

John Norman Collins
"The Co-Ed Killer"



Information researched and summarized by
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Date	Age	Life Event
06/17/1947	Birth	Born in Center Line, Michigan.
1947	Soon after birth	Father deserted him and his mother. Shortly after she remarried, but that marriage only lasted a year. Both husbands were abusive to her and the children and were alcoholics.
1949- 1950	2-3	His stepfather once threw him across the car at his mother. On another occasion, his stepfather used him as a shield when he was confronted by another man with a gun.
1951	4	Moved from Canada to Detroit with his mom. She then married William Collins, who adopted all 3 children. He also was a violent alcoholic. That marriage ended in 1956.
1956	9	By this time he had seen 3 different father figures and a great deal of domestic violence.
1965	18	Graduated high school. He was an honor student, tri-captain of the football team, president of the C-club, and star pitcher of the baseball team. He dated regularly, and the girls he dated said he was angry most of the time and sexually aggressive.
1965	19	Enrolled at Eastern Michigan University, where he studied education, and was in the Theta Chi fraternity. He was later kicked out of the fraternity on suspicion of stealing.
1966	19-20	His sophomore year at EMU his grades started to drop. One professor accused him of cheating. He began committing petty thefts, often just for thrills. He met Andrew Manuel who became a partner in some of his escapades.
	19-20	He discovered his pregnant sister with another man, beat the man unconscious, and then hit his sister until she bled, calling her a tramp as he did so.
8/7/1967	20	The body of Mary Fleszar, 19, was found in an old farm house 2 miles north of Ypsilanti, Michigan, after she had been missing since July 18th. She had been stabbed in a frenzied attack about 30 or 40 times.

January, 1968	20	The body of 13 year-old Eileen Adams was found just south of Ypsilanti. She had been raped, strangled with an electrical cord, and beaten with a hammer. Her bra was tied around her neck and a three inch nail was hammered into her skull. The body was placed in plain sight.
07/07/1968	21	The body of 20 year-old Joan Schell was found in a construction sight in Ypsilanti. She had been raped and then stabbed to death. It was believed that although she had been dead for a few days, the body had only been where it was discovered for less than 24 hours.
03/21/1969	21	The body of 13 year-old Jane Louise Mixer was found near the Ypsilanti cemetery. She had been reported missing earlier that day. She had been raped, beaten, and stabbed.
03/25/1969	21	A construction worker finds the body of Maralynn Skelton in the same construction site where the body of Joan Schell had been discovered. She had gone missing 4 days earlier, the same day as Louise Mixer. She had been raped, beaten to the body and head, and a branch had been jammed into her vagina.
04/15/1969	21	The body of 13 year-old Dawn Basom, was found along side a country road in Ypsilanti. She had been missing for only a day. She had been raped, strangled with a electrical cord, and her breasts were cut off.
06/09/1969	21	The body of Alice Kalom was found by 3 teenage boys in an abandoned farmhouse. She had been shot in the head, raped, stabbed repeatedly, and her throat was cut.
07/13/1969	22	17 year-old Roxie Phillips was found in Pescadero Canyon by two boys who were looking for fossils. Her body was badly decomposed and nude, and a belt was wrapped tightly around her neck. She had been missing for 2 weeks.
07/27/1969	22	Karen Sue Beineman was found by a doctor and his wife in a wooded gully. She had been raped, beaten, strangled, and her panties were stuffed into her mouth.
1969	22	Was arrested for the murder of Karen Sue Beineman
06/30/1970	23	Trial began in Washtenaw County, Michigan. Witness selection took 2 weeks. Was only tried for the murder of Karen Beineman because it was the only one that they had physical evidence. His mother fired his first lawyer Richard Ryan, because Ryan had doubts about Collins. She then hired Joseph Louisell and his partner Neil Fink.
08/19/1970	23	Was convicted of murder and sentenced to life in prison with no possibility of parole.
Early 1980's		He changed his last name back to Chapman, his mother's maiden name, and applied to be transferred to Canadian prison. The request was denied.
2007	61	Still alive in Marquette Branch Prison, Michigan

General Information

Sex	Male
Race	White
Number of victims	7+
Country where killing occurred	United States
States where killing occurred	Michigan
Cities where killing occurred	Ypsilanti/Ann Arbor area
Type of killer	Organized
Height	6 feet

Childhood Information

Date of birth	June 17, 1947
Location	Windsor, Canada
Birth order	3 rd of 3

Number of siblings	2
XXX?	No
Raised by	Mother; father abandoned early in life, mother remarried abusive step-father who John took his last name. Mother divorced step-father when Collins was 4.
Birth category	Youngest
Parent's marital status	Divorced
Family event	John had 3 different father figures and witnessed much domestic violence by the age of 9.
Age of family event	9
Problems in school?	Very successful and popular in high school, but in grades started to slip in second year of college, and he was expelled from his fraternity for suspicion of stealing.
Teased while in school?	No
Physically attractive?	Yes
Physical defect?	No
Speech defect?	No
Head injury?	No evidence
Physically abused?	Yes, stepfather through him over the car when he was young. Stepfather also once used him as a shield when another man confronted him with a gun.
Psychologically abused?	Mother and stepfather would leave him and his siblings in the car for hours while they drank at bars. He also witnessed a great deal of domestic violence.
Sexually abused?	No evidence
Father's occupation	
Age of first sexual experience	
Age when first had intercourse	
Mother's occupation	Waitress
Father abused drugs/alcohol	Alcohol
Mother abused drugs/alcohol	Alcohol
Cognitive Ability	
Highest grade in school	When he was arrested he was 24 credits short of graduating from Eastern Michigan University.
Highest degree	High school diploma
Grades in school	Honor student in high school, grades started to slip sophomore year of college
IQ	
Source of IQ information	
Work History	
Served in the military?	No
Branch	
Type of discharge	
Saw combat duty	
Killed enemy during service?	
Applied for job as a cop?	No
Worked in law enforcement?	No
Fired from jobs?	No
Types of jobs worked	Worked part time at EMU's McKenny Union as a clerk.
Employment status during series	Employed part time, full time student
Relationships	
Sexual preference	Heterosexual
Marital status	Single
Number of children	0

Lives with his children	No
Living with	Mom, and then moved into the basement of his uncle's house.
Triad	
Animal torture	Yes. He once told a girl that he had strangled a cat with a clothesline.
Fire setting	Yes, burned several barns during his killing spree.
Bed wetting	Yes, at age 5 was still wearing diapers to school.
Killer Psychological Information	
Abused drugs?	No
Abused alcohol?	No
Been to a psychologist?	No
Time in forensic hospital?	No
Diagnosis	Necrophilia, large sexual obsession, S&M
Killer Criminal History	
Committed previous crimes?	Was accused of stealing and cheating multiple times. Wrote a bad check for a camper trailer using a false identity. Burglarized houses in high school.
Spend time in jail?	No
Spend time in prison?	No
Killed prior to series? Age?	Only animals
Serial Killing	
Number of victims	Convicted of 1, suspected of 7 to 9
Victim type	Young women, most of which were college students
Killer age at start of series	20
Date of first kill in series	Between July 18 th and August 7 th , 1967
Date of final kill in series	July 23, 1969
Gender of victims	female
Race of victims	All Caucasian
Age of victims	13 - 23
Type of victim	Mostly students
Method of killing	Beating, stabbing, shooting, strangulation.
Weapon	Guns, knives, electrical cables, victims' undergarments, caustic liquid,
Was gun used?	Yes
Type	22-caliber pistol
Did killer have a partner?	Suspicion of accomplices but never proved
Name of partner	
Sex of partner	
Type of serial killer	Organized, killed in his own comfort zone
How close did killer live?	Same relative area, drove to crimes
Location of first contact	College campus
Location of killing	At least one in killer's home, others unknown
Killing occurred in home of victim?	
Killing occurred in home of killer?	Yes
Victim abducted or killed at contact?	Abducted
Behavior During Crimes	
Rape?	Yes
Tortured victims?	Yes
Stalked victims?	Yes
Overkill?	Yes
Quick & efficient?	Yes
Used blindfold?	?
Bound the victims?	Yes
After Death Behavior	

Sex with the body?	Yes
Mutilated body?	Yes
Ate part of the body?	?
Drank victim's blood?	?
Posed the body?	No
Took totem – body part	Yes
Took totem – personal item	Yes
Robbed victim or location	No evidence
Disposal of Body	
Left at scene, no attempt to hide	No
Left at scene, hidden	No
Left at scene, buried	No
Moved, no attempt to hide	Yes
Moved, buried	No
Cut-up and disposed of	Yes
Moved, too home	No
Sentencing	
Date killer arrested	1969
Date convicted	August 19, 1970
Sentence	Life with no possibility of parole
Killer executed?	No
Did killer plead NGRI?	No
Was the NGRI plea successful?	
Name and state of prison	Marquette Branch Prison, Michigan
Killer committed suicide?	No
Killer killed in prison?	No
Date of death	Still Alive

References

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