

19 Dec 96 IN PIA

# Death ruled as accidental drowning

By **LIZABETH CARDENAS**

*News Staff Writer*

The Dallas County Medical Examiner's Office has ruled the cause of death of an Irving man found dead Friday floating in a canal behind Meadow Creek Drive as an accidental drowning.

David Lael, 40, was found at 12:30 p.m. floating in the canal behind the Villas of Beaver Creek, an apartment complex located in the 800 block of Meadow Creek Drive. An Irving citizen who lived at the Villas of Beaver Creek saw the body and called police.

"There were no obvious signs of trauma to the body

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# Drowning: Death ruled an accident by Dallas County medical examiner

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— no stab wounds or gunshot wounds," said David Tull, public information officer with the Irving Police Department. "We're leaving it up to the Medical Examiner's to determine the cause of death."

After being removed from the water, his body was transported to the Dallas County Medical Examiner's office for investigation. A representative with the Medical Examiner's office said the cause of death was drowning and the manner was accidental.

However, police have not yet closed the case.

"We're still waiting for the toxicology reports to come back, so the case is still open pending further test results," Tull said.

"As long as no evidence points to the contrary, then (accidental drowning) will be the final ruling."

According to police, a missing person's report had been filed on Lael three days before he was discovered.

"He was one of our missing persons," Tull said. "On the 10th (of December), his fiance made a missing person's report on him."

Lael lived a "short distance" from where he was found, Tull said.

Tull said police follow a regular procedure with

missing person's reports in much the same manner until leads formulate putting detectives on a specific track.

"We determine whether there is information to lead to possible foul play, and we look to see if this type of thing has happened before," Tull said.

"Then we start checking out the places the person might be at or have been to. We also look for the person's car. Now, if we find the car, and it has a broken steering column, then that's different. Our investigation changes as we gather information."

Tull said, because every case is different and friends and relatives are most familiar with the person they suspect is missing, they do not have to wait 24 hours to call police.

"It's a big myth about having to wait 24 hours," Tull said.

"If your wife, for instance, is a person with a very regular schedule who comes home from work within 15 minutes of a certain time every day and she doesn't come home for three hours, then I'd call the police. Anytime someone is concerned, they should go on and call police. It's very easy to cancel a missing person's report once the person shows up."

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## *Janet Lynn Lambert*

Janet Lynn Lambert, 41, of Irving died Wednesday, Nov. 27.

Ms. Lambert was born Aug. 14, 1955, in Ruston, La. She worked as an LVN.

She is survived by her fiancé, Gary Strickland; daughter, Adrienne Brown, of Irving; son, Morgan Brown, of Irving; parents, Troy and Natalie Ford, of Atlanta, Ga.; sisters, Donna Buster Riccardi, of Irving, Teresa Nelson, of Farmers Branch, and Michelle Russell of Irving; brothers, Troy Ford, Jr., of Florence, Ky., and Greg Ford of Georgia; and grandparents, Bessie and Fred Ford, of Louisiana.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 1, in Brown's Memorial Chapel with Rev. Larry Gilliam officiating.

The family requests memorials be sent to Ashford Hall at 2021 Shoaf Dr., Irving, Texas 75061.

1 Dec 96  
INP3H

## *Phyllis Geders Lang*

Phyllis Geders Lang, 59, of South Padre Island died Saturday, Oct. 26.

Mrs. Lang was born March 21, 1937, in Paducah. She was the former owner of B.F.S. delivery service in the Dallas area. She was also a member of Holy Family Catholic Church while a resident in Irving.

She is survived by her husband, Jeff Lang of South Padre Island; son and daughter-in-law, Christopher and Shelli Geders of Irving; father, Ruby Bolt of Amarillo; sister, Helen Ingram of Hot Springs Village, Ark.; brothers, Charles Underwood of Amarillo, and Leroy Bolt of Abilene; and grandchildren, Denton, Jonah and Kristina Geders, all of Irving.

Services were held Sunday, Sept. 27, Donnelly's Colonial Chapel with Rev. Msgr. Jerry Duesman officiating. Burial was Wednesday, Oct. 30, Lakewood Park Cemetery, Affton, Mo.

Family requests memorials to Liver Transplant/Research, c/o

Baylor Medical Center, 350  
Gaston, Dallas, Texas 75246.

31 OCT 96

INP3A

## *Jack Young Latham*

Jack Young Latham, 63, of Irving, died Tuesday, Nov. 19 in Dallas.

Mr. Latham was born Sept. 25, 1933 in Alamogordo, N.M. He was an electrician, and a member of Elks Lodge in Irving.

Survivors include his wife, Delsie Holmes Latham; daughters, Terrian Latham of Kansas and Tamera McArthur of Granbury; sons, Lindell Latham of N.M., Michael Wright of Waco, Jack Latham II of Irving, Joseph Latham of Waco, and Robert Latham of Kansas City; sister, Cerelle Chapman of Ariz.; brother, Jerry Latham of The Colony; 16 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Services were held Friday, Nov. 22 at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens. Rev. Randy Carroll officiated.

Funeral arrangements were made by Brown's Memorial Funeral Home in Irving.

24 Nov. 96  
IN P3A

C

## *Patricia Laverne Lawrence*

Patricia Laverne Lawrence, 55, of Irving died Sunday, Dec. 31, in Irving.

Mrs. Lawrence was born Feb. 15, 1940, in Dallas. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include her daughter, Patricia and husband Jake Welborn of Irving; son, Marty Lawrence of Irving; sisters, Beverly Redmon of Irving and Betty Honea of Wisconsin; brother, Ernest Burleson of North Richland Hills; and grandson, Joseph Matthew Welborn of Irving.

Services were Wednesday, Jan. 3, at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens, with the Rev. M.J. Sartain officiating. Arrangements were with Brown's Memorial Funeral Home.

4 Jan 1996  
I W P3A

## *Charles Lee Layne*

Charles Lee Layne, 59, of Gordonville, died Thursday, Oct. 31.

Mr. Layne was born March 8, 1937 in Whitesboro. He was a retired route salesman for Coca-Cola Bottling Co., and a member of Central Baptist Church in Whitesboro.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Layne of Gordonville; sons, Charles Edward Layne of Irving and Chris Layne of Gordonville; daughters, Carrie Nielsen, Marilyn Mosher, and Barbara Shelton, all of Irving; brothers, Herschel Eugene Layne of Princeton, Texas; and six grandchildren.

Services were held Saturday, Nov. 2 at Huff Funeral Chapel in Whitesboro. Rev. Harold Watson officiated. Burial followed at Mt. Tabor Cemetery in Grayson County.

3 Nov 1996  
IN P3A

## *Priscilla Kay Laza*

Priscilla Kay Laza, 41, of Irving died Saturday, March 16, in Arlington.

Mrs. Laza was born June 19, 1954, in Perryton. She was a homemaker who lived in Dallas before moving to Irving three years ago.

She is survived by her husband, Michael Ritchey Laza of Irving; sons, Phillip Paul Burnett of Dallas and Joshua Alan Laza of Irving; stepdaughters, Stephanie Laza, Martha Laza and Jennifer Laza, all of Irving; mother, Patsy Hyatt of Perryton; sister, Carol Jean Lightfoot of Amarillo; brother, Sidney Hyatt of Arlington; one grandson;



### Priscilla Kay Laza

*Services set for Thursday*

and six step-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be 10 a.m. Thursday, March 21, at Donnelly's Colonial Chapel. Burial will follow at Grove Hill Memorial Park in Dallas.

The family requests memorials to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 141274, Irving, TX 75014.

21 Mar 1996  
IN P3A



## *Margaret H. Leavitt*

Margaret H. "Peggy" Leavitt, 89, of Dallas died Saturday, Sept. 7, in Dallas.

Mrs. Leavitt was born July 12, 1907, in Harrisburg, Pa. She taught the art of Ballroom Dancing for 20 years in Gainesville, Fla. She was a graduate of Women's College of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Abbie and Bob Davis of Irving; and grandchildren, Rob Davis of Dallas, Douglas Davis, Wesley Davis, Paul Davis, and Matthew Davis, all of Austin.

Services were held Tuesday, Sept. 10, at St. Francis Episcopal Church in Dallas, with the Rev. David Allen officiating. Interment followed in Gainesville, Fla.

The family requests memorials be sent to Asheville School, Asheville, N.C.

12 Sept 1996  
IN P3A

## *Opal P. Lehman*

Opal P. Lehman, 87, of Irving died Wednesday, March 27, at an Irving nursing home.

Mrs. Lehman was born March 20, 1909, in Jayton. She was a retired clerical worker in the legal profession and was a member of South MacArthur Boulevard Church of Christ.

Survivors include her son, John L. Brown and wife Norma of Dallas; sister, Maurine Meyer of Dallas; brother, Hobart Lewis of Lubbock; sister-in-law, Dana Lewis of Plano; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were Saturday, March 30, at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens, with the Rev. Ken Parlin officiating. Arrangements were with Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home.

31 March 96

INP3A

## *Ruby Frances Lewis*

Ruby Frances Lewis, 98, of Irving died Thursday, Feb. 8, in Irving.

Mrs. Lewis was born Oct. 15, 1897, in Raton, N.M. She had been employed with the Northrup Corporation.

Survivors include her sons, Robert R. Lewis of Springfield, Mo., and Roger L. Lewis of Carrollton; brother, J.J. Vanderford of Wynnewood, Pa.; one grandchild; and one great-grandchild.

Arrangements were with Brown's Memorial Funeral Home.

15 Feb 1996  
IN BA

## *James A Lewis Jr.*

Master Sgt. James A. Lewis Jr. (Ret. Air Force), 69, of Irving died Friday, Feb. 2.

Mr. Lewis was born Dec. 24, 1926. He served with the U.S. Navy in the Pacific Theater during World War II and then with the U.S. Air Force in Europe and the U.S., retiring in 1964 after more than 20 years of service. He also retired from the U.S. Postal Service after more than 20 years of service. He was a member of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church of Irving and Irving Elks Lodge No. 2334.

Survivors include his wife of more than 40 years, Hannalore Lewis of Irving; son, John A. Lewis of Austin; mother, Opal M. Jenkins of Irving; brother, R.C. Lewis of Odessa; uncle and aunt, L.C. and Helen Miles of Mesquite; sister-in-law, Marianne Hamel and husband Peter; and many other relatives.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 9, at Restland Memorial Chapel, followed by Military Honors by the U.S. Air Force Honor Guards at graveside. Pastor Chuck Hubbard will officiate.

The family requests donations to the James A. Lewis Jr. Scholarship Fund, c/o Irving Elks Lodge No. 2334, 2015 Britain Road, Irving, TX 75061.

8 Feb 1996  
IN P3A

## *Margie Lewter*

Margie Lewter, 65, of Irving died Saturday, May 11, in Irving.

Mrs. Lewter was born Oct. 6, 1930, in Wichita Falls. She was the self-employed owner of Westwood Day School and more recently Scope Properties.

Survivors include her husband of 45 years, D.H. Lewter of Irving; son, David Eugene Lewter of Lake Tawakoni; sister, Kathryn Morgan of Irving; brother, Otis Wade King of San Francisco, Calif.; nieces, Lana Doyle and Paula Morgan; granddaughter, Christina Bach of Irving; and great-granddaughter, Tiffany Bach of Irving.

Services were Tuesday, May 14, at Brown's Memorial Chapel, with burial following at Fairview Cemetery in Gainesville.

The family requests memorials to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 560089, Dallas, TX 75356-0089.

16 May 1996  
IN P3A

***Chester Lind***

**Chester Lind, 70, of Irving, died Friday, April 26, at The Irving Hospital. Arrangements are pending with Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home.**

28 Apr 1996  
IN P3A

## *Chester E. Lind*

Chester E. "Chet" Lind, 70, of Irving died Friday, April 26, at The Irving Hospital.

Mr. Lind was born March 23, 1926, in Belize City, Belize. He retired in 1986 from Westway Ford, where he was an auto salesman. He was a military veteran and a member of Holy Family Catholic Church of Irving.

Survivors include his wife, Anne Lind of Irving; daughters and sons-in-law, Leslie Lind of Denton, Robin Lind and John Fuerst of Austin, and Claudia and Gary Thetford of Azle; sons and daughter-in-law, Erik Lind of Irving and Scott and Carol Lind of Carbondale, Ill.; granddaughter, Michelle Lind of Denton; brothers and sisters-in-law, Eric and Irma Lind of Metairie, La., and Raymond and Beryl Lind of Kent, England; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by one brother, Lloyd Lind.

Rosary was Monday, April 29, at Donnelly's Colonial Chapel. Mass of Christian Burial was Tuesday at Holy Family Catholic Church, with Msgr. Jerome Duesman celebrant. Burial followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.

The family requests memorials to the Patricia Scarse Nursing Scholarship Fund, Harris College of Nursing, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth.

*2 May 1996  
IN P3A*

## *Anna Jo Linsley*

Anna Joe Linsley, 60, died Monday, July 1.

Survivors include her mother, Birdie Murphy of Plano; daughter, Debbie Turrentine of Irving; sons, Grant Linsley of Wichita, Kan. and Gary Weaver of Irving; sisters, Francis Hiatt of Colorado Springs, Colo., Patricia Crain of Frisco and Martha Benthul of Bryan; brothers, Earl Murphy of Dallas, John Murphy of Canton, Clifton Murphy of Dallas and Douglas Murphy of Dallas; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Services were held Wednesday, July 3, at First Baptist Church of Plano with interment in Restland Memorial Park.

4 July 1996  
IN P3A



## *Dennis P. Littner*

Dennis Patrick Littner, 36, of Coppel died Sunday, June 30.

Mr. Littner was born Feb. 9, 1960, in Cincinnati, Ohio. He worked as a purchasing agent for Newwork Engineering.

Survivors include his parents, Patricia and Leonard Littner of Grand Prairie; daughter, Amberly Littner of Cincinnati, Ohio; fiancée, Jan. Semenko of Coppel; brothers, Michael Littner of Irving and Mark Littner of Grapevine.

Services were held Tuesday, July 2, at Brown's Memorial Funeral Home Chapel officiated by Monsignor Jerome Duesman.

4 July 1996  
IN P3A

Robert Hill Fund of Compassion,  
c/o Fifth Street Prebyterian  
Church, 1616 E. Fifth St., Tyler, TX  
75701.



**John Carl Lochner Sr.**

*Memorial service set for Sunday*

## **John Carl Lochner Sr.**

John Carl Lochner Sr., 80, of Irving, died Monday, April 15, in Irving.

Mr. Lochner was born April 14, 1916, near Chandler, Okla. He attended Oklahoma University where he majored in math and was a record-setting mile-runner on the track team. He enlisted in the Navy Air Corps after the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. He was first stationed in Miami, then at Alameda Naval Air Station in California as a naval flight instructor. He eventually became a lieutenant, and was discharged in 1945 with three citations for his missions. He owned and operated the Dr. Pepper bottling plant in Tyler, was an insurance salesman and later was a security guard at Bell Northern Research.

Survivors include his son, John

Carl Lochner Jr. of Irving; daughter, Lynn Lochner Viale and her husband Andrew of Gilroy, Calif.; grandson, Drew Viale of Gilroy, Calif.; sisters and brothers-in-law, Mable and Buel Powell and Ida Faye Siegmann, all of Enid, Okla., Laura and Marvin Freeman of Tyler and Ada Maye and Marion Goff of Redding, Calif.; brothers and sisters-in-law, Floyd and Kim Lochner of Oxford, Wisc., Frances Lochner of Edmond, Okla., and Marilee Lochner of Enid, Okla.

Mr. Lochner was preceded in death by brothers, Bernice Lochner, Vernon Lochner and his wife Opal and Pete Lochner; and sister, Mollie Carpenter.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 21, at Fifth Street Prebyterian Church in Tyler.

Memorials can be made to the

18 Apr 1996  
IN P3A

## *Angela Lodato*

Angela Lodato, 81, of Irving died Wednesday, June 5.

Mrs. Lodato was born Nov. 25, 1914, in New York City, N.Y. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by her daughter, Jean Fakler of Plantation, Fla.; and son, Thomas Lodato of Irving.

Funeral services will be held at 9:30 a.m. Monday, June 10, at St. Gregory's Catholic Church in Plantation, Fla. Burial will follow at Woodlawn Memorial Park in Miami.

Local arrangements were with Brown's Memorial Funeral Home.

9 June 1996  
IN P3A

## *Gladys Evangeline Logsdon*

Gladys Evangeline Logsdon, 63, of Irving died Wednesday, June 5.

Mrs. Logsdon was born Aug. 6, 1932, in Dwight, Ill. She was a secretary and a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Irving.

She is survived by her sons, George Logsdon of Sandy, Utah, and Larry Logsdon of Irving; brothers, Dean Newberg of Grand Rapids, Mich., and David Newberg of Pittsburgh; and grandchildren, Paul, Emily, Brian and Sarah.

Funeral services will be held at 4 p.m. Sunday, June 9, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, with the Rev. Vince Nelson officiating.

The family requests memorials to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 2620 W. Grauwylar, Irving, TX 75061.

Local arrangements are with Brown's Memorial Funeral Home.

*9 June 1996  
IW p 3A*

## *Thelma Lucile Broyles Looper*

Thelma Lucile Broyles Looper, 87, of Irving died Thursday, May 16, in Dallas.

Mrs. Looper was born March 26, 1909, in Lancaster. She grew up in Dallas and moved to Irving in 1935. She retired from Oilwell — a division of U.S. Steel — where she was an accountant, in 1974. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Irving, and she enjoyed gardening, painting and reading.

She was preceded in death by her mother and father; two brothers, Clyde and Clifton Broyles; and sister, Mae Baird.

She is survived by her son, John Looper of Sugarland, Texas; daughter and son-in-law, Larry and Rebecca Young of Grapevine, Texas; grandchildren, Max Young of Irving and Lou Ann Hill of Arlington; great grandson, Joshua Hill; sister, Annie Pritchett of Stephenville, Texas; nephews, Robert and Steve Pritchett and Larry and Joel Looper; and nieces, Kay Lovell and Loree Samford.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, May 20, at the First United Methodist Church of Irving, with Revs. Mike Walker and Chris Allen officiating. Interment will follow at the Oak Grove Memorial Gardens in Irving.

Local arrangements were with Brown's Memorial Funeral Home.

*19 May 1976  
IN P3A*

## *Infant Boy Lopez*

Infant Boy Lopez, newborn, died Sunday, June 30.

Infant Boy Lopez was born on June 30, in Irving.

Survivors include his parents, Reynaldo and Santa Maldonado Lopez of Dallas.

Graveside services were held Monday, July 1 at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens. Deacon Manuel Byena officiated.

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## **Rachael Annette Lopez**

Rachael Annette Lopez, newborn daughter of Misty and Orlando Lopez Jr. of Grand Prairie, died Tuesday, April 9, at an area hospital.

She is survived by her parents; grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Orlando Lopez Sr. of Grand Prairie, Carl Jones of California, and Madgie Smith of Irving; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Graveside services were Thursday, April 11, at Southland Memorial Park in Grand Prairie. The Rev. Dennis O'Mara officiated.

Arrangements were with Bean-Massey-Burge Funeral Home of Grand Prairie.

14 Apr 1996  
IN P3A

## *Janie Rene Lowery*

Janie Rene Lowery, 53, of Irving died Monday, Jan. 29, at Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene.

Mrs. Lowery was born Nov. 22, 1942. She was a homemaker and a member of St. Luke's Catholic Church of Irving. She was a past member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the National Association of Letter Carriers No. 4240.

Survivors include her husband, Robert Lowery of Irving; daughter, Elizabeth Jane Lowery of Irving; sons, Robert Lee Lowery and Randolph Scott Lowery, both of Irving; sister, Nelda Roberts of Tuscola; and parents, Thurman Jordan of Comanche and Norean Holley of Eastland.

Rosary will be at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2, at Donnelly's Colonial Chapel. Mass of Christian Burial begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 2, at St. Luke's Catholic Church, with the Rev. J. Douglas Deshotel celebrant. Burial will follow at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens. Arrangements are with Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home.

1 Feb 1996  
IN P3A



## *Curtis Ludwig*

Curtis Ludwig, 57, of Irving died on Monday, Nov. 4, at The Irving Hospital.

Mr. Ludwig was born Oct. 1, 1939, in Waco. He was a manager for PCI in Weatherford for nearly two years, and he had served in the U.S. military.

He is survived by his wife, Joyce Ludwig of Irving; son, Curtis A. Ludwig of Fort Worth; daughters, Gretchen L. Carter of Roanoke and Katie C. Simpkins of Irving; sister, Alice Rice of Irving; mother, Vennie Ludwig of Irving; grandchildren, Courtney, Alexandra and Andrea Ludwig, all of Fort Worth, David Day of Roanoke and Tyler and Travis Simpkins, both of Irving; and several nieces and nephews.

Services were held Wednesday, Nov. 6, at the Woodhaven Presbyterian Church, with Rev. W. Douglas Hood, Jr. officiating.

The family requests memorials

sent to Woodhaven Presbyterian Church Endowment Fund, 3650 N. O'Connor Road, Irving, Texas 75062.

Arrangements were with Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home.

7 Nov 96  
INP3A



***Betty Lyons***

Services for Betty Lyons are pending with Brown's Memorial Funeral Home.

25 Jan 1996  
I N #2A

## *Betty Jean Lyons*

Betty Jean Lyons, 53, of Irving, died Wednesday, Jan. 24.

Ms. Lyons was born Dec. 10, 1942 in Dallas. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include her husband, Bill Lyons of Irving; mother, Inez "Momeze" Perdue of Grand Prairie; daughter, Trina Jones and her husband Lonnie of Irving; daughter, Tonja Johnson and her husband Robert of Irving; daughter, Tamra Pike of Irving; brother, Dennis Robert King of Grand Prairie; and grandchildren, Scotty Jones, Karissa Jones, Laci Johnson, Robert Ray Johnson, and Billy Pike.

Services were held Friday, Jan. 26 at Brown's Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. W.L. Bryant officiating. Burial followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.

28 Jan 1996  
IN P3A