

A gentle, quiet woman — a gruesome death

REPORT FROM 13
to a conference in Allentown, sponsored by Friends Without Frontiers (FWF).
Mrs. Reiser, divorced for three years, was an active member of the Valley Forge chapter of FWF, an organization for single parents and their children. In 1975 she had been education director of the chapter and last January she was selected to give a workshop for discussion moderators at a conference of FWF's eastern regional council in Allentown.
Earlier in the week, however, according to Valley Forge board president of the regional council and a member of the Valley Forge FWF chapter, Mrs. Reiser had called her to say that something had come up, something personal that she didn't want to talk about. She asked if someone would cover the workshop for a few minutes.



Steven Reiser, details obscured; Karen Reiser, still missing; Michael Reiser, late uncertainty.

Michael, an outgoing, basketball-loving boy, has been involved in sports of all kinds, especially basketball, volleyball and tennis. Like most boys his age, he could recite the names of all the Phillies.
Both children attended the Christward Elementary School, where Karen had completed the sixth grade and Michael the fourth. "They were both quiet, helpful, well-mannered children," said Dennis Strong, the school secretary. "They were never over a problem."
Now, the mother is dead and the children have vanished.
"She was such a great little person in my eyes" and an elderly Irish woman who lives across the street from Mrs. Reiser's home. "I can't see how she was able to find God, or still ring in my ears. I feel so sad for her. I hope she finds peace and that she's in heaven and that God took care of her."

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"I can't think of any person who would do such a thing to her," said Mrs. Reiser's friend, a local English teacher and friend. "She was a cautious person, and I can't imagine her pecking up anybody on the road."
"Everybody avoided her was just flabbergasted," said a local English teacher and friend. "She was a cautious person, and I can't imagine her pecking up anybody on the road."

Devoted to children
Indeed, Mrs. Reiser spent almost all her free time in the company of her children. She was a mother of three children, two boys and one girl, and she was devoted to them. Friends said she was a mother of three children, two boys and one girl, and she was devoted to them. Friends said she was a mother of three children, two boys and one girl, and she was devoted to them.

"The children don't remember her. Nothing was too much trouble when it came to her children," said a neighbor.
Mrs. Reiser was equally devoted to her teaching, her colleagues at Upper Merion High School said. She had been teaching English there since the fall of 1974 and quickly became popular with both students and faculty colleagues.

"Other people came first with her. She was often so concerned with her family, her friends and her students that she didn't have time for herself," said one teacher. "She was able to reach students that no one else could reach because of her intense personal relationships with people."
A friend told Mrs. Reiser developed and taught a course on film at the high school. She was also involved in the theater association and involved in a project to refurbish high school corridors throughout the state to make them more responsive to student needs.

Friends' memories
"She would sit in circles and start talking about topics," said a student who was in Mrs. Reiser's English class last year. "She was really interesting and engaging. One in a while, her voice would squeak and all the girls would let her. But she didn't mind at all."
A slight, petite woman with short brown hair, Mrs. Reiser often wore glasses with long frames, and many people were charmed by her affliction. "She didn't drive much, but she wasn't driver-orientated," said a friend. "She was in style, but not over-the-top in style."

She enjoyed reading, and went to plays, movies, concerts and restaurants. She was married and had two children, but she also had a good sense of humor and was intelligent, articulate, logical and analytical.
"She wasn't the flamboyant type like my aunt," said Ginger Magan, 44, who knew Mrs. Reiser through FWF. "She didn't wear ostentatious clothes and had excellent taste. She was the type of person who when she spoke, you instantly knew she was intelligent. She knew how to communicate with people and make them feel better when they were feeling low and lousy."

The daughter of a newspaper business manager and a former school teacher, Mrs. Reiser was born and grew up in Ramsey, Pa. County, in northwestern Pennsylvania. Her older brother, Patrick Gallagher, a research chemist in suburban Pittsburgh, remembers his childhood as a happy little girl with piglets and a loving, petting who helped other people to find themselves and grow.

English major
Mrs. Reiser majored in English at Grove City College, Pa., where she met the man she later married, and earned a master's degree from Pennsylvania State University in 1968. She and Reiser, who was then in the Air Force, were married in 1968. He transferred to different bases, she followed him, teaching in Pennsylvania, California and Florida. The couple settled in the Philadelphia area in 1971. They separated in 1974 and were divorced in 1976.
Recently, close friends said, Mrs. Reiser had become eager for a change of scene, and was exploring the possibility of going to Europe at the end of the summer. The death of her mother last fall also weighed

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