

**William Lester Suff**  
*“Riverside Prostitute Killer”*  
*“Lake Elsinore Killer”*



Information summarized and researched by

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Date	Age	Life Event
08-20-50	0	Born
	0	Two brothers ~ One troubled by drugs, one predilection for pedophilia.
1968	18	Graduated from Perris High School (87 <sup>th</sup> in a class of 144)
1974	24	Suff and wife arrested for beating their two-month old daughter to death. Sentenced to 70 years. Suff claimed that the baby must have fallen out of the crib.
March, 1984	34	Gets paroled from prison.
1986	36	Worked as a stock clerk for Riverside County Won Chili cook-off.
October 1986	36	Body of Michelle Guterrez found, severe trauma to the anus and vagina.
December 1986	36	Body of Charlotte Jean Palmer found.
January 1987	36	Body of Linda Ann Ortega found.
May 1987	36	Body of Martha Bess Young found.
January 1989	38	Body of Linda Mae Ruiz found.
June 1989	38	Body of Kimberly Lyttle found. Several pubic hairs and fibers were found on the victim.
November 1989	39	Body of Judy Lynn Angel found.
December 1989	39	Body of Christina Leal found in Quail Valley, tire tracks found at scene, body was fully clothed, no serious abuse, light bulb found in her vagina.
January 1990	39	Body of Daria Jane Ferguson found in Lake Elsinore. Tire tracks at the scene.

February 1990	39	Body of Carol Lynn Miller found, pubic hairs found.
November 1990	40	Body of Cheryl Coker found, killer removed her right breast and left it beside her, found shoe prints at scene.
December 1990	40	Body of Susan Sternfeld found, no mutilation, strangled.
January 1991	40	Body of Kathleen Leslie Millne found at Lake Elsinore, she had been dead for less than 24 hours.
April 1991	40	Body of Cherrie Payseur found in a bowling alley parking lot, she had a toilet plunger protruding from her vagina.
July 1991	40	Body of Sherry Ann Latham found, strangled, found feline hairs on her.
August 1991	41	A man suspected to be Suff in a grey van picked up a prostitute and she managed to jump out of the van and escape.
August 1991	41	Picked up Kelly Marie Hammond, strangled her, body was still warm when police found her.
September 1991	41	Body of Catherine McDonald found, African American, Right breast cut off.
October 1991	41	Body of Delliah Zamora found.
December 1991	41	Body of Eleanore Casares found just down the street from the police station, right breast was missing.
January 1992	41	Pulled over for an illegal U-turn and took to the police station.
February 28, 1992	41	Arraigned at the Riverside Municipal Courthouse
March 25, 1995	44	Trial began before Judge Charles Morghan in the Riverside Hall of Justice.
July 1994	44	Suff was convicted of 12 of the 13 counts of murder he was being tried for. The trial lasted for 4 months. Jurors stated that the trial was emotionally draining.

### General Information

Sex	Male
Race	White
Number of victims	19 prostitutes
Country where killing occurred	United States
States where killing occurred	Riverside California and Lake Elsinore
Type of killer	e.g. Organized lust
Height	N/A (Stocky)

### Childhood Information

Date of birth	August 20, 1950
Location	Torrance, California. Grew up in Perris (A rural Riverside Community).
Birth order	1 <sup>st</sup> of 3
Number of siblings	2
XY? Y?	No
Raised by	N/A
Birth category	Oldest
Parent's marital status	N/A
Family event	N/A
Age of family event	N/A
Problems in school?	Yes-Did poorly on written subjects but was Friendly and did well in music and shop classes.
Teased while in school?	No
Physically attractive?	No (Puffy, pug-nosed, stocky and pasty-faced)

Physical defect?	N/A
Speech defect?	N/A
Head injury?	N/A
Physically abused?	N/A
Psychologically abused?	N/A
Sexually abused?	N/A
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	No
Mother abused drugs/alcohol	No
<b>Cognitive Ability</b>	
Highest grade in school	12
Highest degree	Diploma
Grades in school	Was 87 in a class of 150
IQ	N/A
<b>Work History</b>	
Served in the military?	Yes
Branch	Air Force
Type of discharge	N/A
Saw combat duty	N/A
Killed enemy during service?	No
Applied for job as a cop?	No (impersonated California highway patrolman)
Worked in law enforcement?	No
Fired from jobs?	No
Types of jobs worked	Stock clerk, Air Force Medic
Employment status during series	Employed as a stock clerk
<b>Relationships</b>	
Sexual preference	Hetero
Marital status	Married
Number of children	one
Lives with his children	Killed Child
Living with	Spouse
<b>Triad</b>	
Animal torture	No
Fire setting	No
Bed wetting	No
<b>Killer Psychological Information</b>	
Abused drugs?	Prostitutes had drugs in system upon death
Abused alcohol?	No
Been to a psychologist?	No
Time in forensic hospital?	No
Diagnosis	No
<b>Killer Criminal History</b>	
Committed previous crimes?	Yes-murdered 2 month old child
Spend time in jail?	Yes
Spend time in prison?	Yes
Killed prior to series? Age?	Yes-24
<b>Serial Killing</b>	

Number of victims	19
Victim type	Prostitutes
Killer age at start of series	36
Gender of victims	Female
Race of victims	All Caucasians except for one African American
Age of victims	Between 23 and 42
Method of killing	Asphyxiation
Type of serial killer	Organized lust
How close did killer live?	drove to crime
Killing occurred in home of victim?	No
Killing occurred in home of killer?	No
Weapon	Killer brought with him
Behavior During Crimes	
Rape?	No
Tortured victims?	Stabbed face, chest, buttocks (chest mostly). Shoved a light bulb up Leal's vagina, strangled as mutilations took place. Most cause of death was listed as Asphyxiation.
Stalked victims?	No
Overkill?	No
Quick & efficient?	No
Used blindfold?	No
Bound the victims?	No
After Death Behavior	
Sex with the body?	No
Mutilated body?	Genital and anus area, cut of right breast to shock police
Ate part of the body?	No
Drank victim's blood?	No
Posed the body?	Yes, some found posed in spread eagle position
Took totem – body part	Yes, sometimes took right breast
Took totem – personal item	Yes, would often take items of clothing and jewelry then give them to female friends.
Robbed victim or location	Yes, took clothing and jewelry from victims
Disposal of Body	
Left at scene, no attempt to hide	Left along the road in a ravine
Left at scene, hidden	Some hidden, off to the side of the road, under tree branches
Left at scene, buried	No
Moved, no attempt to hide	Sometimes, dumped in fields, groves, roadsides, and dumpsters
Moved, buried	No
Cut-up and disposed of	Yes, cut off right breast on occasion
Moved, too home	No
Sentencing	
Date killer arrested	January 1992
Date convicted	July 1995
Sentence	Death (Guilty on 12 of 13 counts)
Killer executed?	Awaiting Execution
Did killer plead NGRI?	No
Was the NGRI plea successful?	No
Name and state of prison	Death row at San Quentin Prison
Killer committed suicide?	No
Killer killed in prison?	No
Date of death	N/A

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