



In Memoriam

The South Carolina Silent Witness Story
October 6, 2009

The State of South Carolina
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Program

Program

“Bridge Over Troubled Water”

Simon and Garfunkel, arr. Simpson and Shutkufski
USC Women’s A Cappella Ensemble

Invocation

Pastor Gene Baker
Holy Communion Lutheran Church – Spartanburg, SC

“Words of Hope” *Helen Steiner Rice*

Laura Slade Hudson
Executive Director, SC Crime Victims’ Council

Words of Witness

Dr. Kendra Albright
Domestic Violence Survivor
Introduced by Tamika Sims, Sistercare

“Amazing Grace/Alleluia”

Congi, arr. Simpson and Shutkufski
USC Women’s A Capella Ensemble

Words of Witness

Mr. Dale Wells
Domestic Violence Survivor
Introduced by Vicki Bourus, SC Coalition Against
Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Victim Remembrance

The Honorable Henry McMaster
South Carolina Attorney General

Benediction

Bishop C.L. “Josh” Lorick, Jr.
Rehoboth United Church – Columbia, SC

*** “Amazing Grace”**

The Citadel Regimental Pipe Band

**All those who are able are asked to please stand.*

The Silent Witness Story

In 2008, 32 South Carolinians were murdered by their intimate partners. As citizens of this state, we have a responsibility to take a stand against this injustice. Therefore, our state joined with more than forty other states in a mission “to promote peace, healing and responsibility in adult relationships.”

During the Silent Witness ceremony, wooden silhouettes represent the women and men who have died due to domestic violence in South Carolina during the previous year. This year, there are 33 silhouettes; 26 are for the known female homicide victims, 6 are for the known male homicide victims, and one represents those victims of which we are unaware.

The SC Attorney General’s Office, through the S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women program, hosts this annual remembrance. Other contributing citizens and organizations are acknowledged at the end of this book.

*This book is dedicated
to the women and men
of South Carolina
who have lost their lives
due to domestic violence
in
2008*

Special Honor to
Corporal William Howell
Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office
who gave his life in defense of a victim of
domestic violence



***Ericka
Bradley***

*18 years old
Allendale County*

Ms. Bradley was killed when she was run down by an automobile on November 6, 2006.

While riding with her boyfriend, Derek Maner, Ms. Bradley attempted to exit the vehicle. Mr. Maner ran over Ms. Bradley, killing her, then disposed of her body. DNA evidence belonging to Ms. Bradley was found in the undercarriage of Mr. Maner's car. Ms. Bradley's body was never recovered.

Mr. Maner was charged in 2008 with her murder. He was convicted in 2009 and sentenced to life in prison.

Ms. Bradley is survived by a son.

*Amerise
Barbre*

31 years old
Anderson County

Ms. Barbre is believed to have died as a result of strangulation on December 22, 2008.

Ms. Barbre was reported missing and in early February of 2009, police discovered her body buried in the woods behind her house. John Lambert, her boyfriend, has been charged with her murder and is currently awaiting trial.

Ms. Barbre is survived by a daughter.

*Suzanne
Burriss*

*51 years old
Anderson County*

Ms. Burriss was shot and killed on December 7, 2008.

Ms. Burriss died from blood loss as a result of a single shotgun wound to her back. Her husband, Billy Burriss, used a sawed-off shotgun to kill her in the bedroom of their home. Ms. Burriss' five-year-old daughter was present in the room at the time of the shooting.

Mr. Burriss has been charged with Ms. Burriss' murder and is awaiting trial.

Ms. Burriss is survived by three daughters and two sons.

*Norman
Rice*

*77 years old
Anderson County*

Mr. Rice died from blunt force trauma to the head on June 16, 2008.

Mr. Rice's wife, Myrtle Rice, struck him in the head multiple times with a hammer. Ms. Rice later attempted suicide with a razor blade but was stabilized at the hospital. Reports indicate that she was being treated for depression and had been tested for possible dementia.

Ms. Rice has been charged with Mr. Rice's murder and is currently awaiting trial.

Mr. Rice is survived by two sons.



***Teneil
Johnson***

31 years old
Berkeley County

Ms. Johnson was shot and killed on March 9, 2008.

Ms. Johnson called the police because someone was breaking into her home, and she was afraid it was her estranged husband, Ariel Johnson. The police searched the vicinity but did not find anyone. After the police left, Mr. Johnson entered the home and shot both Ms. Johnson and her father, Vincent Carter. Mr. Johnson then shot himself. Ms. Johnson had obtained an order of protection.

Ms. Johnson is survived by a daughter and son.

*Nancy
Davis*

*58 years old
Charleston County*

Ms. Davis was shot and killed on January 2, 2008.

Ms. Davis died from a single gunshot wound to the head inflicted by her husband, Leslie Davis. After shooting the family dog, Mr. Davis killed himself.

Ms. Davis is survived by a daughter and son.



*Darlene
Sloan*

50 years old
Charleston County

Ms. Sloan was shot and killed on December 25, 2008.

According to reports, Ms. Sloan was shot in the head by her husband, Bobby Sloan, after the two had an argument. Ms. Sloan's 80-year-old mother also was present at the time of the shooting. Mr. Sloan is awaiting trial for murder.

Ms. Sloan is survived by a son.

*Tasha
Scott*

*33 years old
Cherokee County*

Ms. Scott was shot and killed on January 29, 2008.

Ms. Scott died as the result of a gunshot wound to the head. Her boyfriend, Kenyal Rodgers, shot her in the bedroom of her house after the two had an argument. Ms. Scott's father was also in the home but was bedridden and unable to assist his daughter. Reports indicate that Ms. Scott's 5-year-old daughter witnessed the shooting and ran to a nearby business to get help.

Mr. Rodgers pled guilty to voluntary manslaughter and was sentenced to 30 years in prison.

Ms. Scott is survived by her daughter.



***Miriam
Edwards***

*61 years old
Florence County*

Ms. Edwards was shot and killed on July 11, 2008.

Ms. Edwards' husband, Robert Edwards, came to her workplace and shot her multiple times with a handgun. Mr. Edwards then shot himself after killing his wife. Ms. Edwards had a restraining order and was in the process of filing for divorce.

Mrs. Edwards is survived by a daughter.



***Lori
McFadden***

*42 years old
Florence County*

Ms. McFadden died on April 29, 2008 due to complications from blunt force trauma from prior beatings. Ms. McFadden had been assaulted by her boyfriend, Cleveland Burgess. Mr. Burgess beat Ms. McFadden on two separate occasions, resulting in internal bleeding, a ruptured spleen, and other injuries. Ms. McFadden died as a result of her injuries.

Mr. Burgess has been charged with two counts of criminal domestic violence of a high and aggravated nature and murder. He is currently awaiting trial.

Ms. McFadden is survived by three daughters and five sons.

*Della Ree
Williams*

*47 years old
Florence County*

Ms. Williams was shot and killed on September 10, 2008.

Ms. Williams died as the result of multiple gunshot wounds to the body and a single gunshot wound to the head by her husband, Rodney Williams.

Mr. Williams has been charged with her murder and is currently awaiting trial.

Ms. Williams is survived by three children.



***Deloris
Greene***

*52 years old
Georgetown County*

Ms. Greene was killed due to blunt force trauma to the head on June 4, 2008.

Police reports indicate that Ms. Greene was beaten by her ex-boyfriend, Joseph Kinloch. Mr. Kinloch then set Ms. Greene's house on fire. Mr. Kinloch was charged with murder and arson and is currently awaiting trial.

Ms. Greene is survived by three sons and three daughters.

Anonymous
At the Family's Request

A woman was shot and killed by her husband. She died as a result of multiple gunshot wounds to her torso. Following her death, her husband turned the gun on himself. Reports indicate the husband was being treated for mental illness.



***Sheila
Grayson***

*41 years old
Greenville County*

Ms. Grayson was shot and killed on May 12, 2008.

Her ex-boyfriend, Robert Irby, shot Ms. Grayson multiple times as she was leaving her house to go to work. Mr. Irby shot through the driver's side window of Ms. Grayson's car. Mr. Irby had previously harassed her by phone and Ms. Grayson had obtained a restraining order against him.

Mr. Irby has been charged with murder and is awaiting trial.

*Gary
Parnell*

52 years old
Greenville County

Mr. Parnell was shot and killed on April 6, 2008.

Reports indicate that Mr. Parnell died from a shotgun wound to the stomach inflicted by his girlfriend, Donna Redding, at point-blank range. Ms. Redding has been charged with murder and is awaiting trial.

Mr. Parnell is survived by a daughter.



***Charlene
Daughtry***

*25 years old
Hampton County*

Ms. Daughtry was shot and killed on September 6, 2008.

Ms. Daughtry was killed by her boyfriend, Jeremiah Sanders. Reports indicate that a neighbor called 911 about shots fired in the neighborhood. After arriving at the home, police determined that Mr. Sanders shot Ms. Daughtry three times and then committed suicide.

Ms. Daughtry is survived by two children.

*Farah
Abbasi*

*40 years old
Horry County*

Ms. Abbasi was strangled by her husband, Asghar Eliaderani, on March 16, 2008.

Police were dispatched to the convenience store owned by the couple after receiving a call from the couple's children, who were not present at the location but had been made aware of trouble at the store. Ms. Abbasi was transported to the hospital and put on life support, but died several days later.

Mr. Eliaderani has been charged with murder and is currently awaiting trial.

Ms. Abbasi is survived by two children.

*Frederick
Engel*

*54 years old
Horry County*

Mr. Engel was strangled to death on April 21, 2008.

According to police reports, Mr. Engel left his home to walk his dog late that evening. Several hours later, his wife, Sherry Engel, notified a neighbor that he had not returned from the walk. Bloodhounds later located Mr. Engel's body in the woods near his home. After investigating, police charged Ms. Engel and an accomplice, Timmy Rogers, in the incident.

Ms. Engel is currently awaiting trial.

Mr. Engel is survived by two sons.

*Donna
Parker*

*46 years old
Horry County*

Ms. Parker was killed on September 26, 2008.

Police reports indicate that multiple 911 calls were made on the morning of the incident because shots were fired in the parking lot of a Lowe's store.

Police arrived to find Ms. Parker shot in the front seat of her vehicle. Her husband, Robert Parker, pled guilty to her murder and was sentenced to 30 years in prison.

Ms. Parker is survived by three daughters.



*David
Holder*

21 years old
Lexington County

Mr. Holder was stabbed to death on July 17, 2008.

Police reports indicate that his girlfriend, Diamond Ross, stabbed Mr. Holder in the throat. A UPS driver at the apartment witnessed Mr. Holder shouting that he had been stabbed and called 911. Mr. Holder collapsed in the parking lot and could not be revived by emergency workers.

Ms. Ross has been charged with murder and is currently awaiting trial.

Mr. Holder is survived by a daughter.

***Phyllis
Miller***

*61 years old
Lexington County*

Ms. Miller is believed to have died as the result of asphyxiation due to suffocation on June 3, 2008.

After receiving a call from Ms. Miller's daughter that her mother had been missing for several days, deputies found the couple in their home. Ms. Miller's husband, Clyde Miller, suffocated her with a pillow and then stabbed himself multiple times in the chest.

Reports indicate that the Millers had multiple health issues.

Ms. Miller is survived by two daughters.



***Charlie
Bolt***

*41 years old
Oconee County*

Ms. Bolt was shot and killed on March 9, 2008.

Ms. Bolt was killed by a gunshot wound to the head inflicted by her husband, Timothy Bolt. When deputies responded to the home, they found Mr. Bolt holding his wife and stating that he did not mean to shoot her, he meant to kill himself. Reports indicate that the couple had been in an argument that evening and that Ms. Bolt might have intended to leave the marriage.

Mr. Bolt pled guilty to voluntary manslaughter and was sentenced to 17 years in prison with credit for time served.

Ms. Bolt is survived by two daughters.



***Kimberly
Parker***

30 years old
Oconee County

Ms. Parker died due to blunt force trauma to the head on April 20, 2008.

Reports indicate that Ms. Parker's boyfriend, Barry Jackson, shoved her during a fight, causing her to fall and hit her head. Ms. Parker was transported to the hospital, where she later died.

Mr. Jackson pled guilty to voluntary manslaughter and was sentenced to 20 years in prison.

Ms. Parker was predeceased by a son.

***Toshiro
Gaddis***

*24 years old
Orangeburg County*

Mr. Gaddis was stabbed to death on March 14, 2008.

Mr. Gaddis was stabbed by his girlfriend, Shakeia Butler. When police arrived at the scene, Ms. Butler stated that Mr. Gaddis was having a seizure and fell on top of a nail. She later changed her story to say that when she arrived at the residence, Mr. Gaddis was already laying on the ground.

Ms. Butler was charged with Mr. Gaddis' murder and is currently awaiting trial.

Mr. Gaddis is survived by a son.

*Denise
Grate*

*19 years old
Richland County*

Ms. Grate was shot and killed on October 12, 2008.

According to reports, Ms. Grate's boyfriend, Dion Briggs, shot her multiple times. Initially, a missing persons report was filed for Ms. Grate. Officers later discovered her body in the trunk of her car.

Mr. Briggs has been charged with murder and is awaiting trial.

Ms. Grate is survived by a son.



*Cavin
Griffin*

22 years old
Richland County

Mr. Griffin was stabbed and killed on December 5, 2008.

Police reports indicate that his girlfriend, Teagra Perry, stabbed Mr. Griffin in the chest after the two had an argument. Mr. Griffin died upon arrival at the hospital.

Ms. Perry has been charged with murder and is awaiting trial.

***Gwendolyn
Rivers***

*53 years old
Richland County*

Ms. Rivers died of blunt force trauma to the chest on March 11, 2008.

Ms. Rivers was struck and killed when her husband, Ronald Rivers, backed his car into her. According to reports, Mr. Rivers used his automobile to pin Ms. Rivers against their home's porch. Ms. Rivers died at the scene.

Mr. Rivers has been charged with murder and is awaiting trial.

Ms. Rivers is survived by a daughter.

***Mary
Blalock***

79 years old
Spartanburg County

Ms. Blalock was shot and killed on March 10, 2008.

Police reports indicate that Ms. Blalock's husband, William Blalock, shot and killed her while she was in her bed. Mr. Blalock then turned the gun on himself.

Ms. Blalock is survived by a son.



***Angela
Anderson***

38 years old
Sumter County

Ms. Anderson was shot and killed on May 10, 2008.

Police reports indicate that Ms. Anderson's estranged husband, Sherald Anderson, and a friend of hers, Samuel Montgomery, approached Ms. Anderson's car brandishing handguns. While trying to flee the vehicle, Ms. Anderson was shot in the back. She died later at the hospital.

Both Mr. Anderson and Mr. Montgomery have been charged with her murder and are awaiting trial.

Ms. Anderson is survived by two sons and two daughters.

***Patricia
Kern***

*52 years old
Sumter County*

Ms. Kern was shot and killed on July 17, 2008.

According to reports, Ms. Kern was shot and killed by her husband, Kurt Kern. After shooting his wife in the head, Mr. Kern turned the gun on himself.

*Maria
Fernandez*

*31 years old
Union County*

Ms. Fernandez is believed to have died on September 3, 2008.

Ms. Fernandez was last seen on that date and a missing persons report was filed on September 7th. In early January of 2009, investigators responded to a call from a person who found skeletal remains.

Investigators determined that the remains were those of Ms. Fernandez.

Although the cause of Ms. Fernandez' death is unknown, her boyfriend, Jamel Good, has been charged with her murder and is awaiting trial.

Ms. Fernandez is survived by a son.



***Mildred
Hartner***

*90 years old
York County*

Ms. Hartner was shot and killed on November 19, 2008.

Ms. Hartner was killed when her husband, Gustave Hartner, shot her in the back of her head while she was in bed. After shooting the family dog, Mr. Hartner tried to overdose on prescription medications. Reports indicate the couple had multiple health issues.

Mr. Hartner pled guilty to voluntary manslaughter and was sentenced to 7 years in prison.

Ms. Hartner is survived by a son.

Unknown

Domestic violence affects us all.

Domestic violence cuts across gender, race and ethnicity. People in every socio-economic status experience this type of violence. Domestic violence victims are all around us—in our neighborhoods, businesses, and places of worship.

Therefore, let us have a moment of silence to remember those victims of whom we are unaware.