

1316

September 8, 1973

Location: Lakeland, FL

Victim(s): James "Jim" Carl Turman 54, Helen Lee Petty Baum 45 (survived), Phillip Arnold 16 (survived)

Attacker(s): Willie Jasper Darden Jr.

Description: Darden, a felon who was on a weekend furlough from a 20-year prison sentence for the robbery and attempted rape of a 68-year-old woman in 1968, walked into Carl's Furniture Store and feigned interest in buying \$600 worth of furniture, before leaving. He returned a few minutes later and asked to see some stoves for sale. When Helen turned towards the adding machine, Darden pushed a gun into her back and told her "Do as I say and you won't get hurt." He demanded the money in the register, before ordering Helen onto one of the beds. James appeared at the back door as Darden grabbed Helen's shoulder, causing her to scream. Darden then shot James between the eyes, before unsuccessfully attempting to drag his body inside the store. He then ordered Helen onto the floor approximately 5 feet from where James lay dying, and told her to take out her false teeth. He then unzipped his pants and unbuckled his belt, before demanding Helen perform oral sex on him. Phillip arrived and attempted to get James' body inside the store, before Darden walked over and shot him in the mouth, neck, and the side. Phillip managed to stumble to a neighbors' house, where they called for an ambulance.

Archive.is Link(s):

<https://archive.is/F7YGc> Darden's wikipedia entry.

<https://archive.is/BBqaJ> Darden's murderpedia entry. He was executed 3-15-1988.

<https://archive.is/hjSCT> Darden's casefile.

<https://archive.is/n201I> James' find a grave memorial.

<https://archive.is/SmXdq> Helen's find a grave memorial.

<https://archive.is/3hXAw> Story on Darden's upcoming execution.

<https://archive.is/jYTjt> James' 1st wife Bonnie Marie Oxford Winney's find a grave memorial. They had 2 sons together before divorcing in 1945.

<https://archive.is/v8UY6> Turman surname info Ancestry.com.

<https://archive.is/bITDd> Turman surname info house of names.

<https://archive.is/1lNiy> Petty surname info Ancestry.com.

<https://archive.is/WrXiT> Petty surname info house of names.

<https://archive.is/ZzWkY> Petty surname info surname database.

Helen's mother's maiden name was Pack.

<https://archive.is/drqyl> Pack surname info Ancestry.com.

<https://archive.is/U6zdQ> Pack surname info house of names.

<https://archive.is/YeyfV> Pack surname info surname database.