



CUE Center For Missing Persons

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National Organization Release New Image for Missing Child

A renowned forensic artist aids organization in drawing an accurate photo of Donna Barnhill

Wilmington, NC – Donna Michelle Barnhill vanished over three decades ago leaving behind a mystery and a trail of unanswered questions for the rural community of Lexington, North Carolina. Donna was thirteen years old on the night she went missing, no alarms rang out for her and few searched for clues concerning her whereabouts. Years have dragged on, her parents and some family members have passed away and to date this child had not been found.

The photo released in 1981 of Donna Barnhill was that of a school picture when she was between the age of seven and eight years old. In the mid 2000's, the CUE Center for Missing Persons located additional grainy snap shots, including an "eye shut" photo; this discovery proved invaluable to the actual age of her disappearance time frame.

Now, at the request of the non profit organization a forensic artist from Canada, Diana Trepkov has provided Donna with a proper photo to better aid the nation with a real time look at "Donna" just before she became a missing child. "We hope that investigators working aged cases across the nation will keep her image in their mind just in case there may be an unidentified child out there that may not be processed into the system set in place for missing persons today", explained, CUE founder, Monica Caison.

More and more missing persons or a family profile of DNA is being entered into CODIS for identification purposes, however it is the cases found many years ago that still linger on shelves or in boxes tucked away somewhere that have not been placed into the system; meaning many of those cases likely could be closed once the task is completed. "If Donna was deceased upon her disappearance and later found, she could be one of the many Jane Doe cases in need of entry", said, Monica Caison. "We want to turn over every stone to make sure", she added.

Tools and technology used for missing individuals have developed leaps and bounds in the last thirty-plus years. After Donna was reported missing by her mother, the investigation discovered that Donnas' sibling, Anita Barnhill died at the age of two, her death was ruled an accident in 1966. Short time later facts of her death were discovered and in 1999 a medical examiner re visited the child's case, ruling her death as fatal child abuse – homicide, to date no charges have been brought forth. "This information known only supports that things can be missed and more discoveries could still in fact be dormant in a file, maybe in another county or even another state", said, Monica Caison.

Forensic artist, Diana Trepkov re drew the current photo from pictures of Donna located and one that her family did not purchase from school because Donnas' eyes were closed and of poor quality. Diana has dedicated close to ten years volunteering her talent to the organization

providing this type of work as well as many age progression photos of missing persons, children and adult.



Missing since: 03/18/81
Date of Birth: 04/19/67
Height: 5'7
White female
Eyes: Brown

Missing from: Lexington, Davidson County, North Carolina
Age at disappearance: 13 years old
Weight: 125 pounds
Hair: Brown straight
Marks, Scars: A mole / birthmark on her right arm.

Clothing: An orange sweatshirt, jeans and a dark jacket. Dentals: Not Available. Prior to her disappearance, she had never been to a dentist. Fingerprints: Not Available

It was said that Donna was to visit a nearby friend's home in which she never made it to the residence.

If anyone has information concerning the whereabouts of Donna Michelle Barnhill please contact the **Lexington Police Department 336-243-3302**. You may remain anonymous when submitting information by visiting <http://www.ncmissingpersons.org/donna-michele-barnhill/> or contact the CUE Center for Missing Persons 24 hour line (910) 232-1687 or (910) 343-1131

Every missing person is somebody's child.