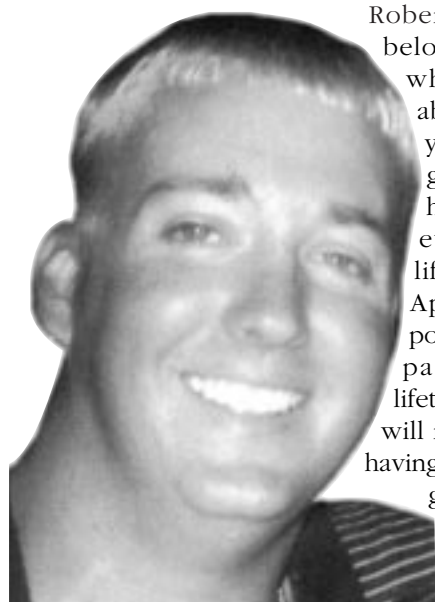


VICIOUSLY MURDERED...

An Innocent Victim of Jealousy and Rage



Robert (Bobby) Rippie was the beloved son of Belinda Rippie whose life was taken so abruptly at only twenty-seven years of age. Belinda didn't get to say good-bye, tell him how proud she was of him, or even give him a hug. Her life changed so suddenly on April 7, 2001, nothing could possibly ever be the same. The pain she suffers will last a lifetime. Belinda stated, "Bobby will never experience the joy of having a family of his own, or even grandchildren. He's gone forever, but my loving memories will never fade. My son, unknown to Victor

9-1-1. Her plea for help was cut short as Victor, her ex-boyfriend, knocked the phone from her hand, chased her out of the apartment and tackled her on the stairs, leaving her semi-conscious. Thinking he can come back for her, Lisa was able to flee to an apartment and hide. Victor then turned his vengeance on Bobby. He pins him to the wall and throws debilitating blows at Bobby, leaving him incapacitated on the floor. Bobby was still conscious, unable to move, while Victor retrieved his pump action shotgun from the front bushes where it was hidden. He returns, shooting Bobby once in the head and once in the chest as Bobby begged for mercy. Victor ignored those cries, ending Bobby Rippie's life in cold blood. The 9-1-1 operator witnessed the entire gruesome murder.

Victor Dupriest ran from the apartment with shotgun in hand to find his ex-girlfriend, Lisa, to finish his work. Victor was witnessed walking through the apartment complex soldier style with his shotgun on his shoulder looking under cars and in bushes for Lisa. Victor returned to Lisa's apartment, picked up the phone and confessed his crimes to the 9-1-1 operator.

Victor was arrested shortly after the events took place, and confessed again to Bobby's murder and Lisa's attack. The entire ordeal was on tape. This tape sealed Victor's fate.

On August 6, 2002, the trial began with Victor accepting a plea bargain for 40 years without the possibility of parole. He acknowledged responsibility for his actions, but still tried to place the blame on the drugs and alcohol he consumed that evening.

The following day, Belinda Rippie along with her family and friends delivered their heart wrenching impact statements to Judge

Dupriest, was a young man who was an example to so many. A young rising star at Gate Petroleum, a little league baseball coach, a friend to many, a nephew, cousin, grandson, and my only son."

Bobby Rippie was a victim in every sense of the word. He was asleep, unarmed and unaware, and did absolutely nothing to provoke this vicious and brutal act. He was the victim of Victor Dupriest's jealousy and uncontrollable rage.

Bobby and his girlfriend, Lisa, were awakened at 3:00 a.m. by the sound of the front door caving in. Lisa immediately dialed

Innocent Victim... Continued on page 2



APRIL 15TH!

A Lifetime Of Secrecy... Surviving Domestic Violence

By: Sharon Youngerman Executive Director Quigley House

We all know someone like Thelma - she's the kind woman who lives down the street to whom everyone looks to for advice. Little did anyone suspect Thelma was in an abusive relationship called Domestic Violence, which is breaking down our society, one family at a time.

Thelma was a victim of severe child abuse. When she met Eugene at age 15, she saw him as the, "knight in shining armor" who would rescue her from a life of misery. The two were married, and things seemed fine initially. It didn't take long, however, for Eugene to begin to show his displeasure with Thelma. Thelma believed she was not measuring up as a good wife, so she tried even harder. No matter how hard she tried, it never seemed to be

good enough for Eugene - when she didn't iron his shirts quite right, or his coffee wasn't exactly like he wanted, he would "set her straight" with a slap. She asked her mom for help; her mom told her to be a good wife and try harder, advising her that children may bring the pair closer.

Thelma tried to follow her mother's advice, and was pregnant at age 17. She believed that having a baby would show Eugene she was

a good wife. She couldn't understand why he continued to yell at her, calling her names. She was horrified when he punched her stomach because she questioned if he really needed that fifth beer. But, Thelma was not a quitter; she had hopes that the new baby would change Eugene, that he would quit drinking as he promised many times before and he would finally see her as a good wife and mother. Besides, she had never worked

before, she was pregnant, and had never learned how to drive...how could she make it on her own?

In 1972 the couple had been married for fifteen years. Throughout the years, Eugene continued his emotional and physical abuse of Thelma. He continued to control the finances, giving Thelma only a small allowance each week for groceries. Eugene isolated

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