pencil. This was the first of a few attacks. After he got away with that, he slashed another girl with a razor blade while riding by on his bicycle. A few years later he attacked an 8-year-old boy, and nearly strangled him to death. After that he began using a knife to slash or stab people, but never killed anyone. His offences were gradually increasing and he never got caught for any of these.
01-24-1980	17	He attacked a 27-year-old student going to the University of Maine, John stabbed her in the stomach and critically injured her.
03-24-1980	17	He attacked a 9-year-old boy. He cut the boy's throat, but the boy survived.
08-22-1982	19	He murders Richard Stetson (WM, 11) in Portland, Maine. This was the first of his three murders. He stabbed the boy in the chest and was bitten by John in his calf.
1982	20	He joined the Air Force. He met a good friend, Eric Braden, who was his first really close friend. Something that he had never had before but had always wanted. This deterred him away from killing for a while.
1983	20	He loses his best friend, Eric Braden. This made him fall into a deep depression.
09-18-1983	20	He kills Danny Joe Eberle (WM, 13) in Bellevue, Nebraska. He tied the boy up and stabbed him. For this murder he used rope, tape, and a knife. These were the 3 main items he ever used.
12-02-1983	20	He kills Chris Waldren (WM, 12) in the woods near the track in Papillon,

		Nebraska.. He took off his clothes, started to choke him and eventually stabbed him several times in the back.
01-11-1984	20	He attacked a woman at Aldersgate church. She got his license plate and the police were able to locate him. Police arrested him at his apartment on the Air Force base. They brought him to the police department and he eventually confessed to the murders of Chris Waldren and Danny Joe Eberle.
07-03-1984	21	In Nebraska, pleads guilty to the murders of Chris Waldren and Danny Joe Eberle.
10-09-1984	22	The judge sentences John Joubert to die in the electric chair in Nebraska.
1987	25	He still fantasizes about death and murder even though he claims to be in control of his thoughts.
10-15-1990	28	He was convicted in Maine of the murder of Richard Stetson, his first victim.
1990	28	He spent his time drawing on tissue paper his fantasies of violence with boys.
1995	32	He appealed his death sentence in a Nebraska court and the court reviewed the case. He argued the fact that the court's wording of the aggravating factors was unconstitutionally vague. The court upheld his sentence.
07-17-1996	33	Executed by the electric chair in Lincoln, Nebraska.

General Information

Sex	Male
Race	White
Number of victims	3 murder victims
Country where killing occurred	United States
States where killing occurred	Nebraska and Maine
Cities where killing occurred	Portland, Maine / Bellevue, Nebraska / Papillion, Nebraska
Type of killer	Organized Lust because he had a specific type of victim and he had confusion between sex and violence. He would masturbate after killing a victim. He was aroused by killing the boys.
Height	5'6

Childhood Information

Date of birth	07/02/1963
Location	Lawrence, Massachusetts
Birth order	N/A
Number of siblings	1 sister
XYX?	No
Raised by	Mother. She would not allow him to visit his father. He also had a babysitter who he fantasized about murdering and cannibalizing.
Birth category	N/A
Parent's marital status	Divorced
Family event	Divorce when John was 6 years old.
Age of family event	6
Problems in school?	Yes, did not get along well with others, so he spent most of his time lonely.
Teased while in school?	Yes, he was teased as being a homosexual.
Physically attractive?	Yes
Physical defect?	No
Speech defect?	No
Head injury?	None
Physically abused?	No
Psychologically abused?	Was not allowed to see his father. He did not have a role model. He grew to hate his mother because of this.
Sexually abused?	No
Father's occupation	He was cooker and waiter at a diner.

Age of first sexual experience	N/A
Age when first had intercourse	N/A possibly not at all.
Mother's occupation	N/A
Father abused drugs/alcohol	No signs of abuse
Mother abused drugs/alcohol	No signs of abuse
Cognitive Ability	
Highest grade in school	12
Highest degree	High school diploma
Grades in school	N/A
IQ	In the range of 123
Source of IQ information	Psychology test from Topeka Psychiatric Center. (Pettit, A Need to Kill, p.177)
Work History	
Served in the military?	Yes
Branch	Air Force
Type of discharge	None, he was in the Air Force while committing the murders.
Saw combat duty	No
Killed enemy during service?	No
Applied for job as a cop?	No
Worked in law enforcement?	No
Fired from jobs?	No
Types of jobs worked	Assistant scoutmaster for a boy scout group. Also was in the Air Force.
Employment status during series	Enlisted in the Air Force, stationed at Offutt Air force Base.
Relationships	
Sexual preference	As a child, he developed a strong friendship with a boy. This was somewhat of a homosexual relationship. When he was separated from this boy, he was very upset. This is partly why he chose to attack young girls in his adolescence.
Marital status	Single
Number of children	None
Lives with his children	N/A
Living with	Lived with a roommate on the Air Force base.
Triad	
Animal torture	No
Fire setting	No
Bed wetting	No
Killer Psychological Information	
Abused drugs?	No
Abused alcohol?	No
Been to a psychologist?	Yes, after being convicted.
Time in forensic hospital?	No
Diagnosis	He was said to be obsessive-compulsive, sexually sadistic, had mixed personality disorder, and suffering from schizoid personality disorder.
Killer Criminal History	
Committed previous crimes?	When he was 13, he stabbed a young girl in the back with a pencil as he was riding by on his bicycle. After he got away with that, he slashed another girl with a razor blade while riding by on his bicycle. A few years later he attacked an 8 year old boy and nearly strangled him to death. After that he

	began using a knife to slash or stab people, but never killed anyone. His offences were gradually increasing and he never got caught for any of these.
Spend time in jail?	None before being convicted of the murders.
Spend time in prison?	Yes, after being convicted of the murders.
Killed prior to series? Age?	No
Serial Killing	
Number of victims	3
Victim type	Boys ages 11-13
Killer age at start of series	20
Date of first kill in series	August 22 nd , 1982
Date of final kill in series	December 2 nd , 1983
Gender of victims	Male
Race of victims	White
Age of victims	11, 13, and 12
Method of killing	Stabbing, slashing, biting, strangulation
Weapon	He used a hunting knife which he brought with him. He also used a rare kind of rope to tie up the victims. He used tape to restrain victims as well.
Was gun used?	No
Type	N/A
Did killer have a partner?	No
Name of partner	N/A
Sex of partner	N/A
Type of serial killer	Organized Lust
How close did killer live?	In the same community, he drove to the crime scene. He drove a tan car which was used to recognize him.
Location of first contact	Street
Location of killing	Victims were abducted on the street and later found dead in nearby rural wooded areas.
Killing occurred in home of victim?	No
Killing occurred in home of killer?	No
Victim abducted or killed at contact?	Yes, abducted the boys off the street.
Behavior During Crimes	
Rape?	No
Tortured victims?	Yes, the victims were bound by rope with multiple stab wounds and bite marks.
Stalked victims?	He would drive around a neighborhood to scope out potential victims.
Overkill?	Yes, many stab wounds, bite marks, bondage.
Quick & efficient?	No, they were not killed at the scene of abduction. They were taken from the street then later tortured and killed.
Used blindfold?	No
Bound the victims?	Yes
After Death Behavior	
Sex with the body?	No
Mutilated body?	Yes, multiple stab wounds, slashes, and bite marks.
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	The bodies were left near the scene in rural wooded areas. Although the bodies were hidden, it was clear that John Joubert was not overly concerned with concealment of the bodies because they were not hidden very well.
Left at scene, hidden	The bodies were hidden near the scene in rural wooded areas. The method of dumping suggested that the killer was acting out of panic rather than experience.
Left at scene, buried	No
Moved, no attempt to hide	The bodies were found a few miles from where the abduction took place, but not far from the area.
Moved, buried	The bodies were moved, but not buried.
Cut-up and disposed of	The bodies were cut with knife wounds, but not cut up for disposal purposes.
Moved, too home	No
Sentencing	
Date killer arrested	January 11 th , 1984
Date convicted	He was convicted in Nebraska on January 12 th , 1984 for the murders of Danny Eberle and Christopher Walden, his second and third victims. He was convicted in Maine in late 1990 for the murder of Richard Stetson who was his first victim.
Sentence	Death (electric chair)
Killer executed?	Yes
Did killer plead NGRI?	No, pled guilty.
Was the NGRI plea successful?	N/A
Name and state of prison	Nebraska State Prison
Killer committed suicide?	No
Killer killed in prison?	No
Date of death	July 17 th , 1996
References	
Pettit, M (1990). <i>A need to kill</i> . New York: Ballantine Books.	
(2007). John Joubert, Nebraska Boy Snatcher. Retrieved March 26, 2008, from Crime Library Web site: http://www.crimelibrary.com/serial_killers/predators/john_joubert	