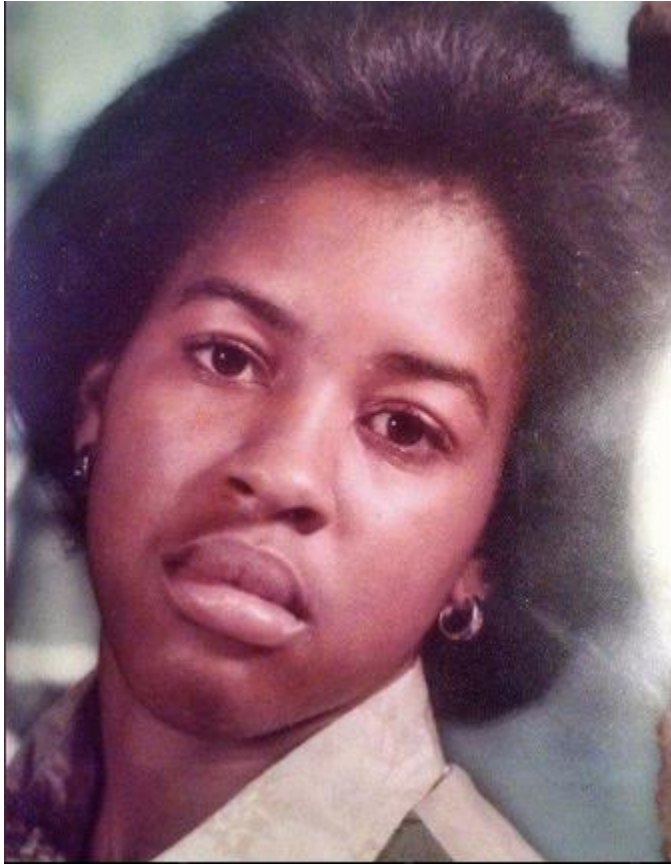


Selfless nature led Kelly Ward to cross paths with a serial killer



Kelly Ann Ward was murdered in 1986 by serial killer Joseph Miller Jr. Photo courtesy of Faun Ward.

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Kelly Ann Ward never told anyone how much it hurt to be an 11-year-old who had to watch her mother die of lupus.

Ward, of Harrisburg, also didn't talk about the fact that she never had a relationship with her father, either.

The south Harrisburg native was selfless and tough. But her cousin, Faun Ward, knew deep down she was hurting.

Faun, 49, also knows internalizing the pain is what likely led Ward to a possible life of drug abuse and prostitution. It's what put the 25-year-old in the path of a serial killer roughly 30 years ago, he said.

"Kelly ended up that way because she had to stay numb," Faun said.

Ward, whose family reported her missing in 1986, [was the latest known victim of notorious midstate serial killer Joseph D. "Joey" Miller](#), police said Wednesday.

Miller hasn't admitted to killing Ward, but all indications point to the former Steelton resident, who is serving three life sentences for the murders of women in the midstate during the late 1980s and early 1990s and has confessed to killing a fourth woman.

Miller led police to both bodies after he was caught in the act of kidnapping, beating and raping a woman in 1992 in Susquehanna Township.



[Laughing serial killer Joseph Miller denied slaying woman found near other victims, cops say](#)

"I am not the only serial killer that was killing girls," Miller said when confronted about the slaying of Kelly Ann Ward.

Part of Ward's skeleton was found in the woods along Chambers Hill Road in Swatara Township on Feb. 20, 1997.

Her remains were found near a site where Miller had discarded the other bodies, police said.

Miller was known to target black prostitutes in uptown Harrisburg. And Ward, who was black, was rumored to have been a prostitute in the same area, police said in charging documents filed against Miller, who is serving two life sentences for killing Selina Franklin, 18, and Stephanie McDuffey, 23.

In the spring of 2014, police were able to confirm Ward's identity with help from the FBI. But Faun said the case might never have been reopened had it not been for the ache he felt continued to feel for his cousin years after she disappeared.

After more than a decade had passed since he last saw her, Faun said he began having dreams about Ward, who he said was like a mother to him throughout much of his childhood.

In 2007, Faun said he went to the Harrisburg police station to find out where things stood with the case.

"I always thought, 'where is she?'" Faun said. "So I was driving and I slammed on the brakes, and I thought, 'I can't live knowing my cousin, who took care of me, is gone.'"

Faun learned in 2007 that his cousin's case was closed.

But at his request, a detective reopened the case. The detective told Faun that with the amount of crime Harrisburg police had to deal with, a cold case would be worked on in baby steps.

"I said, 'as long as we are working on it,'" he said.

When police were able to confirm that the skeletal remains found in 1997 belonged to Ward, Faun said he felt some sense of relief. But then the realization set in that his cousin, who grew up in South Harrisburg, was murdered and her body was left to rot in the woods for years.

"I will never meet or have another relative like her," he said. "She was my sister, brother and my dad. She fought for me."



[The grisly history of serial killer Joseph Miller's crimes](#)

Convicted serial killer Joseph Miller is being charged with first-degree murder more than twenty years after he was arrested for the rape and murder of four Harrisburg-area women.

Source: http://www.pennlive.com/news/2016/04/selfless_nature_led_kelly_ward.html

Arrest made in 1997 cold case murder

1 / 5

Joseph "Joey" Miller, convicted serial killer in a Sept. 2, 1992 Allied Pix file photo by Norman Arnold. Miller was charged on April 13, 2016 with homicide in a 1997 cold case after a woman's body was found in Dauphin County. Photo scanned in 12/28/2005.

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on April 13, 2016 at 10:20 AM, updated April 13, 2016 at 11:50 AM

UPDATE: [Former Steelton man Joey Miller has been charged with first-degree homicide.](#)

Swatara Township police and the Dauphin County District Attorney's Office plan to announce an arrest in a cold case murder from 1997, the two agencies said this morning.

A press conference has been scheduled for 11:30 a.m.

No other details were provided. However, skeletal remains were found along Chambers Hill Road in February 1997. The Patriot-News reported at the time that Coroner Graham Hetrick was treating the death as a homicide. The bones were that of a woman of slight build between the ages of 18 and 30.

Hetrick said the bones had been there for three to five years, the newspaper reported.

Police also found a button, some clothing fibers that need to be analyzed, some jewelry and a ladies Timex watch. Hetrick planned to bring in a forensic pathologist to analyze the remains.

In 2011, investigators seemed no closer to an identification for Jane Doe, although her description had been narrowed to include that she was white or Hispanic and petite, standing

between 4-feet-11 inches and 5-feet-1-inch tall. She had a narrow face and a receding jaw. Her watch was fastened tight, so she was probably small-framed.

She was wearing a white blouse with cloth-covered buttons, and maybe a burgundy sweater or stretch pants when she died.

Authorities checked into Harrisburg-area missing-persons cases but think there is a good possibility she had no ties to the midstate.

In September 1997, school children found the body of a Harrisburg woman later identified as Barbara Ford, 41, but investigators found no evidence of foul play.

Source:

http://www.pennlive.com/news/2016/04/arrest_made_in_1997_cold_case.html#incart_river_home

Charges filed in connection to Dauphin Co. cold case murder, DA says

By Marc Stempka Wednesday, April 13th 2016

SWATARA TOWNSHIP, Pa. —

Prosecutors in Dauphin County say they will hosted a news conference Wednesday morning concerning an arrest made in connection to a 1997 murder in Dauphin County.

Police and the Dauphin County Coroner's Office said 51-year-old Joseph Miller [has been charged in connection to the death of Kelly Ann Ward](#), whose body was found in an area once used as a landfill in Swatara Township.

Miller has been incarcerated for committing other murders in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

Source: <http://local21news.com/news/local/arrest-made-in-connection-to-dauphin-co-cold-case-murder-da-says>

Doe Network Case 1272UFPA