

## St. Petersburg police identify missing girl, 42 years after her death



In 1973, a teenage girl died after she was pushed in front of a car in St. Petersburg. On Thursday, police announced she had been identified as 16-year-old Janice Marie Young.

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### **ST. PETERSBURG --**

A 42-year-old cold case has finally been solved in St. Petersburg.

In June 1973, detectives say a teenage girl died after she was pushed in front of a car during an argument in St. Petersburg. For years, officials were unable to identify the girl. She remained "Jane Doe" to police and the medical examiner, and she was eventually buried at Memorial Park Cemetery in an unmarked grave.

In 2006, Investigator Brenda Stevenson started looking into the case for the St. Petersburg Police Department. Officials say Stevenson reviewed the case and started searching missing person's cases around the United States for clues.

By 2010, Stevenson's attempts hadn't moved the case much, so she spoke to the Medical Examiner's Office about the possibility of exhuming the teenager's body in hopes of identifying her using DNA.

The Medical Examiner's Office reached out to Dr. Erin Kimmerle, an anthropology professor at the University of South Florida, and they began work to exhume the bodies of the teenager and two other unidentified victims, all of which were buried in unmarked graves - called "pauper's graves" - at Memorial Park.

DNA samples were taken from the girl's remains, but they were not able to make any matches.

Then in 2013, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children reached out to Stevenson and started publicizing the case of Jane Doe in hopes that someone might recognize her.

In October 2014, the center's officials posted the girl's information on Facebook, including the name she'd given police when she encountered them a few days before her death: Janice Marie Brock.

Three months later, detectives received a call from a man named Timothy Young, who lived in Monroe, North Carolina. He told detectives he had been searching for his sister, Janice Marie Young, since 1973. He said his sister had run away from their home in Newport News, Virginia, and was never seen or heard from again.

Detectives said Young told them the siblings were adopted in 1969, and their birth last name as legally changed from Brock to Young.

Detectives said Young had been searching for his sister under the name of Young for years, until he decided to search the Internet using the name of Brock. That's when he found the information that had been posted, along with a composite sketch of Jane Doe, and realized the composite looked like his sister.

Officials said detectives had arrested a man in Young's death back in 1973, but that the charges were later dropped by the State Attorney's Office, as they said they were unable to prove the man's intent.

Source:

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Doe Network Case File 381UFFL