

Stanislaus County
**SHERIFF'S
DEPARTMENT**

Sheriff Adam Christianson
250 E. Hackett Road, Modesto, CA 95358



MEDIA RELATIONS



**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE October 28, 2008
TIME 2:30 PM

Funeral Service for Mary Alice Willey

PATTERSON, CA-A graveside service will be held on Friday October 31, 2008 at 11:00am for Mary Alice Willey. The service will be officiated by Chaplain Michael Douglass. Sheriff Adam Christianson will give opening and closing remarks.

September 11th, 1971 the body of a female homicide victim was discovered in the Delta Mendota Canal near Wesley, California. The victim was described as having numerous and major injuries to her face, neck, hands, and upper body. The victim was never identified.

On April 25th, 2008, approximately 37 years after her death, Sheriff's Officials exhumed the remains of victim to hopefully utilize the advances in new technology such as DNA to try and identify victim. After the story went to the media, a family contacted the Sheriff's Department and said the victim might be her cousin. After comparing DNA from the victim and other family members, the victim was positively identified as Mary Alice Willey of San Francisco.

Location of graveside service:

Patterson Cemetery
10800 Highway 33
Patterson, CA 95363

For information regarding this press release please contact Deputy Royjindar Singh (209) 652-6597.

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