

- [Summary](#)
- [Who was Richard Rameriz](#)
  - [Early days](#)
  - [Insanity](#)
    - [Satan Worship](#)
- [Murders](#)
- [Arrest](#)
- [Conviction](#)
  - [Phyllis Singletary](#)
    - [Bonnie & Clyde Syndrome](#)
- [Marriage](#)
- [Death](#)
  - [Green?](#)

#### April 10, 1984 — Ramirez's First Victim

Ramirez's first known murder happens. Nine-year-old Mei Leung, a Chinese-American girl, is murdered in the basement of the San Francisco hotel where Ramirez was living. She is raped and stabbed to death before Ramirez hangs her body from a pipe. It is not initially identified as being part of his crime spree, however. In 2009, his DNA matches a sample obtained at the crime scene. In 2016, officials disclose a second suspect was likely present due to DNA evidence, but they are not publicly identified due to lack of evidence.

#### June 28, 1984 — The Night Stalker's First Murder In LA

Ramirez's first identified Night Stalker crime occurs. Jennie Vincow, 79, was found murdered in her Los Angeles apartment, nearly decapitated. Ramirez's fingerprint is found on a window screen he removed to enter the apartment.

#### March 17, 1985 — Serial Murders Begin

Ramirez attacks Maria Hernandez, 22, outside her home in Rosemead, CA. He shoots her in the face but she survives after a bullet ricochets off a set of keys. Her roommate, Dayle Yoshie Okazaki, is also fatally shot in the head by Ramirez.

An hour later, Ramirez heads to Monterey Park, where he shoots Tsai-Lian "Veronica" Yu twice after pulling her out of her car. Media calls Ramirez "The Walk-In Killer" and "The Valley Intruder."

#### March 27, 1985 — Whittier Murders

Ramirez enters a Whittier, CA home he previously burglarized. He fatally shoots Vincent Charles Zazzara, 64, in the head while he's asleep. His wife, Maxine Levenia Zazzara, 44, wakes up from the gunshot. Ramirez beats her and searches the room for valuables. Maxine escapes the binds and grabs a gun that isn't loaded. Ramirez shoots her three times, then stabs her, gouges out her eyes, puts them in a jewelry box and leaves. He leaves footprints in the flower beds and bullets at this scene match those from his previous attacks.

#### May 14, 1985 — Ramirez Attacks Doi Family

Ramirez breaks into Bill and Lillian Doi's home in Monterey Park. He shoots Doi in the face, beats him unconscious, and then binds Lillian, searches their home for valuables, and then rapes her. Bill Doi dies at the hospital.

#### May 29, 1985 — Ramirez Kills In Monrovia, Begins Driving Stolen Car

Ramirez drives a stolen car to Monrovia, CA, and breaks into Mabel "Ma" Bell and Florence "Nettie" Lang's home. He attacks Lang with a hammer, binds her in the bedroom, and then binds and attacks Bell. He uses Bell's lipstick to draw a pentagram on her body and the walls of both of their bedrooms after raping her. The women are found two days later alive, but Bell eventually dies due to her injuries.

#### May 30, 1985 — Ramirez Terrorizes In Burbank

Ramirez drives the stolen car to Burbank and breaks into Carol Kyle's home. He binds Kyle and her son, 11, then has the son point out where the valuables are. He rapes Kyle, binds the son to her, and flees.

#### July 2, 1985 — Arcadia Murder

Ramirez drives the stolen car to Arcadia, CA, to Mary Louise Cannon's home. He knocks her out with a lamp and stabs her with a knife from her kitchen. She is found dead.

#### July 5, 1985 — Survivor In Sierra Madre

Ramirez heads to Sierra Madre, CA, where he attacks Whitney Bennett, 16, with a tire iron as she sleeps. He then tries to strangle her with a telephone cord, but the cord sparks and Bennett begins to breathe. Ramirez flees, believing Jesus saved her. Bennett survives the attack.

#### July 7, 1985 — Ramirez Tells Victim To "Swear On Satan"

Ramirez breaks into Joyce Lucille Nelson's Monterey Park home. He burglarizes her home, then beats her to death, leaving a shoeprint on her face. He then enters Sophie Dickman's home, handcuffs her at gunpoint, tries to rape her, and steals her jewelry. He tells her to "swear on Satan" that he stole everything of value in her home.

#### July 20, 1985 — Glendale & Sun Valley Murders

Ramirez buys a machete and drives a different stolen vehicle to Glendale, CA. He enters Lela and Maxon Kneiding's home, kills them with both a machete and gun, and burglarizes their home. He then drives to Sun Valley, breaks into the Khovananth home, and fatally shoots Chainarong Khovananth. He rapes and beats Somkid Khovananth, binds their eight-year-old son, and forces Somkid to point out valuables in the home. He also forces her to "swear to Satan" that she isn't hiding money.

#### August 6, 1985 — Two More Victims Survive The Night Stalker

Ramirez breaks into Chris and Virginia Peterson's home. He shoots Virginia in the face, then shoots Chris in the neck and tries to flee the scene. Chris fights back but Ramirez manages to escape. The couple survives.

#### August 8, 1985 — Ramirez Attacks Abowath Family

Ramirez breaks into Sakina and Elyas Abowath's home. He fatally shoots Elyas, who was sleeping. He then handcuffs, beats, and rapes Sakina while demanding their jewelry. He ties up their three-year-old son.

#### August 18, 1985 — Ramirez Attacks In The Bay Area

By this point, Ramirez has left Los Angeles for the San Francisco Bay Area. He breaks into Peter and Barbara Pan's home. He shoots Peter in the head, then beats and rapes Barbara before fatally shooting her. He uses lipstick to draw a pentagram and write "Jack the knife" on a bedroom wall.

#### August 25, 1985 — Ramirez Is Identified As The Night Stalker

Ramirez drives to Mission Viejo in a stolen orange Toyota. James Romero, Jr.'s 13-year-old son hears Ramirez outside their home and wakes up his parents. Ramirez flees, but the family manages to glimpse the color and make of his car and part of the license plate number.

Ramirez then breaks into Bill Carns and Inez Erickson's home. He shoots Carns three times in the head and tells Erickson he's the Night Stalker and that she must swear to love Satan. After raping her, he tells her, "Tell them the Night Stalker was here." Erickson later gives officials a description of Ramirez and they are able to find the stolen car in Los Angeles. There's a single fingerprint on the mirror that matches Ramirez's. "We know who you are now, and soon everyone else will," officials say when releasing an 1984 mugshot of his. "There will be no place you can hide."

#### August 30-31, 1985 — Ramirez Is Caught By Citizens

Ramirez takes a bus to Tucson, AZ, to visit his brother. He returns to California the next morning. His mugshot is all over newspapers, which he notices. He attempts to carjack a woman's vehicle, but a group of bystanders pursue him. One manages to hit Ramirez in the head and they pin him down until police arrive.



Richard Ramirez

Monday, July 19, 2021 5:44 PM

Ricardo "Richard" Leyva Muñoz Ramírez (*ra' marez*; February 29, 1960 – June 7, 2013), dubbed the **Valley Intruder** (as his attacks were first clustered in the [San Gabriel Valley](#)) and the **Night Stalker**,<sup>[1]</sup> was an American [serial killer](#), [serial rapist](#), [kidnapper](#), [child abuser](#), and [burglar](#), convicted in 1989. Born in [El Paso, Texas](#), Ramirez's childhood is considered an influence on his crimes. His father, Julián, was prone to fits of anger that often resulted in [physical abuse](#), causing Ramirez to seek escape by sleeping in a local cemetery. As a 12-year-old, Ramirez was strongly influenced by his older cousin, Miguel ("Mike") Ramirez, a decorated [Green Beret](#) combat veteran who showed Richard Ramirez polaroid photos of his gruesome atrocities during the [Vietnam War](#). The photos included him raping both female [Vietcong](#) rebels and Vietnamese women and girls suspected of being loyal to the communist forces in the region, and their subsequent murder by decapitation with a machete afterwards. He also taught Ramirez some of his military skills that he would go on to use during his year long killing spree. In 1973, after his cousin Mike was incarcerated for murdering his wife during an argument, which the then 13 year old Richard was in the room to witness, Ramirez moved in with his older sister, Ruth, and her husband, Roberto, an obsessive "[peeping Tom](#)" who took Ramirez along on his nocturnal exploits. Ramirez also began using [LSD](#) and cultivated an interest in [Satanism](#). Ramirez's highly publicized [home invasion](#) and murder crime spree terrorized the residents of the [Greater Los Angeles](#) area and later the residents of the [San Francisco Bay Area](#) from June 1984 until August 1985. He used a wide variety of weapons, including handguns, knives, a [machete](#), a [tire iron](#), and a [claw hammer](#). In 1989, Ramirez was convicted of thirteen counts of murder, five [attempted murders](#), eleven sexual assaults, and fourteen burglaries.<sup>[2]</sup> The judge who upheld Ramirez's nineteen [death sentences](#) remarked that his deeds exhibited "cruelty, callousness, and viciousness beyond any human understanding".<sup>[3]</sup> Ramirez, who never expressed any remorse for his crimes, died on June 7, 2013 of complications from [B-cell lymphoma](#) while awaiting execution on California's [death row](#).<sup>[4]</sup> Richard Ramirez had spent roughly 24 years on death row before his death from cancer in prison.

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard\\_Ramirez](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Ramirez)>

Richard Ramirez

Biography  
(1960–2013)

Dubbed the 'Night Stalker,' Richard Ramirez was an American serial killer who killed at least 14 people and tortured dozens more before being captured in 1985.  
**Who Was Richard Ramirez?**  
Richard Ramirez was an American serial killer who killed at least 14 people and raped and tortured at least two dozen more, mostly during the spring and summer of 1985. After developing epilepsy as a child, he became a heavy drug user and cultivated an interest in Satanism, which became a calling card for investigators at his crime scenes. Apprehended in August 1985, Ramirez was sentenced to death at the conclusion of his trial in 1989. He spent the remainder of his days at California's San Quentin Prison, before dying from cancer on June 7, 2013, at age 53.


Early Life

Ramirez was born Ricardo Leyva Muñoz Ramírez on February 29, 1960, in El Paso, Texas, the fifth child of Mexican immigrants Mercedes and Julian Ramirez. Known as Richard or Ricky, Ramirez reportedly sustained multiple head injuries at an early age; after he was knocked unconscious by a swing at age 5, he began experiencing epileptic fits.

As an adolescent, Ramirez was heavily influenced by his older cousin, Miguel, who had recently returned from fighting in the Vietnam War. The two smoked marijuana together as Miguel told Ramirez about the torture and mutilation he had inflicted on several Vietnamese women, corroborating these stories with photographic evidence. At age 13, Ramirez witnessed his cousin murder his wife.

Dropping out of school in the ninth grade, Ramirez was arrested for the first time in 1977, for marijuana possession. He soon moved to California, progressing to cocaine addiction and burglary, and cultivating an interest in Satanism. He was arrested twice in the Los Angeles area for auto theft, in 1981 and again in 1984, and noticeably began to neglect his personal hygiene.

From <<https://www.biography.com/crime-figure/richard-ramirez>>

Richard Ramirez	
	
<span></span> <div>Mugshot of Ramirez, taken on December 12, 1984, after an arrest for auto theft</div>	
Born	<div>Ricardo Leyva Muñoz Ramírez</div> February 29, 1960 <div>El Paso, Texas, U.S.</div> <span></span>
Died	June 7, 2013 (aged 53) <div>Greenbrae, California, U.S.</div> <span></span>
Other <span> </span> names	<div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Night Stalker</li><li>The Walk-In Killer</li><li>The Valley Intruder</li><li>Richard Mena</li></ul></div>
Spouse(s)	Doreen Lioy
	(m. 1996)
Conviction(s)	<div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>13 counts of murder</li><li>5 counts of <a href="#">attempted murder</a></li><li>11 counts of <a href="#">sexual assault</a></li><li>14 counts of <a href="#">burglary</a></li></ul></div>
Criminal penalty	<a href="#">19 death sentences</a> (died before execution)
Details	
Victims	15+
Span of crimes	April 10, 1984–August 24, 1985
Country	United States
State(s)	California
Date apprehended	August 31, 1985
Imprisoned at	<a href="#">San Quentin State Prison</a>

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard\\_Ramirez#Capture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Ramirez#Capture)>

RICHARD RAMIREZ: THE NIGHT STALKER



**Richard Ramirez**, known as the “**Night Stalker**” was an American serial killer. **Ramirez** spent over two years of his life raping and torturing over 25 victims and killing more than a dozen people. Most of these crimes were committed in the victims California homes.

Richard, the son of Mercedes and Julian Ramirez, was born in El Paso, Texas on February 28, 1960. Growing up Richard was a troubled kid. A lot of this was due to his older cousin, Mike, who had just returned from fighting in Vietnam. Ramirez's cousin would tell him gruesome stories and show pictures of the torture he would inflict upon Vietnamese women. Mike introduced drugs to Ramirez, which consequently resulted in Ramirez committing petty crimes. He also became a Satan worshiper. Because of this rebellion, Ramirez became alienated from his parents.

From <<https://www.crimemuseum.org/crime-library/serial-killers/richard-ramirez/>>

The Crimes

Monday, July 19, 2021 5:46 PM

"Night Stalker" crimes

#	Date	Victim(s)	Location	County	Notes
1	June 28, 1984	Jennie Vincow	<a href="#">Glassell Park, Los Angeles</a>	<a href="#">Los Angeles</a>	<sup>[27][28]</sup>
2	March 17, 1985	Maria Hernandez, Dayle Yoshie Okazaki	<a href="#">Rosemead</a>		Hernandez survived attack <sup>[24]</sup>
3	March 17, 1985	Tsai-Lian "Veronica" Yu	<a href="#">Monterey Park</a>		<sup>[30]</sup>
4	March 27, 1985	Vincent and Maxine Zazzara	Unincorporated area north of <a href="#">Whittier</a>		<sup>[31][32]</sup>
5	May 14, 1985	Bill and Lillian Doi	Monterey Park		Lillian survived attack <sup>[33]</sup>
6	May 29, 1985	Mabel "Ma" Bell and Florence "Nettie" Lang	<a href="#">Monrovia</a>		Both survived attack, but Bell later died of her injuries <sup>[34]</sup>
7	May 30, 1985	Carol Kyle and her 11-year-old son	<a href="#">Burbank</a>		Both survived attack <sup>[35]</sup>
8	July 2, 1985	Mary Louise Cannon	<a href="#">Arcadia</a>		<sup>[36]</sup>
9	July 5, 1985	Whitney Bennett	<a href="#">Sierra Madre</a>		Survived attack <sup>[37]</sup>
10	July 7, 1985	Joyce Nelson	Monterey Park		<sup>[38]</sup>
11	July 7, 1985	Sophie Dickman	Monterey Park		Survived attack <sup>[39]</sup>
12	July 20, 1985	Lela and Maxon Kneiding	<a href="#">Glendale</a>		<sup>[40]</sup>
13	July 20, 1985	Chainarong and Somkid Khovananth, and their 8-year-old son	<a href="#">Sun Valley, Los Angeles</a>		Somkid and son survived attack <sup>[41]</sup>
14	August 6, 1985	Chris and Virginia Peterson	<a href="#">Northridge, Los Angeles</a>		Both survived attack <sup>[42]</sup>
15	August 8, 1985	Sakina and Elyas Abowath, and their 3-year-old son	<a href="#">Diamond Bar</a>		Sakina and son survived attack <sup>[43]</sup>
16	August 18, 1985	Peter and Barbara Pan	<a href="#">San Francisco</a>	<a href="#">San Francisco</a>	Barbara survived attack <sup>[44]</sup>
17	August 24, 1985	James Romero Jr. and family	<a href="#">Mission Viejo</a>	<a href="#">Orange</a>	Aborted attack, no injuries <sup>[45]</sup>
18	August 24, 1985	Bill Carns and Inez Erickson	Mission Viejo		Both survived attack <sup>[46][47]</sup>

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard\\_Ramirez#%22Night\\_Stalker%22\\_crimes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Ramirez#%22Night_Stalker%22_crimes)>

The first serious crime that Ramirez was involved in was the murder of his cousin's wife. Although Mike was the one who murdered his own wife, Ramirez was at the scene of the crime and didn't do anything to stop it. In 1977, Ramirez was sent to a juvenile detention center for a series of petty crimes. In addition, he was put on probation for marijuana possession in 1982. Soon after these two crimes, Ramirez moved to California and continued to commit crimes such as burglary and possession of cocaine, as well as a car theft charge, which resulted in a jail sentence.

On June 28, 1984, Ramirez's committed his first murder. The 79-year-old victim was sexually assaulted, stabbed and murdered in her own home. In just one year Ramirez had murdered over a dozen people and tortured of 25 people.

From <<https://www.crimemuseum.org/crime-library/serial-killers/richard-ramirez/>>

On June 28, 1984, 79-year-old Jennie Vincow was found brutally murdered in her apartment in [Glassell Park, Los Angeles](#).<sup>[44]</sup> She had been stabbed repeatedly in the head, neck, and chest while asleep in her bed, and her throat slashed so deeply that s he was nearly [decapitated](#).<sup>[45]</sup> Ramirez's fingerprint was found on a mesh screen he removed to gain access through an open window.<sup>[46]</sup> This, Ramirez's second known murder, would go on to establish his pattern of breaking in to homes, committing particularly vicious murders, and frequently burglarizing his victims either before or after killing them to support his cocaine addiction and pay his rent.

On March 17, 1985, Ramirez attacked 22-year-old Maria Hernandez outside her home in [Rosemead, California](#), shooting her in the face with a [.22](#) caliber handgun after she pulled into her garage.<sup>[44]</sup> She survived when the bullet ricocheted off the keys she held in her hands as she lifted them to protect herself.<sup>[44]</sup> Inside the house, her roommate, Dayle Yoshie Okazaki, age 34, heard the gunshot and ducked behind a counter when she saw Rami rez enter the kitchen. When she raised her head he shot her once in the forehead, killing her instantly.<sup>[44]</sup>

Within an hour of the Rosemead [home invasion](#), Ramirez pulled 30-year-old Tsai-Lian "Veronica" Yu out of her car in [Monterey Park](#), shot her twice with a .22 caliber handgun, and fled.<sup>[44]</sup> She was pronounced dead upon arrival at the hospital.<sup>[44]</sup> The two murders, and attempted third, in a single day attracted extensive coverage from news media, who dubbed the attacker, describe d as curly-haired with bulging eyes and wide-spaced, rotting teeth, "The Walk-in Killer" and "The Valley Intruder."

On March 27, 1985, Ramirez entered a home that he had [burglarized](#) a year earlier just outside of [Whittier, California](#), at approximately 2 a.m. and killed the sleeping Vincent Charles Zazzara, age 64, with a gunshot to his head from a .22 cali ber handgun.<sup>[44]</sup> Zazzara's wife, Maxine Levenia Zazzara, age 44, was awakened by the gunshot, and Ramirez beat her and bound her hands while d emanding to know where her valuables were.<sup>[44]</sup> While he ransacked the room, Maxine escaped her bonds and retrieved a shotgun from under the bed, which was not loaded.<sup>[44]</sup> The infuriated Ramirez shot her three times with the .22, then fetched a large carving knife from the kitchen.<sup>[44]</sup> He mutilated her body by stabbing her several times, then poked out her eyes with the knife and placed them in a jewelry box, which he took when he left and kept at his apartment as a souvenir until his arrest.<sup>[44]</sup> The autopsy determined that the mutilations were post-mortem. Vincent and Maxine's bodies were discovered by their son, Peter. Ramirez left footprints from a pair of [Avia](#) sneakers in the flower beds, which the police photographed and cast. This was virtually the only evidence that the police had at the time. Bullets found at the scene were matched to those found at previous attacks, and the police determined that a serial killer was at large.<sup>[44]</sup>

On May 14, 1985, Ramirez returned to Monterey Park and entered the home of Bill Doi, age 66, and his disabled wife, Lillian, age 56.<sup>[44]</sup> Surprising Doi in his bedroom, Ramirez shot him in the face with a .22 semi-automatic pistol as Doi went for his own handgun.<sup>[44]</sup> After beating the mortally wounded man into unconsciousness, Ramirez entered Lillian's bedroom, bound her with [thumbcuffs](#), then raped her after he had ransacked the home for valuables.<sup>[44]</sup> Bill Doi died of his injuries while in the hospital.<sup>[44]</sup>

On the night of May 29, 1985, Ramirez drove a stolen car to [Monrovia](#), and stopped at the house of Mabel "Ma" Bell, age 83, and her disabled sister, Florence "Nettie" Lang, age 81.<sup>[44]</sup> Finding a hammer in the kitchen, he bludgeoned and bound Lang in her bedroom, then bound and bludgeoned Bell before using an electrical cord to shock the woman.<sup>[44]</sup> After raping Lang, he used Bell's lipstick to draw the Satanic [pentagram](#) symbol on her thigh as well as on the walls of both bedrooms.<sup>[44]</sup> The women were found two days later, alive but [comatose](#) and critically injured. Bell later died of her injuries in the hospital.<sup>[44]</sup>

The next day, Ramirez drove the same car to [Burbank](#), and sneaked into the home of Carol Kyle, age 42.<sup>[44]</sup> At gunpoint, he bound Kyle and her 11-year-old son with [handcuffs](#), then ransacked the house.<sup>[44]</sup> He released Kyle to direct him to where the family's valuables were; he then raped her repeatedly.<sup>[44]</sup> Ramirez also repeatedly ordered her not to look at him, telling her at one point that he would "cut her eyes out". He fled t he scene after retrieving the child from the closet and binding the two together again with the handcuffs.<sup>[44]</sup>

On the night of July 2, 1985, he drove a stolen car to [Arcadia](#), and randomly selected the house of Mary Louise Cannon, age 75, a widowed grandmother.<sup>[44]</sup> After quietly entering Cannon's home, he found her asleep in her bedroom. He bludgeoned her into unconsciousness with a lamp, and then stabbed Cannon to death using a 10-inch [butcher knife](#) from her kitchen. Ramirez repeatedly stabbed Cannon's body after she was already dead. She was found dead at the scene.<sup>[44]</sup>

On July 5, 1985, Ramirez broke into a home in [Sierra Madre](#) and bludgeoned 16-year-old Whitney Bennett with a [tire iron](#) as she slept in her bedroom. After searching in vain for a knife in the kitchen, Ramirez tried to strangle the girl with a te lephone cord. He stated that he was startled to see electrical sparks emanate from the cord, and when his victim began to breathe, he fled the house believing that Jesus Christ had intervened and saved her.<sup>[44]</sup> Bennett survived the savage beating and attempted strangulation, although 478 stitches were required to close the [lacerations](#) to her scalp.<sup>[44]</sup>

On July 7, 1985, Ramirez burglarized the home of Joyce Lucille Nelson, age 60, in Monterey Park. Finding her asleep on her living room couch, he beat her to death by stomping on her face repeatedly. A shoe print from an Avia sneaker was left imprinted on her face.<sup>[44]</sup> After cruising two other neighborhoods, he returned to Monterey Park and chose the home of Sophie Dickman, age 63.<sup>[44]</sup> Ramirez assaulted and handcuffed Dickman at gunpoint, attempted to rape her, and stole her jewelry; when she swore to him that he had taken everything of value, he told her to "swear on Satan".<sup>[44]</sup>

On July 20, 1985, Ramirez purchased a [machete](#) before driving a stolen Toyota to [Glendale, California](#).<sup>[44]</sup> He chose the home of Lela Kneiding, age 66, and her husband Maxon, age 68.<sup>[44]</sup> He burst into the sleeping couple's bedroom and hacked them with the machete, then killed them with shots to the head from a .22 caliber handgun. He further mutilated their bodies with the machete before robbing the house of valuables.<sup>[44]</sup> After quickly [fencing](#) the stolen items from the Kneiding residence, Ramirez drove to [Sun Valley](#).<sup>[44]</sup>

At approximately 4:15 am, he broke into the home of the Khovananth family.<sup>[44]</sup> He shot the sleeping Chainarong Khovananth in the head with a [.25](#) caliber handgun, killing him instantly,<sup>[44]</sup> then repeatedly raped and beat Somkid Khovananth. He bound the couple's 8-year-old son before dragging Somkid around the house to reveal the location of any valuable items, which he stole. During his assault he demanded that she "swear to Satan" that she was not hiding any money from him.<sup>[44]</sup>

On August 6, 1985, Ramirez drove to [Northridge](#) and broke into the home of Chris and Virginia Peterson.<sup>[44][44]</sup> He crept into the bedroom, startled Virginia, age 27, and shot her in the face with a .25 caliber semi-automatic handgun.<sup>[44]</sup> He then shot Chris in the neck and attempted to flee; Chris fought back while avoiding being hit by two more shots during the struggle before Ramirez managed to escape.<sup>[44]</sup> The couple survived their injuries.<sup>[44]</sup>

On August 8, 1985, Ramirez drove a stolen car to [Diamond Bar, California](#), and chose the home of Sakina Abowath, age 27, and her husband Elyas Abowath, age 31.<sup>[44]</sup> Sometime after 2:30 am he entered the house and went into the master bedroom. He instantly killed the sleeping Elyas with a shot to the head from a .25 caliber handgun.<sup>[44]</sup> He handcuffed and beat Sakina while forcing her to reveal the locations of the family's jewelry, and then brutally raped her. He repeatedly demanded that she "swear on Satan" that she would not scream during his assaults.<sup>[44][44]</sup> When the couple's 3-year-old son entered the bedroom, Ramirez tied the child up and then continued to rape Sakina.<sup>[44]</sup> After Ramirez left the home, Sakina untied her son and sent him to the neighbors for help.<sup>[44]</sup>

Ramirez, who had been following the media coverage of his crimes, left Los Angeles and headed to [San Francisco](#).<sup>[44]</sup> On August 18, 1985, he entered the home of Peter and Barbara Pan. He shot the sleeping Peter, age 66, in the temple with a .25 caliber handgun, which killed him instantly.<sup>[44]</sup> He then beat and sexually assaulted Barbara, age 62, before shooting her in the head and leaving her for dead.<sup>[44]</sup> At the crime scene, Ramirez used lipstick to scrawl a pentagram and the phrase "Jack the Knife" on the

Murders

Theft turned to violence with Ramirez's (then) first known murder on June 28, 1984; the victim was 79-year-old Jennie Vincow, who was sexually assaulted, stabbed and killed during a burglary in her own home. What followed was a spree of brutal murders, rapes and robberies, leaving dozens of victims in its wake.

Ramirez next struck nearly nine months later. On March 17, 1985, he attacked Maria Hernandez, who managed to escape, and then killed her roommate, Dayle Okazaki. Not satisfied with these assaults, he also shot and killed Tsai-Lian Yu the same evening, spurring a media frenzy that saw Ramirez dubbed the "Valley Intruder" by the press.

Just 10 days later, on March 27, Ramirez murdered 64-year-old Vincent Zazzara and Zazzara's 44-year-old wife, Maxine, using an attack style that would become a pattern for the killer: The husband was shot first, then the wife was brutally assaulted and stabbed to death. In this case, Ramirez also gouged out Maxine Zazzara's eyes.

A full-scale police operation yielded no concrete results, and Ramirez repeated his attack pattern on pensioners William and Lillie Doi in May 1985. Over the next few months, his murder rate escalated, claiming another dozen victims in a frenzy of burglary, assault and brutal violence, complete with Satanic rituals. The Los Angeles Police Department responded by putting together a dedicated task force, with the FBI stepping in to assist.

The relentless media and police pressure, aided with descriptions from his surviving victims, forced Ramirez to leave the L.A. area that August. He journeyed north to San Francisco, where he took two more victims, Peter and Barbara Pan, on August 17. His unmistakable M.O., complete with Satanic symbolism, meant that the "Valley Intruder" moniker was no longer applicable; the press quickly coined a new name, the "Night Stalker," as most of his assaults took place at night in his victims' homes.

From <<https://www.biography.com/crime-figure/richard-ramirez>>

bedroom wall.<sup>[1]</sup> Ramirez again left a shoe print at the scene that detectives discovered and matched to a specific Avia shoe that wasn't common at the time. Upon the detectives' discovery of the make and U.S. distribution of Ramirez's Avia shoes, it was found that only six of them existed in the size 11 and a half.<sup>[2]</sup> With five of them shipped to locations in Arizona, and one shipped to a shoe store in Los Angeles, it was evident that the one pair of its size and kind in the state of California then belonged to Richard.<sup>[3]</sup> When it was discovered that the [ballistics](#) and shoe print evidence from the Los Angeles crime scenes matched the Pan crime scene, San Francisco's then-mayor [Dianne Feinstein](#) divulged the information, including the gun caliber,<sup>[4]</sup> in a televised press conference.<sup>[5]</sup> This leak infuriated the detectives in the case, as they knew the killer would be following media coverage, which gave him opportunity to destroy crucial [forensic evidence](#).<sup>[6]</sup> Ramirez, who had indeed been watching the press, dropped his size 11 1/2 Avia sneakers over the side of the [Golden Gate Bridge](#) that night.<sup>[7]</sup> He remained in the area for a few more days before heading back to the Los Angeles area.<sup>[8]</sup> On August 24, 1985, Ramirez traveled 76 miles south of Los Angeles, in a stolen orange Toyota, to [Mission Viejo](#). That night, he arrived at the home of James Romero Jr., who had just returned from a family vacation to [Rosarito Beach](#) in Mexico. Romero's son, 13-year-old James Romero III, happened to be awake and heard Ramirez's footsteps outside the house. Thinking there was a prowler, James went to wake his parents, and Ramirez fled the scene. James raced outside and noted the color, make, and style of the car, as well as a partial license plate number. Romero contacted the police with this information, believing James had chased away a thief.<sup>[9]</sup> After this encounter, Ramirez broke into the house of Bill Carns, age 30, and his fiancée, Inez Erickson, age 29,<sup>[10]</sup> through a back door.<sup>[11]</sup> Ramirez entered the sleeping couple's bedroom and awakened Carns when he cocked his .25 caliber handgun. He shot Carns three times in the head before turning his attention to Erickson. Ramirez told her that he was the "Night Stalker" and forced her to swear she loved Satan as he beat her with his fists and bound her with neckties from the closet.<sup>[12]</sup> After stealing what he could find, Ramirez dragged Erickson to another room before raping her. He then demanded cash and more jewelry, and made her "swear on Satan" there was no more. Before leaving the home, Ramirez told Erickson, "Tell them the Night Stalker was here."<sup>[13]</sup> Erickson untied herself and went to a neighbor's house to get help for her severely injured fiancé. Surgeons removed two of the three bullets from his head, and he survived his injuries.

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard\\_Ramirez#Capture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Ramirez#Capture)>

# Arrest

Monday, July 19, 2021 5:54 PM

## Arrest

Ramirez's actions on his final night of terror, on August 24, 1985, soon led to his capture. First, he was spotted outside a Mission Viejo home, where he unwittingly left a footprint, before the witness took note of his car and license plate. Later, after Ramirez raped another woman at her home (and shot her fiance), the victim provided a detailed description of her assailant, who had forced her to swear her love for Satan.

Ramirez's abandoned car was found a few days later, complete with enough of a fingerprint to make a match, and his criminal record enabled the police to finally put a name to the "Night Stalker." National TV and print media coverage featuring his prison photo, along with a series of clues from witnesses and survivors, led to Ramirez's capture on August 31, after he was badly beaten by East L.A. residents while attempting two carjackings.

From <<https://www.biography.com/crime-figure/richard-ramirez>>

## HOW RICHARD RAMIREZ WAS FINALLY CAUGHT

Serial killer Richard Ramirez killed at least 13 people and sexually assaulted at least 11 in Southern California in the mid-1980s, according to CBS News. Known as the Night Stalker, a list of his crimes published by the El Paso Times as reported in Clifford L. Linedecker's book "Night Stalker" says that Ramirez's victims ranged in age from 16 to 83. They were male and female. Ramirez shot them, stabbed them, and slashed their throats. He bludgeoned, mutilated, and sodomized. He burglarized and robbed. The Night Stalker terrorized the city of Los Angeles.

With so many crime scenes and a public that was eager for law enforcement to find whoever was menacing the city, catching the Night Stalker became a community affair. Detectives were able to finally pull a fingerprint from a stolen car a witness saw Ramirez driving, and they ran it through what was then a relatively new technology in 1985 called Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems, per the U.S. Department of Justice.

It was thanks to that fingerprint they got a name and a face for the man they suspected of being the Night Stalker. On August 31, 1985, Ramirez was finally caught, and in the most fitting of ways.

Once police had a name and a photo they gave it to the media to be shared with the public. It wasn't long before he was spotted by people at an East Los Angeles liquor store according to the The El Paso Times, who reported Ramirez saw his photo in the paper in the store and ran out.

According to the The Los Angeles Times, Ramirez tried to steal a car but failed so ran to another vehicle where a woman fought him during his carjacking attempt. Her 82-year-old neighbor, Jose Burgoin, heard the commotion and came out.

He told the newspaper, "I ran to defend her and he told me, 'Don't get closer or I'll shoot you.' I didn't see a gun so I opened the door and pulled him out of the car."

From there the woman's husband came out and hit Ramirez on the head with a steel rod, and though Ramirez was able to run, Borgoin called for his two son to give chase. They caught him and made him sit on the curb, the Los Angeles Times reported. Other neighbors came out to make sure he stayed there when someone realized he looked like the man in the paper who police suspected was the Night Stalker.

Julio Burgion, one of Jose's sons, told the newspaper, "People started coming out and saying that's the killer, but in Spanish. 'El maton, el maton!'" The community held Ramirez until police arrived. He died in prison in 2013.

Read More: [https://www.grunge.com/422538/how-richard-ramirez-was-finally-caught/?utm\\_campaign=clip](https://www.grunge.com/422538/how-richard-ramirez-was-finally-caught/?utm_campaign=clip)

On August 30, 1985, Ramirez took a bus to [Tucson, Arizona](#), to visit his brother, unaware that he had become the lead story in virtually every major newspaper and television news program across California. <sup>[[quote source](#)]</sup> After failing to meet his brother, he returned to Los Angeles early on the morning of August 31. <sup>[[cite\]](#)</sup> He walked past police officers, who were staking out the bus terminal in hopes of catching the killer should he attempt to flee on an outbound bus, and into a convenience store in [East Los Angeles](#). <sup>[[cite\]](#)</sup> After noticing a group of elderly Hispanic women fearfully identifying him as "*el matador*" (literally "the killer" in Spanish), Ramirez saw his face on the front pages on the newspaper rack and fled the store in a panic. <sup>[[cite\]](#)</sup> After running across the [Santa Ana Freeway](#), he attempted to [carjack](#) a woman but was chased away by bystanders, who pursued him. <sup>[[cite\]](#)</sup> After hopping over several fences and attempting two more carjackings, he was eventually subdued by a group of residents, one of whom had struck him over the head with a [fence post](#) in the pursuit. The group of enraged citizens held Ramirez down and relentlessly beat him until the police arrived and took him into custody. <sup>[[cite\]](#)</sup>

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard\\_Ramirez#Capture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Ramirez#Capture)>

# Conviction

Monday, July 19, 2021 6:13 PM

After many delays, in 1989, Richard Ramirez, age 29, was sentenced to the conviction of 13 murders, five attempted murders, 11 sexual assaults and 14 burglaries. Ramirez was [sentenced to die](#) in California's gas chamber. His remarks to this were "Big deal. Death always went with the territory. See you in Disneyland." Twenty-four years after this sentence, Ramirez had been on death row for more than 23 years, Ramirez died from B-cell lymphoma at age 53 on June 7, 2013.

From <<https://www.crimemuseum.org/crime-library/serial-killers/richard-ramirez/>>

## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF CALIFORNIA

THE PEOPLE,

Plaintiff and Respondent,

S012944

v.

Los Angeles County

RICHARD RAMIREZ,

Super. Ct. No. A771272

Defendant and Appellant.



On November 7, 1989, defendant Richard Ramirez was sentenced to death for the so-called Night Stalker murders following his convictions of 12 counts of first degree murder (Pen. Code, § 187, subd. (a)),<sup>1</sup> one count of second degree murder (§ 187, subd. (a)), five counts of attempted murder (§§ 187/664), four counts of rape (§ 261, former subd. (2)), three counts of forcible oral copulation (§ 288a, former subd. (c)), four counts of forcible sodomy (§ 286, former subd. (c)), and 14 counts of first degree burglary (§ 459). The jury found true allegations of multiple-murder, burglary, rape, forcible sodomy, and, forcible-oral-copulation special circumstances. (§ 190.2.) The court imposed a sentence of death. This appeal is automatic. (§ 1239, subd. (b).) For the reasons that follow, the judgment is affirmed.

From <<https://scocal.stanford.edu/opinion/people-v-ramirez-33683>>

Jury selection for the trial began on July 22, 1988. At his first court appearance, Ramirez raised a hand with a pentagram drawn on it and yelled, "Hail Satan!"<sup>[1]</sup> On August 3, 1988, the [Los Angeles Times](#) reported that some jail employees overheard Ramirez planning to shoot the prosecutor with a gun, which Ramirez intended to have smuggled into the courtroom.<sup>[2]</sup> Consequently, a metal detector was installed outside, and intensive searches were conducted on people entering.

On August 14, the trial was interrupted because one of the jurors, Phyllis Singletary, did not arrive at the courtroom. Later that day, she was found shot to death in her apartment. The jury was terrified, wondering if Ramirez had somehow directed this event from inside his prison cell, and whether or not he could reach other jurors. However, it was ultimately determined that Ramirez was not responsible for Singletary's death, as she was shot and killed by her boyfriend, who later committed [suicide](#) with the same weapon in a hotel.<sup>[3]</sup> The alternate juror who replaced Singletary was too frightened to return to her home. On September 20, 1989, Ramirez was convicted of all charges: thirteen counts of murder, five [attempted murders](#), eleven sexual assaults, and fourteen burglaries.<sup>[4]</sup> During the penalty phase of the trial on November 7, 1989, he was sentenced to die in California's [gas chamber](#).<sup>[5]</sup> He stated to reporters after the death sentences, "Big deal. Death always went with the territory. See you in [Disneyland](#)."<sup>[6]</sup> The trial cost \$1.8 million (\$3.76 million in 2020 dollars), which at the time made it the most expensive in the history of California until surpassed by the [O. J. Simpson murder case](#) in 1994.<sup>[7]</sup>

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard\\_Ramirez#Capture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Ramirez#Capture)>

## Night Stalker Juror Fatally Shot at Home : Killing, Apparently in Domestic Quarrel, Is Not Tied to Serial Murders; Effect on Trial Unclear

By EDWIN CHEN AND ERIC MALNIC

AUG. 15, 1989 12 AM PT

TIMES STAFF WRITERS

A juror in the Night Stalker trial was found shot to death in her Carson apartment Monday, the apparent victim of a domestic quarrel unrelated to the serial-murder case now being deliberated, authorities said.

Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies said Monday night they were seeking for questioning James Cecil Melton, 51, who shared the apartment with the victim, Phyllis Yvonne Singletary, 30.

"Apparently she (Singletary) suffered a physical beating prior to being shot" multiple times, sheriff's Deputy Bill Wehner said. "Based on the physical evidence at the location, as well as witness information, we were able to more or less determine that her death was a result of a domestic dispute between her and her live-in boyfriend, James Melton."

Neighbors Heard Shots

ADVERTISEMENT

Several neighbors said they had heard loud voices--and then gunshots--apparently emanating from the apartment Friday night. But no one called police.

Melton allegedly sped off in a late-model, gray Cadillac Coupe De Ville with a license plate reading "BOSHOG3." He was described by authorities as black, 5 feet, 10 inches tall, 160 pounds, with black hair and brown eyes.

Singletary's body was found Monday afternoon by law enforcement officials who went to her home in the 20500 block of Campaign Drive after she failed to appear at 9:30 a.m. to join the other 11 jurors in deliberating the fate of defendant Richard Ramirez. Earlier in the day, court officials had tried unsuccessfully to reach Singletary by phone.

Singletary's death interrupted deliberations in the much-delayed trial of Ramirez, an accused residential burglar who allegedly murdered 13 people throughout Los Angeles County, mostly in the spring and summer of 1985.

Superior Court Judge Michael A. Tynan, who has presided over the six-month trial, on Monday ordered all court personnel--including lawyers in the case--not to discuss Singletary's death. And Tynan declined to be interviewed.

Without telling them of their missing colleague's fate, Tynan on Monday, as he has throughout the trial, dismissed the jurors and eight alternates for the day at 3:15 p.m. with the admonishment not to expose themselves to any media reports on the case.

Legal experts said it is unclear what effect Singletary's death might have on the case, although two options appear available to Tynan.

They said the judge could replace Singletary with one of the eight alternate jurors--and perhaps sequester them from now on in order to alleviate any undue concerns on their part. The other option, they said, would be to grant a motion for a mistrial, if sought by Ramirez's lawyers, and then to start the trial anew.

"Whatever the facts of the case (Singletary's killing), the impact would be stunning on the other jurors. But it doesn't automatically mean a mistrial," said Gerald Uelmen, dean of the Santa Clara University College of Law.

A Superior Court judge in the downtown Criminal Courts Building, who asked to remain anonymous, agreed with Uelmen's assessment, as did Assistant Dist. Atty. Curt Livesay.

"If a juror becomes unavailable, we look to the judge to select one of the alternate jurors to become a member of the first 12," Livesay said. "And deliberations would start anew, with the jury considering evidence from the beginning and proceeding with the same duty the original 12 had."

Replacement Process

The Superior Court judge added: "I don't mean to sound cold. But it's like any other situation where you have to replace a juror with an alternate."

Among those who went to the scene of the killing Monday were Deputy Dist. Atty. Phil Halpin, the chief prosecutor in the case, and sheriff's homicide Detective Frank Salerno, who directed the areawide law enforcement Night Stalker task force four years ago.

A shotgun and several handguns were removed from Singletary's apartment, according to sheriff's deputies on the scene, who added that they were seeking her male roommate for

A Female Juror Was Fatally Shot During Richard Ramirez's Trial

After Ramirez's first court appearance, jurors reported they had frequent nightmares about the crimes committed by the Night Stalker. However, one day, events took an unexpected, terrifying turn. On August 14, 1988, Phyllis Singletary, one of the jurors in Richard Ramirez's trial, didn't show up at the courtroom. A few hours later, [Singletary was found shot dead](#) in her apartment.

The grand jury was terrified, believing that Ramirez somehow masterminded the murder while being behind bars.

However, the Night Stalker wasn't responsible for Singletary's murder. She had been fatally shot by her boyfriend, [James Melton](#). Two days later, Melton shot himself in the head outside his second-floor room, after the investigators received an anonymous phone tip disclosing his location.

From <<https://www.thecrimemag.com/10-little-known-facts-about-the-murderous-trio/>>



questioning.

Singletary was employed as a Pacific Bell service representative and worked in the billings department in Tustin.

She arrived in California from Texas in 1981 and still has relatives in El Paso, according to her testimony during jury selection.

By coincidence, Ramirez, 29, also is from El Paso.

There were conflicting initial estimates of when Singletary died.

Coroner's Deputy Scott Carrier said Singletary appeared to have been dead "for quite some time."

But other officials on the scene said Singletary may have been killed within 24 hours of the discovery of her body.

Several neighbors at the El Cordova Apartments, where Singletary had lived for about two years, said they heard a loud argument between her and a man that began about 10 p.m. Friday and continued until about 2 a.m. Saturday.

Two neighbors specifically said they heard several gunshots on Friday night.

Denise Saxton, 37, a legal secretary, said she heard three or four shots.

"Noises like that are pretty prevalent around here sometimes," added another neighbor, James Bennings, explaining why he did not call police.

But others who live nearby said they heard nothing.

The owner of a nearby car wash, where Singletary had worked on weekends during the past year, said he was surprised when the woman did not appear for work Saturday morning.

"It didn't fit for her not to call," the owner said. "I didn't understand it."

Another neighbor, a woman who asked that her name not be used, said she talked to Melton on Saturday and he appeared to be angry.

"(He said) his car had been broken into. He was really furious about it. I told him, 'Jim, you are working yourself into a rage' . . . I had the feeling he was ready to burst," she said.

Dan Payne, another resident of the complex, said he saw Melton and his son, along with another man, on the apartment house's common lawn Sunday.

Lidell R. Gray, chairman of the complex's community watch program, said he went to Singletary's apartment on Monday morning to give her a flyer announcing a community watch meeting on Wednesday. Gray said Melton answered the door.

"He was standing there, looking wild as the dickens," Gray said.

The Night Stalker jury heard six months of testimony and had begun deliberating July 26.

But just last Friday, the deliberations had to begin anew after Tynan dismissed a juror who had fallen asleep twice during the deliberations and replaced him with an alternate.

Singletary had told Tynan and the lawyers last December, during jury selection, that she once was married to a cocaine user who later went to a rehabilitation center.

She said she was robbed one Sunday afternoon about six years ago while waiting in a car for a friend who had gone into a convenience store. The gunman had appeared inexperienced because, she said, he allowed her to reach into her purse to fetch her money.

"I only gave him what I wanted him to have," Singletary told the judge.

She again became a crime victim just before the trial began when, on the night of Jan. 9, the windows of her car were smashed.

From <<https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-1989-08-15-mn-469-story.html>>

Psychiatrist [Michael H. Stone](#) describes Ramirez as a 'made' psychopath as opposed to a 'born' psychopath. He says that Ramirez's [schizoid personality disorder](#) contributed to his indifference to the suffering of his victims and his untreatability. Stone also stated that Ramirez was knocked unconscious and almost died on multiple occasions before he was six years old and as a result "later developed [temporal lobe epilepsy](#), [aggressivity](#), and [hypersexuality](#)."

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard\\_Ramirez#Capture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Ramirez#Capture)>

## Creating a Monster: Richard Ramirez, The Night Stalker

It was the night of June 28, 1984. Jennie Vincow, a 79-year-old mother, had seen her son the day before and was getting ready to go to bed as she did each night. However, little did she know, she would not be waking up the next morning. That was the very night Richard Ramirez would begin his horrendous killing spree as "the Night Stalker" in the Los Angeles area. Richard, in a cocaine-driven state, entered and attempted to burglarize the home of Vincow, but when he was unable to find any valuables worth stealing, he brutally slashed her throat, nearly decapitating her. He then raped Vincow's dead body before escaping into the night unnoticed.<sup>1</sup> A murder as brutal as this one was only the beginning of Richard's plunge into a vile cycle filled with murder, rape, and terror, including the murdering of thirteen people and sexually assaulting eleven women.<sup>2</sup> However, what could possibly have caused Richard Ramirez to turn into such a monster?



Richard Ramirez appearing in court with a pentagram drawn on his palm | Courtesy of Crime Museum

Richie, as his family called him, was born in the sun city El Paso, Texas to two immigrant Mexican parents, Julian and Mercedes Ramirez.<sup>3</sup> During Mercedes Ramirez' pregnancy, she worked at a boot factory where she would often have to work and breathe in dangerous chemicals all day long. This caused her to have many difficulties while she was pregnant with him; she frequently had to get hormone injections because her body was rejecting the child. Nevertheless, Mercedes was able to give birth to a healthy baby boy. Born the youngest of five siblings, Richard often looked up to his older three brothers and formed a tight connection with his sister at a young age. As a baby, Richard "was a good baby, [he] didn't cry much, [and he] ate & slept well." Ruth, his older sister, was particularly fond of her younger brother and would often dress him up and play with him. She considered him her "little doll" that "would be different than her older brothers" who teased and roughhoused with her; her brothers were known to be aggressive and had short tempers like their father.<sup>4</sup>

Tragedy struck the Ramirez household when two-year-old Richard was nearly killed by a dresser falling on his head. Young Richard was always fond of music and listening to the radio, so one afternoon while being watched by his babysitter, he begged her to turn on the radio for him. After she continually refused to do this for him, Richard thought he would do the job himself. The small two-year-old waddled into his parent's bedroom to reach the small radio on top of their long wooden dresser. However, Richard was much too small to reach the radio sitting on top; instead, he opted to climb the dresser through the open drawers to reach his goal. As his small hands and feet climbed the tall dresser, closer and closer to the radio, the dresser decided it could not hold the weight of the boy. Richard came tumbling down with the dresser over him, bashing his forehead open and knocking him unconscious for fifteen minutes, all the while bleeding profusely. Quickly, his babysitter dialed his parents and transported him to the nearest hospital where he received 30 stitches and was diagnosed with a concussion. However, this would not be the last major head injury Richard was to suffer.<sup>5</sup>

With every serial killer I've presented thus far in this blog, there seems to be a pattern present. They either got abused (whether it be physically, emotionally or sexually), faced a childhood trauma, suffered some sort of brain injury or a combination of all the above. In Ramirez's case it was a combination of all the above, but he suffered multiple brain injuries. At age 2, a dresser fell on his head causing him to get 30 stitches, almost killing him. At age 6, he was hit by a swing, knocked unconscious and this caused deep gashes. And finally at age 11, he was diagnosed with epilepsy, which is a neurological disorder marked by sudden recurrent episodes of sensory disturbance, loss of consciousness, or convulsions, associated with abnormal electrical activity in the brain. Epilepsy can be caused by brain conditions that cause damage to the brain. There are many arguments that those brain injuries sustained plus the abuse he suffered as a child played into why he became a killer. But to play devil's advocate here, there are people who suffer brain injuries and traumatic childhoods and don't end up killers. If things had gone differently for Ramirez could his life have had a different ending? Could the head trauma he suffered as a child have done lasting damage? While it is very true that we ultimately have a choice as to which direction we take in our life, it's hard to ignore that our past experiences can have influence over us.

From <<https://sites.psu.edu/kcruzpassionblog/2019/11/07/richard-ramirez-head-injuries-galore/>>





Richard Ramirez aged three and six | Courtesy of Supernaight

When Richard was five years old, he went to the local park with his older sister, Ruth, and his older brother, Robert. Excited to see his sister who was already swinging, Richard ran to Ruth. Unable to stop herself in time from swinging, she "slammed into his head with terrific force, knocking him out and giving him a deep gash."<sup>6</sup> Richard was once again knocked unconscious and taken to the hospital. A year later, now age six, Richard began to have epileptic seizures and was diagnosed with "Temporal Lobe Epilepsy," and he would continue to have seizures until his early teens. People diagnosed with temporal lobe epilepsy often showcase "altered sexuality, hyper-religious feelings, are hypergraphic, and are excessively aggressive."<sup>7</sup>

The most notable influence over Richard in his developing years was his older cousin Miguel, a former Green Beret who served in Vietnam. At age twelve Richard began to spend time with him when he returned home from his service. To Richard, Miguel was a real-life hero who fought in the name of freedom and returned with several medals pinned to his chest. Miguel would often show Richard the polaroids he took in Vietnam of Vietnamese women forced into performing fellatio at gunpoint on Miguel. He would then show Richard a photo of him holding those same women's decapitated heads.<sup>8</sup> Richard later recounted that he was oddly sexually aroused by these images, even though he knew they were wrong. Richard quickly came under Miguel's wing. On afternoons, Miguel would train Ramirez in military tactics he learned while in Vietnam; how to be stealthy and how to kill another human being effectively were all lessons Miguel taught Richard.<sup>9</sup>



Richard Ramirez as a child | Photo courtesy of The Post-Mortem Post

May 4, 1973 was a night Richard would never forget. It started as every other evening did, with Richard over at Miguel's house smoking pot and playing miniature pool, when he reached into the fridge for a cold drink. While grabbing the drink Richard noticed a .38 caliber inside the fridge. Stunned by his discovery, Richard asked Miguel what the gun was doing inside of the fridge; Miguel quickly dismissed him and told him he might be using it. Later that night, Miguel's wife came home after grocery shopping, complaining that Miguel didn't have a job; this was a fight they often had. Calmly, Miguel walked over to the fridge, pulled out the gun and shot his wife at point blank range. Richard stood stunned before Miguel ordered him to leave the scene and not tell anyone what he had witnessed. Richard walked back to his own home, saying nothing to any of his family members or law enforcement. Miguel was captured for the crime but not charged because he pled insanity, citing that he had not gotten proper psychological treatment after the Vietnam War. But that was the first time Richard came into contact with death personally, specifically the death of someone he knew well. Richard years later recounted that "it was the strangest thing... I knew her... she was dead, murdered, gone."<sup>10</sup>

When studying Richard's childhood years, it is clear he had all the ingredients to become a serial killer. From the devastating head injuries that left him mentally impaired to the overwhelming negative influence of his cousin Miguel, one can clearly see that Richard's childhood greatly affected the way he grew up, later to become the horrendous Night Stalker. From Richard Ramirez case, one can learn what it takes to create a murderer and how an adolescence's development can influence the human mind.

From <https://stmuhistorymedia.org/creating-a-monster-richard-ramirez-the-night-stalker/>

## Satan worship

Monday, July 19, 2021 6:43 PM

### Ramirez Ordered Her to 'Swear Upon Satan,' Rape Victim Testifies

A 28-year-old Diamond Bar woman whose husband was allegedly shot to death by accused Night Stalker Richard Ramirez testified Tuesday that her assailant ordered her to "swear upon Satan" that she would not scream before he searched her home for valuables and raped her.

"I said, 'I swear upon God I'm not going to scream,' " the woman said, speaking softly but steadily. "He said, 'Don't swear upon God, swear upon Satan.' "

Minutes later, she said, her attacker, who had been rummaging through the residence for valuables, accused her of having hidden a diamond wedding ring.

"I said, 'I swear upon God I did not,' " she said. "Again, at that time, he hit me and he said to swear upon Satan."

The woman, whose name was not revealed in court at the direction of Los Angeles Municipal Judge James F. Nelson, dramatically identified Ramirez as her attacker at the conclusion of her testimony.

#### Accused Identified

"Do you see the man here today that was in your house that morning?" asked Deputy Dist. Atty. P. Philip Halpin.

Turning her head slowly, the woman shuddered as she viewed Ramirez slouching in his seat at the defense table. She quickly pointed her left hand toward him and said, "Oh, yeah! Him."

The long-haired defendant, who had been covering part of his face with his left hand, grinned.

Ramirez, a 26-year-old drifter from El Paso, is accused of 14 murders, five attempted murders, 19 burglaries, six robberies, seven rapes, five acts of oral copulation, seven of sodomy, three lewd acts on children and two kidnappings in Los Angeles County in 1984 and 1985.

His preliminary hearing, held to determine if there is sufficient evidence to warrant his standing trial, is now in its seventh week.

#### Devil Worship References

Since Ramirez's arrest last August, several references to devil worship have cropped up in the case. At an early court session in which he pleaded not guilty to the charges, Ramirez shouted "Hail Satan!" as he was led from a courtroom, and flashed a pentagram, inked on his palm, toward the spectators gallery.

Pentagrams also were found scrawled in the home of Monrovia murder victim Mabel Bell, 83, according to previous testimony at the hearing.

The Diamond Bar woman, the sixth surviving victim to identify Ramirez in court, said she was awakened in the middle of the night last Aug. 8 by a popping noise. The sound was apparently a gunshot that killed her husband, who was asleep beside her.

#### Saw Attacker's Face

The woman said she was quickly handcuffed, beaten and placed on the floor. She added that she clearly saw her attacker's face three times during the subsequent rampage, in which she was raped, sodomized and forced to orally copulate the man.

Thinking that her husband had been bound and gagged rather than shot, the woman said she sent her young son, who was not harmed, to rouse him after the attacker left. But her son said, "Mama, daddy's not waking up."

The witness had previously identified Ramirez as her attacker at a police lineup several days after his arrest. She also discovered jewelry and a television set taken in the incident at a police display at the County Jail the night of the lineup.

#### Hadn't Seen Published Photos

During cross-examination, the woman said she had not seen photos of Ramirez in the media before the lineup because, due to her religious beliefs, she had not been watching television or reading newspapers during her mourning period for her husband.

Rather than ordering media representatives not to publish the woman's name--as he has done in the case of several previous witnesses--Nelson had the woman write her name on a sheet of paper and hand it to his clerk. The judge told Halpin and Ramirez's attorneys not to divulge her name during testimony.

The Diamond Bar attack was the last in Los Angeles County attributed by authorities to Ramirez before his Aug. 31 arrest.

From <<https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-1986-04-16-me-138-story.html>>



### Satanic Serial Killer and Rapist Richard Ramirez 'Turned Green' before Death

Serial killer and rapist Richard Ramirez, a self-proclaimed believer in Satan, reportedly turned bright green the day before he [died due to liver failure](#).

The 53-year-old had been on death row for 24 years, since being convicted of 13 murders and 11 sexual assaults, among other crimes, in 1989.

A New York Post [report](#) quotes sources saying "he was the colour green" and looked like the Jolly Green Giant, hours before his death at the Martin General Hospital in California.

"He looked like a green highlighter pen. He was sitting up in his bed doing stretches," the source continued.

It is understood this was not the first time Ramirez had been admitted for health issues.

The man dubbed The Night Stalker had a murderous career, shooting and raping his victims through the 1980s. Bizarrely, his popularity rose after he revealed his love for and devotion to Satanism. In fact, he became something of a cult figure for several women, one of whom married him while he was imprisoned in San Quentin.

The first time Ramirez was produced in court he displayed a tattoo of a pentagram on his palm and yelled "Hail Satan". And, after he was convicted of his crimes, he flashed the two-fingered "devil sign" to photographers and muttered "Evil".

In one of his interviews, speaking from prison to 3TV reporter Mike Wattkiss, Ramirez admitted to studying Satanism. But when asked if he was a "devil worshipper" he said "No comment".

He would only say, about Satanism, that it was "undefined wisdom instead of hypocritical self deceit. It is power without charity. A Satanist admits to be an evil. Yes I am evil."

From <<https://www.ibtimes.co.uk/satanist-serial-killer-richard-ramirez-turned-green-476465>>

# Relationships

Monday, July 19, 2021 6:20 PM

By the time of the trial, Ramirez had fans who were writing him letters and paying him visits.<sup>[120]</sup> Beginning in 1985, Doreen Lioy<sup>[121]</sup> wrote him nearly 75 letters during his incarceration. In 1988, Ramirez proposed to Lioy, and on October 3, 1996, they were married in California's [San Quentin State Prison](#).<sup>[122]</sup> For many years before Ramirez's death, Lioy stated that she would commit suicide when Ramirez was [executed](#). However, Lioy eventually left Ramirez in 2009 after DNA confirmed he had raped and murdered 9-year-old Mei Leung.<sup>[123]</sup> By the time of his death in 2013, Ramirez was engaged to Christine Lee, a 23-year-old writer.

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard\\_Ramirez#Capture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Ramirez#Capture)>



Meet Doreen Lioy, The Woman Who Married A Satanic Serial Killer On Death Row

Doreen Lioy was an ordinary magazine editor — until she wed Richard Ramirez and became the wife of the "Night Stalker."



TwitterDoreen Lioy became Richard Ramirez's wife in San Quentin State Prison in 1996.

After 11 years of writing love letters to her prospective husband, Doreen Lioy finally got to marry the man of her dreams. Although Lioy was overjoyed, the news of her wedding shocked the world. After all, the 1996 ceremony took place in San Quentin State Prison — and her new husband was the notorious serial killer Richard Ramirez.

Dubbed the "Night Stalker" by the media, Ramirez had already been sentenced to death for killing over a dozen people in the mid-1980s. His murder spree had absolutely terrorized California — especially since he targeted his victims while they were asleep.

Despite the grisly evidence that had convicted Ramirez, Lioy wholeheartedly believed that he was innocent. Although she's certainly not the only woman who has [fallen for a serial killer](#), Lioy stands out among many of them because she simply refused to accept her husband's verdict.

"I can't help the way the world looks at him," she [said](#) at the time. "They don't know him the way I do."

But before she met Ramirez, Lioy had lived a relatively normal life — making her decision all the more baffling. So why did a successful magazine editor give up everything to marry a monster?

#### Doreen Lioy And Richard Ramirez: A Bizarre Pair

A KRON 4 interview with Doreen Lioy, the wife of Richard Ramirez. Doreen Lioy was born in Burbank, California in 1955. Though little is known about her upbringing, it was probably quite different from the tumultuous early life of her future husband. Lioy was apparently a studious young woman who pursued a successful career in journalism. Working as an editor for *Tiger Beat* in the late 1970s and early 1980s, she often met up-and-coming celebrities — and groomed them to become cover stars. Actor John Stamos actually [credited her](#) with helping him become a celebrity. So at the time, the idea of marrying a serial killer probably seemed ludicrous to Lioy.

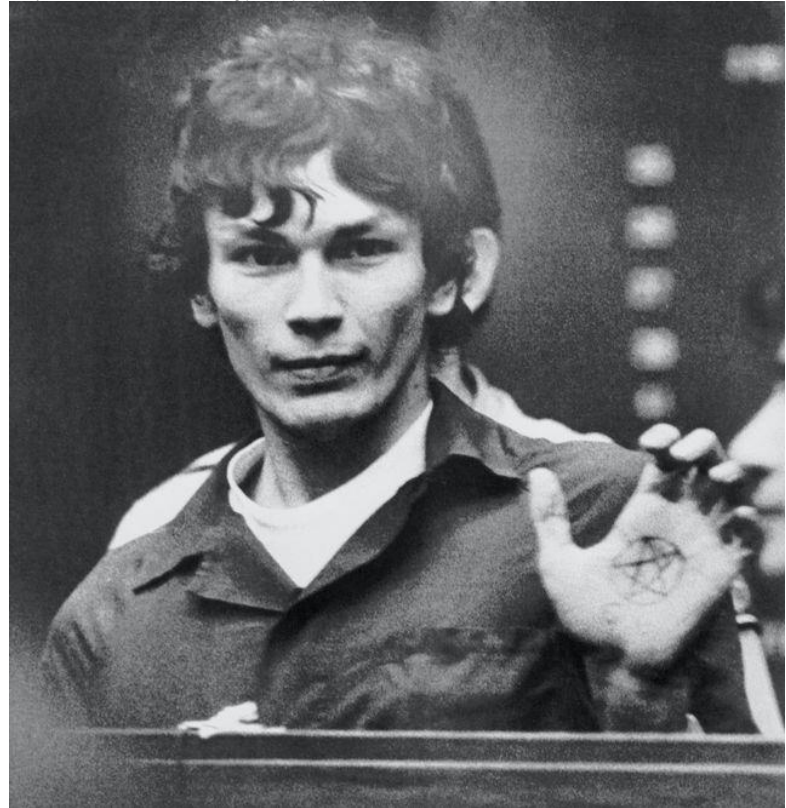
As for Stamos, he remembered Lioy as a "very lonely woman" and later reflected on her choice to marry Ramirez: "To be that lonely that this is the only man on the planet that she can find, I just thought, 'How horrible.' This man is the personification of evil — just a monster."

#### How Doreen Lioy Became Richard Ramirez's Wife



## Where Is Doreen Lioy, Wife of 'Night Stalker' Richard Ramirez, Now?

They wed in 1996, after becoming prison pen pals.



BETTMANNGETTY IMAGES

It's a classic love story: Boy commits heinous crimes, girl sends constant letters to boy in jail, boy and girl get married. At least, that's how it went for Richard Ramirez, dubbed the "Night Stalker," and Doreen Lioy. The pair tied the knot in 1996, while Ramirez was living on death row in California's San Quentin State Prison after being convicted of a shocking string of murders, sexual assaults, robberies, carjackings, and more throughout Los Angeles and San Francisco in 1985.

A new Netflix docuseries, *Night Stalker: The Hunt for a Serial Killer*, follows L.A. detectives Frank Salerno and Gil Carrillo's investigation of Ramirez's seemingly random crime spree, ending with his successful capture in August 1985. However, that's where the series ends, without going into detail about Ramirez's tumultuous trial, sentencing, and the barely 24 years he spent on death row, including his relationship with Lioy. To fill in the blanks, here's everything you need to know about Lioy and her marriage to the Night Stalker.

#### Who is Doreen Lioy?

When she began her relationship with Ramirez, Lioy was a freelance teen magazine editor from Burbank, California. According to the [San Francisco Chronicle](#), she sent Ramirez dozens of letters beginning in 1985, shortly after he was arrested and imprisoned while awaiting trial. According to an [account](#) from a *Los Angeles Times* reporter who observed one of Lioy's visits to Ramirez in jail, Lioy had initially been struck by the "vulnerability" she saw in Ramirez in TV reports of his crimes; after their relationship had developed, she reportedly visited him at San Quentin four times a week.

Once her relationship with the convicted killer and rapist became serious, Lioy's family all but disowned her, with her twin sister [telling](#) the *San Francisco Examiner* in 1996, "It's unfortunate for me that I've been linked with all of this. I was taken aback by the news. To be related by birth is fine. ... I don't want to be a part of this. It's been a painful event for the family."

Ramirez proposed in 1988, but the two weren't married until 1996, Lioy told the *Examiner* around the time of their wedding at San Quentin, which was attended by Ramirez's brother, sister, and niece, lawyers, and the author of a book claiming to outline Ramirez's innocence. At the 15-minute service, Lioy reportedly wore a short white dress and gave Ramirez a platinum band—because self-described Satanists don't wear gold, of course.

#### What has Lioy said about being married to a serial killer?

After claiming to love Ramirez "more than anything in the world" in her 1996 interview with the *Examiner*, Lioy—then going by Doreen Ramirez—



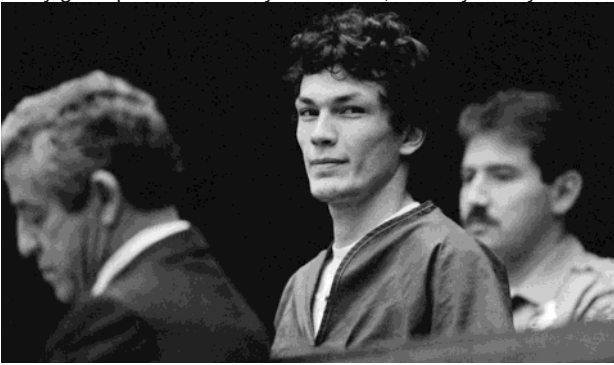
TwitterDoreen Lioy entering San Quentin State Prison to be with Richard Ramirez.

Almost immediately after [Richard Ramirez](#) was arrested, Doreen Lioy realized she was attracted to the man. She wasn't deterred by the fact that he was found guilty of horrific crimes, from slashing a woman's throat so deeply that she was nearly decapitated to gouging another victim's eyes out. Lioy also didn't mind his Satanism, which he flaunted during his trial.

Doreen Lioy remained unconvinced of his guilt. And even though she was not the only woman who sent Ramirez love letters, she was by far the most persistent. Lioy sent him 75 letters in 11 years.

Lioy also became his most ardent defender in the public eye, sometimes even praising his character in interviews.

"He's kind, he's funny, he's charming," she told CNN. "I think he's a really great person. He's my best friend; he's my buddy."



Getty ImagesRamirez professed his devotion to the Devil in court.

On November 7, 1989, Ramirez was [sentenced](#) to death. As he languished on death row at San Quentin State Prison, Lioy was his most frequent visitor. According to *Los Angeles Times* reporter Christopher Goffard, who [visited the facility](#) while conducting an unrelated interview and spotted Lioy, she appeared to be drawn to Ramirez's "vulnerability."

Goffard explained that she met with Ramirez about four times per week, and she was usually the first visitor in line. While she often spoke of his innocence, she rarely gave any real answers as to why she was with him. When directly asked, Lioy would just say, "Hometown girl makes bad."

"[People call me crazy] or stupid or lying," she complained. "And I'm none of those things. I just believe in him completely. In my opinion, there was far more evidence to convict O.J. Simpson, and we all know how that turned out."

A conversation with Richard Ramirez behind bars.

Though she was widely reviled by the public, Lioy was determined to get hitched to Ramirez. And so on October 3, 1996, prison staff [secured](#) a visiting room for the couple and allowed them to get married — much to the disdain of the families of Ramirez's victims.

On their wedding day, Lioy bought a gold band for herself and a platinum one for Richard Ramirez — since he had already explained to her that Satanists don't wear gold.

With vending machines lining the walls and plastic chairs bolted to the ground, a seemingly traditional wedding was underway. The pastor removed the line "until death do you part" from the official proceedings. The pastor said, "That would be bad form to say here, on death row."

Where Is Doreen Lioy Today?

What has Lioy said about being married to a serial killer?

After claiming to love Ramirez "more than anything in the world" in her 1996 interview with the *Examiner*, Lioy—then going by Doreen Ramirez—continued to unabashedly declare her love for the infamous Night Stalker in their ensuing years as husband and wife. "He's kind, he's funny, he's charming," she [told](#) CNN in 1997. "I think he's really a great person. He's my best friend; he's my buddy."

As for how she was able to fall in love with a convicted murderer, Lioy's answer was simple: an unwavering belief in his innocence. "I just believe in him completely," she told CNN.

And while she admitted that being married to someone on death row was a "lonely lifestyle" that precluded her from achieving her dream of having a family of her own (since death row inmates aren't allowed conjugal visits), Lioy seemed content with having replaced that dream with a new one: "being with Richard."

Where is Doreen Lioy now?

Despite her seemingly steadfast love for Ramirez, however, Lioy's affection reportedly dwindled after about 13 years of marriage. In 2009, DNA evidence [linked](#) Ramirez to the rape and murder of a 9-year-old girl in San Francisco in early 1984, well before his 1985 rampage as the Night Stalker began; Lioy is [believed](#) to have severed ties with Ramirez after learning of that crime.

From <https://www.marieclaire.com/culture/a35048990/richard-ramirez-wife-doreen-lioy/>



TwitterRichard Ramirez's wife allegedly separated from her husband before he died in 2013.

While Richard Ramirez's wife was enamored with her husband, her friends and family were in shock. Relatives disowned her, and journalists couldn't understand why she had upended her life to be with Ramirez. Liroy admitted that she knew why people found her marriage odd.

She said, "It'd be hard for me to understand if my best friend came to me and said, 'You know, this guy Timothy McVeigh, who just got convicted? I really think he's cute and I'm gonna write to him.' I mean, I would think that's kind of strange."

And yet, Richard Ramirez's wife continued to vigorously defend her husband. But for all her efforts, she had to come to terms with the fact that he wouldn't give her the one thing she really wanted: children. "I love children," she said. "I've never made any secret to him that I wanted five or six children. But that dream didn't come true for me and I've just replaced it with a different dream. Which is, being with Richard."

A trailer for the 2021 Netflix documentary series *Night Stalker: The Hunt For a Serial Killer*.

Ultimately, their relationship most likely did not end well. Although Ramirez's obituary [didn't include any mention of a divorce](#), Liroy and Ramirez reportedly did not see each other for a few years before he died.

It's unclear what drove the couple apart, but some believe the 2009 evidence that he murdered a 9-year-old in 1984 was too much for Liroy. Others argue that Ramirez's health problems led to the couple's separation.

Ultimately, Ramirez was never executed but instead died of complications from B-cell lymphoma in 2013. Meanwhile, Liroy has been absent from the public eye for several years. It's unclear whether she ever reconciled with her loved ones — and her whereabouts today remain unknown.

From <https://allthatsinteresting.com/doreen-liroy>



HYBRISTOPHILIA — THE BONNIE & CLYDE SYNDROME

10 Replies



Hybristophilia — The Bonnie & Clyde Syndrome

Why do good girls love bad boys? Why would any woman in her right mind fall for a murderous bank robber, a child sexual slayer, or a psychopathic serial killer? As crazy as it sounds, this frequently happens. It's so common that the American Psychological Association and the DSM-5 have a term for this psychiatric paraphilia disorder—hybristophilia. On the street, and around the net, hybristophilia is called the Bonnie & Clyde Syndrome.

Few people haven't heard of the infamous gangster duo, Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow. The Barrow gang roamed the American south in the 1930s. By best accounts, Bonnie & Clyde and the gang cold-bloodedly gunned down and shot dead 13 people. Seven were law enforcement officers trying to catch them or prevent their escape.

If you don't know of Bonnie & Clyde's escapades, we'll look into that shortly. We'll also try and make sense of what Bonnie Parker saw in Clyde Barrow, and why she willingly partook in a string of senseless slayings. First, let's examine what hybristophilia is and how it slots as an identified mental disorder.

The American Psychological Association (APA) defines hybristophilia as: sexual interest in and attraction to those who commit crimes. In some cases, this may be directed toward people in prison for various types of criminal activities. Hybristophilia is a common form of paraphilia.



The APA goes on to define paraphilia as: in DSM-IV-TR, any of a group of disorders in which unusual or bizarre fantasies or behavior are necessary for sexual excitement. The fantasies or acts persist over a period of at least 6 months and may take several forms: preference for a nonhuman object, such as animals or clothes of the opposite sex; repetitive sexual activity involving real or simulated suffering or humiliation, as in whipping or bondage; or repetitive sexual activity with nonconsenting partners. Paraphilias include such specific types as fetishism, frotteurism, pedophilia, hybristophilia, exhibitionism, voyeurism, sexual masochism, sexual sadism, and necrophilia. In DSM-5, a paraphilia is considered a paraphilic disorder only if it causes distress or impairment to the individual or if its practice has harmed or risked harming others.

The DSM-5, by the way, is the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders Edition 5 (V) which is the go-to book for psychiatric and psychological assessment of brain-thought and behavior abnormality. It's published by the American Psychiatric Association. People have gone to their executions, or been excused from them, based upon how they fit into the DSM-5.

Hybristophilia is a disorder. It's not a crime or offense. However, actions stemming from being hybristophilic often lead to serious criminal involvement when the woman aides, abets, or otherwise helps the male she's infatuated with carry out his crimes. Such was the case of Bonnie Parker.

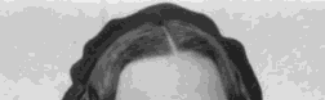
"Hybristophilia" derives from the Greek words "hubrizein" which means "to commit an outrage against someone" and "philo" which means "having a strong affinity/preference for". In pop-culture, it's the Bonnie & Clyde Syndrome which includes prison groupies who fall for dangerous inmates. The broadest sense of hybristophilia is "a general attraction towards partners who display dark personality traits" or good girls loving bad boys.



Before examining why Bonnie loved Clyde, I know of two modern-day, high-profile hybristophilia cases—one I was personally involved with. In 1994, Shannon Murrin raped and strangled 8-year-old Mindy Tran. Murrin transported Mindy's tiny body in a suitcase, buried her body in a park, and brought the suitcase home. I was instrumental in recovering the suitcase and processing the DNA evidence. Unfortunately, the jury acquitted Murrin based on an inexcusable investigation error made by a senior and more-experienced police officer.

I testified at Murrin's jury trial. As customary for professional witnesses, I spoke directly to the jury members when answering prosecution and defense counsel questions. I was on the stand a long time, and I distinctly recall an abnormality in one female juror. Normally, jurors are riveted on witness testimony and keep eye contact with the one-on-the-stand. I couldn't help but notice one female juror, Kathy MacDonald, had her gaze fixed on Shannon Murrin who was in the prisoner box to my right—not on me. After the trial, Kathy MacDonald married Murrin. She'd fallen to hybristophilia.

Another case here in Vancouver played out in the news. Gangster Peter Gill was on trial for murder. Juror Gillian Guess sat in his judgment, and she was having sexual relations with him (after court hours) during the time the trial was underway. Gill, too, got off when Guess hung the jury. Classic, classic hybristophilia. Anyway, on to Bonnie & Clyde.



Hybristophilia is a sexual interest in and attraction to those who commit crimes,<sup>[1]</sup> a paraphilia in which sexual arousal, facilitation, and attainment of orgasm are responsive to and contingent upon being with a partner known to have committed a crime. The term is derived from the Greek word *hubrizein* (ὕβριζεῖν), meaning "to commit an outrage against someone" (ultimately derived from *hubris* ὕβρις, "hubris"), and *philo*, meaning "having a strong affinity/preference for".<sup>[2]</sup> In popular culture, this phenomenon is also known as "Bonnie and Clyde syndrome".<sup>[3]</sup> Many high-profile criminals, particularly those who have committed atrocious crimes, receive "fan mail" in prison that is sometimes amorous or sexual, presumably as a result of this phenomenon. In some cases, admirers of these criminals have gone on to marry the object of their affections in prison.<sup>[4][5]</sup>

From <<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hybristophilia>>

Bonnie and Clyde Syndrome: Why some women are attracted to men like Paul Bernardo

The young, university-educated woman who reportedly plans to marry notorious schoolgirl killer Paul Bernardo may be suffering from what's known as the "Bonnie and Clyde Syndrome," according to one psychologist.

The clinical name for the syndrome, hybristophilia, has been noted in cases where someone is attracted to people who have committed horrible crimes, registered psychologist Oren Amitay told CTV's Canada AM Friday.

"It's where somebody has love and affiliation for people who do bad things, reprehensible things," he said.

The syndrome affects more women than men, Amitay said. According to published research on hybristophiliacs, many of them write letters to prisoners in hopes of developing a relationship.

[The Toronto Sun reported Thursday](#) that a 30-year-old woman from London, Ont., has been corresponding with Bernardo since last fall and plans to marry him. CTV News has not been able to verify the report.

The unnamed woman told the *Sun* that Bernardo, who was sentenced to life in prison in 1995 for the rapes and murders of schoolgirls Kristen French and Leslie Mahaffy, is a "kind man" and a "Christian."

The woman reportedly told her friends that Bernardo, now 50, is innocent and was a "bystander" in the murders.

Amitay told Canada AM that sounds "almost narcissistic," given the mountain of evidence against Bernardo that led to his conviction and life sentence.

The woman seems to believe that "she is going to prove everybody else wrong, she is going to save this man, she is going to find the good guy underneath all the bad," he said.

According to the *Sun*, the woman's father described her as "emotionally fragile" and vulnerable in the aftermath of a bad relationship. That likely set the stage for her to "imprint" on Bernardo, whom she saw as a powerful and caring man, Amitay said.

The fact that Bernardo is a "master manipulator" likely only exacerbated the problem, he said.

Karla Homolka, Bernardo's ex-wife, struck a deal with prosecutors in 1993 to serve 12 years in prison for manslaughter for her role in the



Bonnie Parker was born in 1913 in a small Texas town. Her dad died when she was one, and her mother raised Bonnie in the grandparent's home while holding down a full-time seamstress job. By all accounts, Bonnie was bright and gifted as an award-winning writer and young actress. At fifteen, Bonnie became infatuated with a bad boy named Roy Thorton who eventually went to jail for bank robberies and was shot dead by guards while escaping.

Bonnie never divorced Thorton, but she took up with Clyde Barrow as soon as Thorton went to jail. Clyde was another bad boy who was two years older than Bonnie. They met in 1930 and immediately hit it off. Clyde was in and out of jail for robberies and made parole in February 1932. Bonnie was waiting for him.

The pair formed the Barrow Gang right at the height of gangsterism where the Roaring Twenties ended and the Dirty Thirties of the Depression set in. It was the Public Enemy era. The two became the glam-couple of gangsters and were as much infatuated by the public as Bonnie was with Clyde. One take I read while researching this piece was that if Bonnie & Clyde were active today, they'd have more Instagram and Twitter followers than the Kardashians.

Various hoodlums rolled in and out of the Barrow gang. It was life in the fast lane for Bonnie & Clyde, and the public saw something in this pair that no other gangsters had. Not Al Capone. Not John Dillinger. Not Baby-Faced Nelson or Pretty-Boy Floyd. Not Alvin "Creepy" Karpas. Not Machine-Gun Kelly. And certainly not Ma Barker.

Bonnie & Clyde had illicit sex.

Illicit, extra-marital sex was the way of life for wild and young, still-married Bonnie and her single boy-toy Clyde. The public ate it up, envisioning them roaming town to town and hideout to hideout, spending more time spanking each other between clean sheets than they did doing banks.



Part of the Bonnie & Clyde story that fueled the fascination was a camera left behind at a Louisiana safe-house. The lawmen missed the Barrow Gang, but they recovered the film which a newspaper company developed and got the infamous photo of Bonnie with her left foot on a stolen Ford's bumper, her right hand holding a chrome-plated revolver, and a cigar chomped in her teeth.

There were more Bonnie & Clyde photos in that roll. They hit the news wires going viral the way it would have done today on the net. If Bonnie & Clyde weren't celebrity household names before the pics, they sure were then.

All historical accounts place Bonnie as a following accomplice, not a killer in her own right. Clyde was the mastermind and the ringleader. He was a dominant force. She was submissive. Their lives ended in a massive shootout with law enforcement officers on May 23, 1934, in Bienville Parish, Louisiana.

The public attention to Bonnie and Clyde's deaths was outrageous. Before their bullet-ridden bodies were extracted from a car, hordes descended on the little town of Arcadia. Regular citizens defied police and did what they could to collect souvenirs like locks of dead Bonnie's hair and swatches of her clothes. Others tried to cut off Clyde's trigger finger and one of his ears.

Bonnie was a fatalist. She knew their run would end, and Bonnie wrote so in a poem sent to her mother. It was titled *End Of The Line*.

***They don't think they're too smart or desperate***

***They know the law always wins***

***They've been shot at before***

***But they do not ignore***

***That death is the wages of sin***

***Some day they'll go down together***

***And they'll bury them side by side***

***To a few it'll be grief***

***To the law a relief***

***But it's death for Bonnie and Clyde***

So what was going on in Bonnie's mind? It's tough to make sense of why good girls love bad boys. You won't find the answer in the DSM-5. Maybe forensic psychiatry professor Katherine Ramsland got it right with these traits that seem common to women with hybrisophilia.

**Low self-esteem**

**Lack of a father figure**

**Belief they can change a bad man**

**Seeing the little boy in him and wanting to nurture**

**Hoping to share the media spotlight and gain notoriety**

**The notion there's no perfect man but knowing the man can provide**

**A primal instinct that alpha male dominant genes provide strong offspring**

Bonnie Parker's life with Clyde Barrow was anything but glamorous, as the media of the time painted it.

Bonnie and Clyde were constantly on the run. Sure, they had sex, probably lots of sex, but they didn't have clean sheets or a rented room. Sex was in cramped back seats of stolen cars they had to sleep in, because their pictures were everywhere, and they couldn't rent a room with clean sheets for fear of being turned in for the reward on their heads.

They ate poorly—Bonnie died with a bologna sandwich in her hand—and they bathed in cold creeks, and they limped when they walked. Clyde had two toes cut off in prison. Bonnie had one leg severely burned in a getaway automobile accident.

The posters on Bonnie & Clyde didn't say *Wanted Dead or Alive*. Bounty was for their corpses which were so mutilated by gunshots that their embalmer couldn't stop the fluid leakage. And they weren't buried side by side as they'd asked. Death defied them a final resting place. They're in separate Dallas cemeteries.

exacerbated the problem, he said.

Karla Homolka, Bernardo's ex-wife, struck a deal with prosecutors in 1993 to serve 12 years in prison for manslaughter for her role in the crimes.

She and Bernardo had also drugged and sexually assaulted Homolka's younger sister Tammy, who choked to death on her own vomit.

Homolka was released in 2005, and now lives in the Caribbean with her husband and three children.

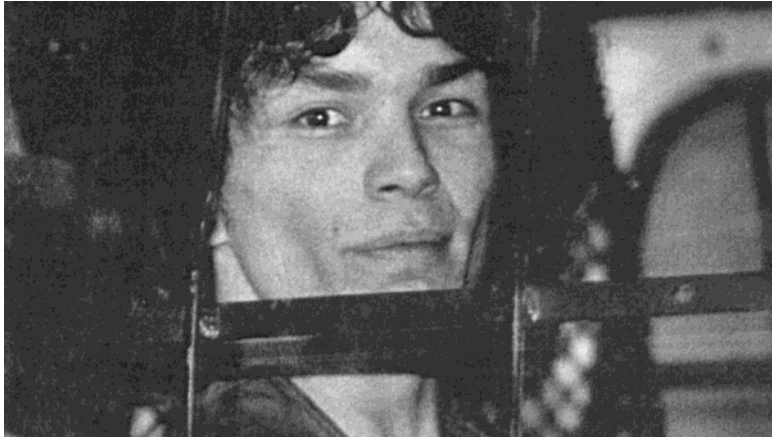
From <<https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/bonnie-and-clyde-syndrome-why-some-women-are-attracted-to-men-like-paul-bernardo-1.1898895>>



What led Bonnie Parker down such a road of destruction with Clyde Barrow? Hybristophilia. The Bonnie & Clyde Syndrome.

From <http://dyingwords.net/hybristophilia-the-bonnie-clyde-syndrome/>

# Richard Ramirez's Death: What Were the Final Days of the 'Night Stalker' Like?



Richard Ramirez, accused of being the Los Angeles area serial killer called the "Night Stalker", looks out the window of a police van. Ramirez pleaded innocent at the hearing to 68 felony counts, including 13 murder charges. He was eventually found guilty. Photo:

Beginning in 1984, [Richard Ramirez](#), known as the "Night Stalker," [terrorized the Greater Los Angeles and San Francisco Bay areas of California](#). For more than a year, the now infamous serial killer crept into homes, where he attacked, tortured and murdered his victims. He mutilated a number of those he killed and abducted and sexually assaulted others. Ramirez's violence came to an end on August 31, 1985, when a [crowd of citizens surrounded and captured](#) him on the streets of East L.A.

"We have alleged these murders are in the first degree, were premeditated and occurred during burglaries and other crimes. We are asking for the death penalty in this case," prosecutor Philip Halpin [said in his opening statement](#) at the start of Ramirez's trial.

The jury agreed, and in 1989 [convicted Ramirez](#) of 13 counts of murder, five attempted murders, 11 sexual assaults and 14 burglaries. He was sentenced to die in California's gas chamber. But the Night Stalker would die of natural causes, not an execution.

## From Death Row to Prison Infirmary

After his sentencing, authorities transferred Ramirez to California's San Quentin State Prison, which sits like a fortress along the bay north of the Golden Gate Bridge. The California Supreme Court [denied Ramirez's first round of appeals](#) on August 7, 2006. A month later, in September 2006, they denied his request for a new hearing.

While continuing to appeal his conviction and awaiting execution, Ramirez was diagnosed with [B-cell lymphoma](#), a form of blood cancer. He also suffered complications from chronic substance abuse and a chronic hepatitis C viral infection, likely from intravenous drug use.

"If he was lingering, Ramirez would have been brought from death row to the fourth floor of the prison hospital at San Quentin," [Marvin Mutch](#), a former wrongfully convicted prisoner at San Quentin and policy advocate at Humane Prison Hospice Project, tells *A&E Real Crime*.

But Ramirez's time in San Quentin's infirmary was likely much different than if he had received medical care outside of prison.

## Terminally Ill and Imprisoned

When incarcerated, prisoners tend to age more rapidly. Because of [past poor health behaviors](#) (like addiction) and the stress of being in prison, they often become prone to illness and chronic conditions. By 2030, [according to estimates from a 2018 study](#), one in three prisoners will be over the age of 55, increasing the likely population of prisoners diagnosed with conditions such as cancer, heart disease and liver and kidney disease. Many of these illnesses will eventually become terminal.

Ramirez likely suffered from terminal cancer, although the full nature of his illness remains unclear.

Terminally ill prisoners, according to Mutch, have physicians and nurses who administer drugs and provide other medical necessities as needed. Unlike in the civilian world, they do not receive around-the-clock care. Some prisoners are granted compassionate release [\(early release based on extraordinary or compelling circumstances like a terminal medical](#)

## How Did 'Night Stalker' Richard Ramirez Die? The Serial Killer's Death, Explained

Cancer and drug use may have been a factor.

Netflix's new true crime docuseries *Night Stalker: The Hunt for a Serial Killer* follows the life of Richard Ramirez, a serial killer who became known as the Night Stalker. Ramirez terrorized San Francisco and Southern California in the mid-1980s before [he was eventually caught and convicted](#) of killing 13 people and committing 11 sexual assaults. After a crime spree, he often cleaned up at the Cecil Hotel, calling the notorious lodging home in Los Angeles. Ramirez would strip off all his blood-soaked clothes, walk through the hotel in plain sight, and head up the stairs to his room in his bloody underwear. This property was also the site of [Elisa Lam's disappearance and death](#)—the focus of another new Netflix true crime docuseries.

In four parts, *Night Stalker: The Hunt for a Serial Killer* follows detective Gil Carrillo and homicide investigator Frank Salerno as they try to find clues to seemingly unrelated crimes before realizing they were all connected—and finally hunting down Ramirez.

Ramirez was sentenced to death in 1989 and put on Death Row at California's San Quentin State Prison, according to [CNN](#). But he died before his planned execution.

What happened to Ramirez, and how exactly did he die? Here's what you need to know.

### Ramirez was 53 years old at the time of his death.

He died in jail in 2013. He was the 87th inmate in the state to die while awaiting execution, according to CNN.

### He'd been in prison for 24 years when he died.

Ramirez was sentenced for his crimes in 1989 when he was 29.

### Ramirez is believed to have had cancer, which may have contributed to his death.

Several news reports say that Ramirez died of "natural causes," which is what the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation told CNN. But *Biography* reported that Ramirez had cancer, specifically B-cell lymphoma, a type of blood cancer.

### Previous drug use may have exacerbated his condition.

A coroner's report obtained by [USA Today](#) stated that Ramirez had other "significant conditions," including chronic substance abuse and hepatitis C, which is usually contracted by the use of IV drugs.



Richard Ramirez in police custody  
MICHAEL OCHS ARCHIVES/GETTY IMAGES

Lt. Keith Boyd, assistant chief deputy coroner, told *USA Today* that the drug use happened before Ramirez went to jail. "There's nothing to support any kind of drug use while incarcerated," he said.

### Ramirez died at the hospital.

When his condition became dire, Ramirez was transported to Marin General Hospital in Greenbrae, California, *Biography* reported. He died there.

Terminally ill prisoners, according to Mutch, have physicians and nurses who administer drugs and provide other medical necessities as needed. Unlike in the civilian world, they do not receive around-the-clock care. Some prisoners are granted compassionate release ([early release based on extraordinary or compelling circumstances like a terminal medical condition](#)). Others are entered into end-of-life programs.

In the U.S., about 3.5 percent of the nation's prisons have on-site hospice programs. One is located at the California Medical Facility in Vacaville, just outside of San Francisco. San Quentin inmates can qualify for this program, but there are only 17 beds for eligible prisoners.

Most often, when prisoners at San Quentin—especially those on death row—take a turn for the worse, they are transported by ambulance to a local medical facility, according to Mutch.

### Ramirez's Last Days

Sometime in early June 2013, Ramirez, at age 53, was [taken from San Quentin to Marin General Hospital in Greenbrae, California](#). On June 7, 2013, he took his last breath. He likely died alone, as friends and loved ones are not allowed inside secured rooms.

"You are shackled to your bed, and there's a guard outside the room," Mutch explains. "If hospital staff knows that death is imminent, there might be a nurse present. Unfortunately, most of the time, they find that the inmate has already passed when they do their checks."

It's unknown whether, at the end, Ramirez became remorseful or troubled by his crimes. But those familiar with his case believe he would not have been repentant.

"Ramirez was a cruel and unrepentant psychopath, so it is very unlikely that he 'found Jesus' before he died," [Scott Bonn](#), a criminologist and author of *Why We Love Serial Killers*, tells *A&E Real Crime*.

Ramirez, a self-professed Satan worshipper, spent 23 years on death row. At the time of his death, he became the 59th California inmate to die of natural causes while awaiting execution.

By most estimates, Ramirez would have been in his 70s before being placed in the gas chamber due to California's lengthy appeals process. Since he was not executed, Ramirez never had an opportunity to give the public a final statement or speak his last words. But at his sentencing he did address the court: "You don't understand me. You are not expected to. You are not capable. I am beyond your experience. I am beyond good and evil. I will be avenged."

From <https://www.aetv.com/real-crime/richard-ramirez-death>

### Ramirez died at the hospital.

When his condition became dire, Ramirez was transported to Marin General Hospital in Greenbrae, California, *Biography* reported. He died there.

From <https://www.womenshealthmag.com/life/a35193123/richard-ramirez-death-night-stalker/>



## Timeline

Monday, July 19, 2021 6:27 PM

### 1960s — Ramirez’s Early Life

Richard Ramirez is born on February 29, 1960, in El Paso, to a Mexican immigrant couple. He’s the youngest of five children. At age 10, Ramirez begins smoking weed after hanging out with his cousin, Miguel Ramirez. His cousin, a Vietnam War veteran, would also show Ramirez photographs of the women he abused, including some posing with a severed head.

### 1970s — Ramirez’s First Crimes

On May 4, Miguel fatally shoots his wife, Jessie, in the face during a fight while Ramirez is present. A few months later Ramirez moves in with his sister, Ruth, and her husband, Roberto. Roberto is a “peeping Tom” and would take Ramirez along with him on his after-dark acts. In 1977, Miguel is released from Texas State Mental Hospital after being found not guilty of Jessie’s murder by reason of insanity. During this time Ramirez also gets a job at a Holiday Inn, where he breaks into hotel rooms to steal from guests and even attempts to rape one.

### 1982 — Ramirez Moves To California

Ramirez relocates to California, where the majority of his crimes occur.

### April 10, 1984 — Ramirez’s First Victim

Ramirez’s first known murder happens. Nine-year-old Mei Leung, a Chinese-American girl, is murdered in the basement of the San Francisco hotel where Ramirez was living. She is raped and stabbed to death before Ramirez hangs her body from a pipe. It is not initially identified as being part of his crime spree, however. In 2009, his DNA matches a sample obtained at the crime scene. In 2016, officials disclose a second suspect was likely present due to DNA evidence, but they are not publicly identified due to lack of evidence.

### June 28, 1984 — The Night Stalker’s First Murder In LA

Ramirez’s first identified Night Stalker crime occurs. Jennie Vincow, 79, was found murdered in her Los Angeles apartment, nearly decapitated. Ramirez’s fingerprint is found on a window screen he removed to enter the apartment.

### March 17, 1985 — Serial Murders Begin

Ramirez attacks Maria Hernandez, 22, outside her home in Rosemead, CA. He shoots her in the face but she survives after a bullet ricochets off a set of keys. Her roommate, Dayle Yoshie Okazaki, is also fatally shot in the head by Ramirez.

An hour later, Ramirez heads to Monterey Park, where he shoots Tsai-Lian “Veronica” Yu twice after pulling her out of her car. Media calls Ramirez “The Walk-In Killer” and “The Valley Intruder.”

### March 27, 1985 — Whittier Murders

Ramirez enters a Whittier, CA home he previously burglarized. He fatally shoots Vincent Charles Zazzara, 64, in the head while he’s asleep. His wife, Maxine Levenia Zazzara, 44, wakes up from the gunshot. Ramirez beats her and searches the room for valuables. Maxine escapes the binds and grabs a gun that isn’t loaded. Ramirez shoots her three times, then stabs her, gouges out her eyes, puts them in a jewelry box and leaves. He leaves footprints in the flower beds and bullets at this scene match those from his previous attacks.

### May 14, 1985 — Ramirez Attacks Doi Family

Ramirez breaks into Bill and Lillian Doi’s home in Monterey Park. He shoots Doi in the face, beats him unconscious, and then binds Lillian, searches their home for valuables, and then rapes her. Bill Doi dies at the hospital.

### May 29, 1985 — Ramirez Kills In Monrovia, Begins Driving Stolen Car

Ramirez drives a stolen car to Monrovia, CA, and breaks into Mabel “Ma” Bell and Florence “Nettie” Lang’s home. He attacks Lang with a hammer, binds her in the bedroom, and then binds and attacks Bell. He uses Bell’s lipstick to draw a pentagram on her body and the walls of both of their bedrooms after raping her. The women are found two days later alive, but Bell eventually dies due to her injuries.

### May 30, 1985 — Ramirez Terrorizes In Burbank

Ramirez drives the stolen car to Burbank and breaks into Carol Kyle’s home. He binds Kyle and her son, 11, then has the son point out where the valuables are. He rapes Kyle, binds the son to her, and flees.

### July 2, 1985 — Arcadia Murder

Ramirez drives the stolen car to Arcadia, CA, to Mary Louise Cannon’s home. He knocks her out with a lamp and stabs her with a knife from her kitchen. She is found dead.

### July 5, 1985 — Survivor In Sierra Madre

Ramirez heads to Sierra Madre, CA, where he attacks Whitney Bennett, 16, with a tire iron as she sleeps. He then tries to strangle her with a telephone cord, but the cord sparks and Bennett begins to breathe. Ramirez flees, believing Jesus saved her. Bennett survives the attack.

### July 7, 1985 — Ramirez Tells Victim To “Swear On Satan”

Ramirez breaks into Joyce Lucille Nelson’s Monterey Park home. He burglarizes her home, then beats her to death, leaving a shoeprint on her face. He then enters Sophie Dickman’s home, handcuffs her at gunpoint, tries to rape her, and steals her jewelry. He tells her to “swear on Satan” that he stole everything of value in her home.

### July 20, 1985 — Glendale & Sun Valley Murders

Ramirez buys a machete and drives a different stolen vehicle to Glendale, CA. He enters Lela and Maxon Kneiding’s home, kills them with both a machete and gun, and burglarizes their home. He then drives to Sun Valley, breaks into the Khovananth home, and fatally shoots Chainarong Khovananth. He rapes and beats Somkid Khovananth, binds their eight-year-old son, and forces Somkid to point out valuables in the home. He also forces her to “swear to Satan” that she isn’t hiding money.

### August 6, 1985 — Two More Victims Survive The Night Stalker

Ramirez breaks into Chris and Virginia Peterson’s home. He shoots Virginia in the face, then shoots Chris in the neck and tries to flee the scene. Chris fights back but Ramirez manages to escape. The couple survives.

### August 8, 1985 — Ramirez Attacks Abowath Family

Ramirez breaks into Sakina and Elyas Abowath’s home. He fatally shoots Elyas, who was sleeping. He then handcuffs, beats, and rapes Sakina while demanding their jewelry. He ties up their three-year-old son.

### August 18, 1985 — Ramirez Attacks In The Bay Area

By this point, Ramirez has left Los Angeles for the San Francisco Bay Area. He breaks into Peter and Barbara Pan's home. He shoots Peter in the head, then beats and rapes Barbara before fatally shooting her. He uses lipstick to draw a pentagram and write "Jack the knife" on a bedroom wall.

#### **August 25, 1985 — Ramirez Is Identified As The Night Stalker**

Ramirez drives to Mission Viejo in a stolen orange Toyota. James Romero, Jr.'s 13-year-old son hears Ramirez outside their home and wakes up his parents. Ramirez flees, but the family manages to glimpse the color and make of his car and part of the license plate number.

Ramirez then breaks into Bill Carns and Inez Erickson's home. He shoots Carns three times in the head and tells Erickson he's the Night Stalker and that she must swear to love Satan. After raping her, he tells her, "Tell them the Night Stalker was here." Erickson later gives officials a description of Ramirez and they are able to find the stolen car in Los Angeles. There's a single fingerprint on the mirror that matches Ramirez's. "We know who you are now, and soon everyone else will," officials say when releasing an 1984 mugshot of his. "There will be no place you can hide."

#### **August 30-31, 1985 — Ramirez Is Caught By Citizens**

Ramirez takes a bus to Tucson, AZ, to visit his brother. He returns to California the next morning. His mugshot is all over newspapers, which he notices. He attempts to carjack a woman's vehicle, but a group of bystanders pursue him. One manages to hit Ramirez in the head and they pin him down until police arrive.

#### **July 1988 — Ramirez's First Court Appearance**

Jury selection begins for Ramirez's trial on July 22. At his first appearance, Ramirez yells, "Hail Satan!" and has a pentagram on his hand.

#### **August 14, 1988 — Ramirez's Trial Is Delayed**

Ramirez's trial is delayed because one of the jurors is a no-show. The juror, Phyllis Singletary, is later found shot and killed in her apartment. The jury wonders if Ramirez is behind her death, but it is later determined that her boyfriend killed her and then committed suicide.

#### **September 20, 1989 — Ramirez Is Convicted**

Ramirez is convicted on 13 counts of murder, five attempted murders, 11 sexual assaults, and 14 burglaries, putting him on death row.

#### **June 7, 2013 — Ramirez Dies**

Ramirez dies aged 53 of health complications at Marin General Hospital in Greenbrae, CA.

From <<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/crime/a-detailed-timeline-of-night-stalker-richard-ramirez-crimes/ar-BB1cNSmm>>



# Crazyboard

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

7:07 PM

