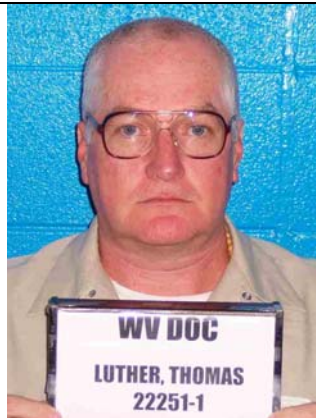


Thomas Edward Luther
"Tom"



Information researched and summarized by

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Date	Age	Life Event
06/23/1957	0	Born in Hardwick, Vermont
1961	4	Mother slammed head against stovetop
	9	Started drinking
	12	Drug use started
	12	First sexual intercourse experience with aunt
	14	Dropped out of school in the 9 th grade, had serious drinking problem
	17	Father died
01/06/1982	24	Bobby Jo Oberholtzer and Annette Schnee disappeared in Breckenridge, Colorado. Oberholtzer is later found dead.
02/13/1982	24	Mary Brown was raped. Luther is arrested and charged with the crime.
06/23/1983	26	Luther agreed to plead guilty to first-degree and second-degree sexual assault in exchange for other charges from the February 13 incident being dropped.
09/01/1983	26	Luther is sentenced to 15 years in prison.
Spring 1990	33	Met Debra Snider (girlfriend)
01/05/1993	35	Released from Colorado penitentiary, Snider picked him up
03/28/1993	35	Luther and Cher left Byron's house (last time Cher was seen alive) - Cher and Luther seen in central City casino
04/12/1993	35	Attacked Heather Smith, stabbed her 5 times, and lured her to her car by responding to her ad late at night. Beat her so badly she almost died.
04/20/1993	35	First interview with detective Richardson about Cher Elder case
07/12/1993	36	Lakewood police department held a press conference showing pictures of Cher, Luther and Luther's car
08/21/1994	37	In West Virginia, Luther beat and raped Bobbi Joe Jones before letting her go.
01/25/1995	37	Sentenced to 17 years in prison (sexual assault in the first degree) for the rape of Bobbi Joe Jones. Luther is sent to Mt. Olive Correctional Center in West Virginia.
02/21/1995	37	Police found Cher Elder's body

01/23/1996	38	Trial began for Cher Elder's murder
02/06/1996	38	Jury finds Luther guilty of second-degree murder.
04/05/1996	38	Sentenced to 48 years for the murder of Cher Elder. Luther will begin serving this sentence after he gets out of prison in West Virginia.
May, 1996	38	Sentenced to 50 years for the rape and attack on Heather Smith.

General Information

Sex	Male
Race	White
Number of victims	8 suspected, 1 convicted
Country where killing occurred	United States
States where killing occurred	Colorado, Vermont, West Virginia, Pennsylvania
Cities where killing occurred	Lakewood, Colorado
Type of killer	Disorganized thrill
Height	5' 10"

Childhood Information

Date of birth	June 23, 1957
Location	Hardwick, Vermont
Birth order	1 st of 5
Number of siblings	4
XYY?	
Raised by	Both parents
Birth category	Oldest
Parent's marital status	Married
Did serial killer spend time in an orphanage?	No
Did serial killer spend time in a foster home?	No
Was serial killer ever raised by a relative?	No
Did serial killer live with a step-parent?	No
Family event	Dad died
Age of family event	17
Problems in school?	Just academically
Teased while in school?	No
Physically attractive?	Yes
Physical defect?	No
Speech defect?	No
Head injury?	Yes, mother slammed head against stove
Physically abused?	Yes, mother beat head in stove
Psychologically abused?	Yes mom told him he would never amount to anything
Sexually abused?	Yes, sex with aunt
Father's occupation	
Age of first sexual experience	12
Age when first had intercourse	12
Mother's occupation	-
Father abused drugs/alcohol	no
Mother abused drugs/alcohol	yes

Cognitive Ability

Highest grade in school	9
Highest degree	None
Grades in school	
IQ	
Source of IQ information	Smith (2006, page 34)

Work History

Served in the military?	No
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Branch	
Type of discharge	
Saw combat duty	
Killed enemy during service?	
Applied for job as a cop?	No
Worked in law enforcement?	No
Fired from jobs?	
Types of jobs worked	Small time drug dealer, woodcutter, construction worker, taxi driver
Employment status during series	Janitor, dealing drugs, crook
Relationships	
Sexual preference	Heterosexual
Marital status	Single
Number of children	None
Lives with his children	
Living with	Girlfriend
Triad	
Animal torture	no
Fire setting	no
Bed wetting	no
Killer Psychological Information	
Abused drugs?	Yes, marijuana, amphetamines, LSD teenage yrs, later yrs cocaine marijuana
Abused alcohol?	Yes drinking since childhood
Been to a psychologist (prior to killing)?	No
Time in forensic hospital (prior to killing)?	No
Diagnosis	Suffers from mixed personality disorders, explosive and antisocial features. He knows the difference between right and wrong (a serial killer with antisocial personality disorder knows the difference but simply doesn't care)
Killer Criminal History	
Committed previous crimes?	Charged w/ attempted murder, kidnapping, sexual assault, pleaded guilty to assault and second degree sexual assault
Spent time in prison?	Almost 11 years
Killed prior to series? Age?	Perhaps, at least 2 murders suspected
Serial Killing	
Number of victims	1 murder, 1 attempted murder
Victim type	Young women, reminded him of his mom
Killer age at start of series	35
Date of first kill in series	March 28, 1993
Date of final kill in series	March 28, 1993
Gender of victims	Female
Race of victims	White
Age of victims	20, 21
Type of victim	Acquaintance
Method of killing	Shooting
Weapon	Killer brought with him
Was gun used?	Yes
Type	.22 caliber
Did killer have a partner?	No

Name of partner	
Sex of partner	
Relationship of partner	
Type of serial killer	Disorganized
How close did killer live?	Drove to crime
Location of first contact	Victim's boyfriends house
Location of killing	Unknown, picked Cher up from Byron's, body found in woods
Killing occurred in home of victim?	No
Killing occurred in home of killer?	no
Victim abducted or killed at contact?	Yes
Behavior During Crimes	
Rape?	Yes
Tortured victims?	No
Stalked victims?	No
Overkill?	Yes
Quick & efficient?	No
Used blindfold?	No
Bound the victims?	No
After Death Behavior	
Sex with the body?	No
Mutilated body?	No
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	Before series
Left at scene, hidden	No
Left at scene, buried	No
Moved, no attempt to hide	No
Moved, buried	Sometimes- cher yes
Cut-up and disposed of	No
Moved, too home	No
Sentencing	
Date killer arrested	1982
Date convicted	April 5, 1996
Sentence	65 years, second-degree murder
Killer executed?	No
Did killer plead NGRI?	No
Was the NGRI plea successful?	
Did serial killer confess?	No
Name and state of prison	Mt. Olive Correctional Center, West Virginia
Killer committed suicide?	No
Killer killed in prison?	No
Date of death	

References

Factiva.com

<http://www.westword.com/1996-04-11/news/voices-of-doom/>

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