

Gary D. Johnson
CR#90-39068
Case Summary

On November 8, 1990 at approximately 4:30 pm, a 14 year-old male found the body of an unidentified white male in an Arapahoe County field, later identified as real estate businessman Gary Donald Johnson. The victim was fully dressed wearing a gray and black heavy sweater, a light blue and white vertical striped shirt, blue jeans, a tan woven belt, and tan round-toed boots. His family advised that the victim never wore boots. He was pronounced dead at the scene. The cause of death was a gunshot wound to the back of the head with the time of death estimated between 2:00 to 3:00 pm that same day. The gun was never found, nor the bullet.

On the day of his murder, Mr. Johnson had a full schedule of regular business meetings to attend to. Mr. Johnson met with someone at 8:30 am and then with someone else at 9:20 am. He also had a meeting with another person at 10:30 am, however, Mr. Johnson never showed up. He had cancelled an interview for 12:00 pm with an unknown female, had a brief telephone conversation with a loan officer at 12:00 pm, and was scheduled to meet with Denver Nuggets players interested in buying one of his condos at 3:00 pm. The investigation later revealed that this meeting could not have taken place since none of the Nuggets players had ever heard of Mr. Johnson or his condos. It is possible that the victim met with his killer instead.

The victim's associations with business, softball, and bingo fundraising made him several enemies, which led to a number of possible motives and suspects. The victim was known for making "shady" deals and ripping people off, therefore there were several people unhappy with him. The day prior to his death, the victim had handed over a cashier's check to someone for \$25,000, making him an immediate suspect after he gave varying stories about his whereabouts regarding their meeting. According to this person, the check was a payment for work he had done on the Roxborough Park Project. The victim's ex-wife, became a suspect when it was learned about the \$250,000 insurance policy awarded to the victim in their divorce action. Numerous other people were interviewed as possible suspects.