

Gary Leon Ridgway
"Green River Killer"



Information summarized by
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Date	Age	Life Event
02-18-1949	0	Born. Also has two brothers, Gregory L. and Thomas E. Live in Salt Lake City, Utah.
		His parents did not mingle in the neighborhood nor invited people into their home. Gary's ex-wives mostly spoke of negative experiences with his parents, especially with his mother. She exhibited a domineering attitude towards her son which caused frequent disagreements within his parent's marriage. She once got so mad at her husband that she broke a plate over his head to which he did not retaliate, but rather just left the room. However, Gary was closer to his mother than he was his father.
		An ex-wife stated that his mother dressed in tight clothes, wore excessive makeup and looked like a prostitute. Gary would later admit to detectives of his feelings of sexual attraction to his mother as well as feelings of lust and humiliation.
		Gary kept his mother on his checking account even after he got married and always checked with his mother before making any major purchase.
1960	11	Family moves to Washington State.
1964	16	Stabbed first victim, a 6-year old boy, critically injuring him. Police ignored it when the boy blamed Ridgeway for the attack.
04-02-1969	20	Hired as an hourly employee at the truck maker, Kenworth. Returns to the job later after a stint in the U.S. Navy.
June 1969	20	Graduates from Tyee High School. Attended Chinook Junior High and Bow Lake Elementary.
08-18-1969	20	Enlists in the Navy,
Dec. 1969	20	Diagnosed with gonorrhea
08-15-1970	21	Marries Claudia Kraig Barrows at Fort Lawton Chapel. They would have one son.
07-23-1971	22	Discharged from the Navy
01-14-1972	22	Divorces Claudia Barrows
12-14-1973	24	Marries Marcia Lorene Winslow
09-05-1975	26	Has son from Marcia named Matthew
07-17-1980	31	Marcia files complaint with Kent Police Department, where she claimed Ridgway was harassing her over phone about divorce papers. She reported Ridgway was going to get a gun and blow her boyfriend's head off.

07-20-1980	31	Gets into a physical fight with Marcia. Both are known to have bad tempers.
07-21-1980	31	Accused of choking a prostitute.
May 1981	32	Meets girlfriend at a Parents Without Partners meeting. They have their first sexual encounter in an Army bunker at Fort Casey. He occasionally ties her up for sex.
05-21-1981	32	Divorced from Marcia Winslow.
Late 1981	32	Girlfriend asks him to move out of her home.
Nov. or Dec. 1981		Meets another girlfriend through Parents Without Partners. She says he had low self-esteem and was unable to please his mother with his actions.
12-4-1981	32	Comes to Parents Without Partners social function around 11p.m. Seemed upset and tells girlfriend that he nearly killed a woman, maybe a prostitute.
		Girlfriends state that he would often demand sex 2 or 3 times a day
1982	33	Police see him parked near a Little League baseball field with Keli McGinnis, an 18-year-old prostitute
1982	33	The first victims turned up near the banks of the Green River south of Seattle, and the case gets its name. Others were found near ravines, airports and freeways. Many of the victims have ties to prostitution, drugs, and street life and were last seen near what was then called the Sea-Tac Strip near the airport where there were many bars, dance clubs and street life.
1982	33	16 women would go missing and the remains of 6 of them would be found.
Jan 82 – Aug 89	32-38	Lives at 21859 32 nd Pl S. in SeaTac about three miles from where the first victims were found in the Green River Kent.
Jan 1982	32	Meets future girlfriend at Parents Without Partners dance at Normandy Park.
01-21-1982	32	Leann Wilcox (WF, 16) disappears
April 1982	33	Arrested during a prostitution sting on the airport strip and found guilty.
April 1982	33	Couple moves into his house in SeaTac to help pay his bills. He lives in a garage that was converted into a living area. Woman says he was rarely home at night
05-11-1982	33	Arrested for agreeing to an act of sex for money with an undercover King County police officer. He is driving a maroon-colored 1975 Dodge truck.
May or June 1982	33	The second girlfriend breaks off relationship after third girlfriend tells her he gave her herpes.
07-07-1982	33	Amina Agisheff (WF, 36) disappears
07-08-1982	33	Wendy Lee Coffield (WF, 16) disappears
07-17-1982	33	Gisele Ann Loworn (WF, 17) disappears
08-01-1982	33	Marcia Chapman (BF, 31) disappears
08-11-1982	33	Cynthia Hinds (BF, 17) disappears
08-12-1982	33	Opal Mills (WF, 16) disappears
08-15-1982	33	Remains of Chapman, Hinds, and Mills found.
08-16-1982	33	The formation of the Green River Task Force is announced
08-28-1982	33	Kase Lee (WF, 17) disappears
08-29-1982	33	Terry Rene Milligan (BF, 16) disappears
09-15-1982	33	Mary Bridget Meehan (WF, 18) disappears
09-20-1982	33	Debra Lorraine Estes (WF, 15) disappears
09-26-1982	33	Linda Jane Rule (WF, 16) disappears
10-08-1982	33	Denise Darcel Bush (BF, 23) disappears
10-09-1982	33	Shawnda Leea Summers (BF, 16) disappears
10-21-1982	33	Shirley Marie Sherrill (WF, 18) disappears
12-03-1982	33	Rebecca Marrero (HF, 20) disappears
12-24-1982	33	Colleen Renee Brockman (WF, 15) disappears
03-03-1983	34	Alma Ann Smith (WF, 18) disappears
03-08-1983	34	Delores LaVerne Williams (BF, 17) disappears
04-10-1983	34	Gail Lynn Matthews (WF, 23) disappears
04-14-1983	34	Andrea M. Childers (WF, 19) disappears
04-17-1983	34	Sandra Kay Gabbert (WF, 17)
04-17-1983	34	Kimi-Kai Pitsor (WF, 16) disappears

04-30-1983	34	Marie M. Malvar (HF, 18) disappears
May, 1983	34	Ridgway emerges as a suspect in the disappearance of Marie Malvar
05-03-1983	34	Carol Ann Christensen (WF, 21) disappears
05-08-1983	34	Police discover body of Carol Ann Christensen. Her body is found in a totem-like display, with strategically placed fish, freshly ground beef on her hand.
05-22-1983	34	Martina Theresa Authorlee (BF, 18) disappears
05-23-1983	34	Cheryl Lee Wims (BF, 18) disappears
05-31-1983	34	Yvonne Antosh (WF, 19) disappears
06-01-1983	34	Carrie Ann Rois (WF, 15) disappears
06-08-1983	34	Constance Elizabeth Naon (WF, 19) disappears
06-28-1983	34	Keli McGinnis (WF, 18) disappears. Her body has never been found.
07-18-1983	34	Kelly Marie Ware (WF, 22) disappears
07-25-1983	34	Tina Marie Thompson (WF, 21)
08-18-1983	34	April Dawn Buttram (WF, 16) disappears
09-05-1983	34	Debbie May Abernathy (WF, 26) disappears
09-12-1983	34	Tracy Ann Winston (WF, 19) disappears
09-28-1983	34	Maureen Sue Feeney (WF, 19) disappears
10-11-1983	34	Mary Sue Bello (WF, 25) disappears
10-26-1983	34	Pammy Annette Avent (BF, 15) disappears
10-30-1983	34	Delise Louise Plager (WF, 22) disappears
11-01-1983	34	Kimberly L. Nelson (WF, 21) disappears
12-23-1983	34	Lisa Yates disappears
Jan 1984	34	Task force for the Green River killings formed
01-24-1984	34	Patricia Osborn (19) disappears
02-06-1984	34	Mary Exzetta West (BF, 16) disappears
03-21-1984	35	Cindy Ann Smith (WF, 17) disappears
1984	35	Ridgway takes a lie detector test
Jan 1985	35	Serial killer Ted Bundy offers his assistance
1986	37	Ridgway takes another lie detector test and passes
10-17-1986	37	Patricia Michelle Barczak (WF, 19) disappears
02-07-1987	37	Roberta Joseph Hayes (WF, 36) disappears
04-07-1987	38	Search warrant issued for hair and saliva samples from his home at 21859 S. 32 nd St. in Kent.
1988	39	Marries for the 3 rd time (Judith Lynch)
03-05-1990	41	Marta Reeves (WF, 36) disappears
1990	41	Green River task force disbanded
Dec 1992	43	Lives at 2139 S. 253 rd St. in Kent, WA
Sept. 1997 to present	48	Lives at 4633 S. 348 th St. in Auburn, WA
January, 1998	48	Patricia Yellow Robe (NA F, 36) disappears
2000	51	Linda Blaney, a co-worker at the Kenworth truck plant, thought he was a nice person, until he nearly ran her down with his pickup and found humor in her panic.
2001		A new task force formed in the Green River killings investigation.
11-16-2001	52	Arrested on loitering-for-prostitution charges.
11-27-2001	52	Pleads guilty to loitering-for-prostitution
11-30-2001	52	Arrested on charges that he killed four women: Chapman, Hinds, Mills and Christensen.
12-05-2001	52	Charged for 4 counts of aggravated murder
12-18-2001	52	Pleads not guilty to murder charges
09-05-2002	53	Ridgway files for divorce from his third wife, Judith
03-27-2003	54	Ridgway is charged with aggravated first-degree murder in the deaths of three more Green River victims, Wendy Coffield, Debra Estes and Debra Bonner.
June 2003	54	Released from the ultra-security unit of the county jail in downtown Seattle to the

		Sheriff's office.
08-16-2003	54	The remains of Pammy Annette Avent are found off Highway 410 near Enumclaw, nearly 20 years after her disappearance
08-21-2003	54	A bone fragment is found on a steep hillside just off Kent-Des Moines Road in Kent. A total of 19 bones are found but DNA tests fail to link the remains to a known green river victim.
Aug 30 – Sept 2, 2003	54	Remains of April Dawn Buttram are found near Snoqualmie just off interstate 90, 20 years after her disappearance
09-28-2003	54	The remains of Marie Malcar are found in a steep ravine on Auburn's West Hill.
11-05-2003	54	Pleads guilty to 48 murders in plea bargain. 42 women are on the Green River List, and six are not. Four of the women remain unidentified.
12-18-2003	55	Sentenced to life without the possibility of parole. Sentence did not include the suspected murders in Oregon and British Columbia.

General Information

Sex	Male
Race	White
Number of victims	Sentenced for 48, admitted to 60
Country where killing occurred	United States, Canada
States where killing occurred	Oregon, Washington, British Columbia
Type of killer	Shows mostly organized characteristics and also a few unorganized characteristics
Height	5' 10"

Childhood Information

Date of birth	February 18, 1949
Location	Salt Lake City Utah
Birth order	2 nd of 3
Number of siblings	2
XYX?	N/A
Raised by	Both parents
Birth category	Middle
Parent's marital status	Married
Family event	Divorce, death of parent, etc.
Age of family event	Mother dies from cancer – March 2001
Problems in school?	Slow learner, poor reader, didn't graduate until he was 20yrs old. Earned mostly D's.
Teased while in school?	N/A
Physically attractive?	No
Physical defect?	No
Speech defect?	No
Head injury?	Yes
Physically abused?	Yes
Psychologically abused?	Yes
Sexually abused?	Yes
Father's occupation	N/A
Age of first sexual experience	N/A
Age when first had intercourse	N/A
Mother's occupation	N/A
Father abused drugs/alcohol	N/A
Mother abused drugs/alcohol	N/A

Cognitive Ability

Highest grade in school	12
Highest degree	High School Diploma

Grades in school	Mostly D's
IQ	Low 80's
Work History	
Served in the military?	Yes
Branch	Navy for 2 yrs
Type of discharge	July 23, 1973 was discharged
Saw combat duty	August 1970 – 6 month tour in Western Pacific
Killed enemy during service?	N/A
Applied for job as a cop?	Yes, but did not get it
Worked in law enforcement?	no
Fired from jobs?	no
Types of jobs worked	Kenworth Trucking company for 32+ yrs as a painter
Employment status during series	Employed as a painter for Kenworth
Relationships	
Sexual preference	<p>Heterosexual - Ridgway had an unusual sexual appetite. His three ex-wives and several old girlfriends told the reporter that he was sexually insatiable, demanding sex several times a day. Often times, he would want to have sex in a public area or in the woods, even in the areas where some of the bodies had been discovered.</p> <p>Ridgway was also known to have been obsessed with prostitutes, a fixation that bordered on a love-hate relationship. Neighbors knew him to constantly complain about prostitutes conducting business in his neighborhood, but at the same time he frequently took advantages of their favors. It was possible that he was torn by his uncontrollable lusts and his staunch religious beliefs. According to one of his wives, he became a religious fanatic, often times crying following sermons and reading the Bible.</p>
Marital status	Married 3 times, divorced 3 times
Number of children	1
Lives with his children	N/A
Living with	Spouse, mother, girlfriend, self, friend
Triad	
Animal torture	Suffocated a cat
Fire setting	Some while a child
Bed wetting	Until age 13
Killer Psychological Information	
Abused drugs?	N/A
Abused alcohol?	N/A
Been to a psychologist?	N/A
Time in forensic hospital?	No
Diagnosis	N/A
Killer Criminal History	
Committed previous crimes?	Yes
Spend time in jail?	N/A
Spend time in prison?	N/A
Killed prior to series? Age?	No
Serial Killing	
Number of victims	48+

Victim type	Prostitutes, runaways
Killer age at start of series	N/A
Gender of victims	Female
Race of victims	39 White, 11 Black, 2 Hispanic, 1 Native American
Age of victims	15(3), 16(9), 17(7), 18(7), 19(7), 20, 21(3), 22(3), 23, 24, 25, 26(3), 31, 36, 37, 38
Method of killing	Mostly Strangulation but also stabbing and suffocation Guns and knives "would have been messy." Choking was "more personal and more rewarding," he would later say.
Type of serial killer	Organized lust, disorganized thrill
How close did killer live?	Drove to crime
Killing occurred in home of victim?	No
Killing occurred in home of killer?	Mostly in his house, but also in his car and sometimes the place other than his house where he did the raping/killing such as the woods
Weapon	Several documented times he strangled them with the pants they wore when they were being raped/killed. Other instances the weapon was not mentioned
Behavior During Crimes	
Rape?	Yes
Tortured victims?	N/A
Stalked victims?	N/A
Overkill?	N/A
Quick & efficient?	N/A
Used blindfold?	N/A
Bound the victims?	Sometimes
After Death Behavior	
Sex with the body?	Yes, he stated it was a matter of "economics and convenience" He would return to the body of someone he had killed earlier to have sex without having to "hunt" another victim.
Mutilated body?	N/A
Ate part of the body?	No
Drank victim's blood?	No
Posed the body?	Some
Took totem – body part	N/A
Took totem – personal item	Jewelry and clothes, he said to make them harder to identify
Robbed victim or location	N/A
Disposal of Body	
Left at scene, no attempt to hide	Some
Left at scene, hidden	N/A
Left at scene, buried	Some
Moved, no attempt to hide	N/A
Moved, buried	Some buried by themselves, some buried in "clusters", some in the Green River
Cut-up and disposed of	N/A
Moved, too home	N/A
Sentencing	
Date killer arrested	November 30, 2001
Date convicted	December 18, 2003
Sentence	Life without the possibility of parole
Killer executed?	No
Did killer plead NGRI?	No
Was the NGRI plea successful?	N/A
Name and state of prison	N/A

Killer committed suicide?	No, yes, attempted
Killer killed in prison?	No, yes, attempted
Date of death	N/A

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