

YAVAPAI COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
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Attorneys for STATE OF ARIZONA

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF YAVAPAI

STATE OF ARIZONA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

WALTER HAROLD MITCHELL,

Defendant.

CAUSE NO. P1300CR202100015

**NOTICE OF FILING VICTIM
IMPACT STATEMENT**

Assigned to Hon. Krista M. Carman

1 The State of Arizona, by and through Sheila Polk, Yavapai County Attorney, and
2 her deputy undersigned, gives notice that attached hereto is the Victim Impact Statement
3 from Linda Carol Perrine (Deceased Jan Visser) dated December 10, 2021.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 20th day of December, 2021.

Sheila Polk
Yavapai County Attorney

By: Casi Harris
Casi M. Harris
Deputy County Attorney

COPY of the foregoing

mailed emailed hand-delivered
this 20th day of December, 2021 to:

Yavapai County Superior Court

Michael A. Daniels
Attorney for Defendant

By: 

STATE OF ARIZONA,
Plaintiff

VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT

vs.

Cause No. P1300CR202100015

Walter Harold Mitchell
Defendant(s).

The Honorable Krista Carman

Case ID: 0274257

Victim name: **LINDA CAROL PERRINE**

Person writing statement (if not the victim): Daughter of victim

Relationship to victim: Daughter

Pursuant to A.R.S. 13-4430 by signing this document I give my permission to share this information with the appropriate parties (prosecution, courts, defense counsel and probation) in consideration of sentencing in this case.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Use additional sheets of paper if needed to answer these questions:

Type of crime: Abandonment Or Concealment Of A Dead Body (29 counts)

1. As a result of this crime, were you physically injured? If yes, describe the extent of your injuries: No

2. Did you require medical treatment for the injuries sustained? If yes, please describe the treatment received and the length of time treatment was or will be required:
To what degree have you recovered? No

Please describe the psychological impact which the crime has had on you:

My Father's remains were to my and my families knowledge cremated and placed in a urn in his reserved columbarium at Tahoma Veteran's cemetery. This would have been following his request

3. Have you experienced any of the following feelings since the crime occurred (please check the appropriate response(s): depression___ anxiety___ **fear**___ guilt___ anger/rage___ change in sleep patterns ___ change in appetite___

Criminal Division
(928)771-3344

Civil Division
(928)771-3338

Bad Check Program
(928)771-3490

Victim Services
(928)771-3485

Si desea asistencia en español, por favor llame al (928)771-3485 o envíe un correo electrónico a Victim.Services@YavapaiAZ.gov

4. Have you received any counseling or therapy as a result of this incident? If yes, please describe the length of time you have been or will be undergoing counseling or therapy:
No

5. Has this incident affected your ability to earn a living? If yes, please describe your job and how it has been affected: No

6. Has this crime affected you or your family's lifestyle? No, at least not yet

7. Are there any other effects of this crime that are now being experienced by you or your family? Please see attached letter

8. What are your feelings about the Criminal Justice System? Have your feelings changed as a result of this incident? Please see attached letter

9. Do you have any thoughts on the sentence that the court should impose upon the defendant? Please see attached letter

10. Do you want to have contact with the defendant in this case? I would as I would like to hear in his words how and why

Please return this statement to: Yavapai County Attorney, Victim Services Division
255 E. Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301
Victim.Services@YavapaiAZ.gov
Fax (928) 771-3414

December 20, 2021

Honorable Krista Carman
Yavapai County Attorney, Victim Services Division
255 E. Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301

Cause No. P1300CR202100015
State of Arizona vs Walter Harold Mitchell

Re: Victim Impact Statement from the daughter of Jan Visser

Attachments: Copy of the consent for donation and cremation agreement and thank you letter from Walter Michell

To whom it may concern,

I wanted to submit this letter describing my experience, thoughts and the impact to my myself and my family caused by Walter Mitchell's bizarre and negligent act of dumping body parts of my dad's remains in the forest.

It was quite a shock to learn that portions of my Father's body or skeleton was dumped in the Prescott Arizona Forest. As my father's executor, he had me arrange for his body to be donated to science in advance of his passing. To that end, I had pre-arranged his admittance to the University of Washington's body donation program. Near the end of my dad's life he was in Hospice and passed-on in February of 2019. I followed the instructions the UW had given me, but it turned out that my father had wounds on his shins from diabetes and could not be accepted to the program after all. At that time, they provided Walter Mitchell's company, FutureGenex, as an alternate for the donation. After contacting FutureGenex and speaking to Walter, his company accepted my father's body for his donation program. He described that his company provides subjects for the training of surgeons who perform joint injections. I have attached the donation form agreement that we both signed as official documents with the terms and usage of the donation. At the time, I felt confident that Walter's company was in good standing and legitimate as the University of Washington had given me his name and contact information. I had no reason to be suspicious as he appeared to be professional and knowledgeable. Everything seemed in line with what I would expect U of W would have done. About 3 weeks after my dad's body was donated, I received a call from Walter telling me I should pick-up my father's cremated remains, so I went to his office in Kent to meet with Walter. This was the first time I

met Walter as previously all had been done with phone calls and email. At that time, Walter handed me the attached Thank you letter describing how my father's remains were used for the training surgeons and was grateful for my dad's act. Walter then handed me a wooden box that he said contained my father's remains.

My dad was a veteran of the Korean war so in June 2019, the Tahoma veteran's organization performed a wonderful and touching ceremony for my family to honor his memory and service. The box Walter gave me was set that day in the prearranged columbarium at Tahoma Veterans National Cemetery. I know my family is currently at peace with the knowledge that my dad's ashes are safely in the Niche surrounded by other veterans that fought for their country.

Unfortunately, I happen to know the truth and that portions of my dad were scattered in Arizona, a long way from home. Hopefully some of dad is in really in his home state of Washington, where the ceremony took place and to where we visit. The knowing this of dastardly act has been quite a shock to me and has sullied my remembrance of the end of my father's life. I have had to carefully consider if I can tell my family this horrible turn of events. My Mom, who is now 90, would be crushed to learn of it. I truly am concerned that if she learned of this and connected the news story to us what would happen to her mind-set. When I think of telling my brother's, I'm confident all of them will blame me for not responsibly caring for dad's last wishes. And I worked so hard to "dot all the I's and cross the T's" doing my dad's estate. I also wonder how they would feel when they visit my dad's headstone and ask themselves who or how much of dad is in that box. Just thinking of telling my dad's sister's what has happened, would be traumatic for me as well as them. In the end, I have had to make the difficult decision not to tell any of my family of this horror story. It weighs heavy on my heart that I might slip and say something accidentally, or, as this case goes to court and increases in public attention, and my family learns of our connection to it.

I don't know what was in Walter's mind when he was disposing of all those family's loves ones just tossed on the ground, in the forest. I can't imagine what reasoning he had for such bizarre actions. I think I might of heard or read that Walter might write a book regarding this, and that is terrifying just to think of. It makes me wonder how I would explain it that I kept it a secret rather than be truthful to those who who cared for my father. Just think, for the rest of my life the relationship with my brothers would be broken. But even now, I know something that can't be spoken of which always looms over me. When this court case is over, I imagine that I will have to do something with my dad's resulting remains

when they are released to me. I wonder if the Tohma cemetery will consent to open up the niche so I can put the rest of him in there? Oh God what a phone call that will be.

I'll wrap this up but what I'd really like, is to hear Walter's account and reasoning of what happen and why he could not find a better way to handle the undonated remains. I just feel this was so bizarre there has to be a story that may redeem in some way the situation. Until then, I really don't know what punishment would be sensible. So, I hope there is an opportunity to hear from Walter along this judicial path. Until then, I appreciate your time in reading this and I am very interested in staying in touch with the case as it continues through to discover the why of it all.

Linda Perrine

Daughter of Jan Visser