

Hosted by Google™

Search News

Sheriff: Ga. couple likely killed in dog attack

By KATE BRUMBACK (AP) – 23 hours ago

ATLANTA — A former college professor and his wife were apparently attacked and killed by nearly a dozen dogs along a rural northeast Georgia road where their bodies were found mutilated, authorities said Monday.

Preliminary autopsy results from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation showed Sherry Schweder, 65, likely died of injuries suffered in a dog attack, Oglethorpe County Sheriff Mike Smith said. Autopsy results for her husband, Lothar Karl Schweder, 77, were not yet available, but Smith said it's likely he was also attacked by dogs because the scene was so grisly.

Smith said officials were going to round up at least 11 dogs seen in the area where the couple's mutilated bodies were found Saturday morning by five passers-by.

It wasn't immediately clear whether the mixed-breed dogs, which are to be captured by animal control officers from neighboring Madison County, were feral or someone's pets. There had been no recent complaints about vicious dogs in the area, Smith said.

The bodies were found along a dirt road near the couple's home in Lexington and had been there for at least 24 hours before they were found, said county coroner James Mathews.

A family friend told the Athens Banner-Herald that Lothar Karl Schweder was a retired professor who had taught German at the University of Georgia, which is about 20 miles away in Athens.

UGA German Department head Martin Kagel said he didn't know Lothar Karl Schweder and that no one currently with the department knew him. However, he said it might be possible Schweder worked there part time at some point or worked there more than 20 years ago.

Sherry Schweder was a bibliographer at the university's library, where she had worked since 1974 selecting books and journals for the school's humanities collection, said university librarian William Potter.

Nan McMurry, who was Sherry Schweder's supervisor and had worked with her for about 20 years, said she was stunned.

"She was one of my favorite colleagues here," McMurry said. "She was really a kind of quiet and self-effacing person, but she was one of the most intelligent and most well-educated people here."

McMurry said Sherry Schweder had many dogs and cats, though authorities don't think her own dogs attacked her.

York Schweder, one of the couple's two sons, had left for Georgia after hearing about his parents' death, said his mother-in-law, Toni Mora, who answered the phone at his home in Hutchinson, Kan. York Schweder did not immediately return a message left Monday on his cell phone.

A message left at a number listed for the couple's other son, who lives in Aiken, S.C., was not immediately returned.

Copyright © 2009 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

Related articles

Retired professor and wife killed by dogs
ohmidog! - 21 hours ago

Authorities identify dead couple
Online Athens - 1 day ago

Elderly Lexington couple found dead
Augusta Chronicle - 2 days ago

[More coverage \(48\) »](#)

[How to make electricity](#)


Tired of bills? A shocking secret electric co's don't want you 2 know

www.Power4Home.com

AP Associated Press

Map



 Add News to your Google Homepage