

Richard Marc Evonitz



Serial killer researched by
Lauren Burnette, Barbara Cannon, Kim Childers, Jacob Jones

Department of Psychology
 Radford University
 Radford, VA 24142-6946

Date	Age	Life Event
July 29, 1963	0	Richard Marc Evonitz was born to Joe Evonitz and Tess Evonitz in Colombia, South Carolina at Providence Hospital.
July 1968	5	His sister, Kristen Evonitz, was born.
March 1971	7	His sister, Jennifer Evonitz, was born.
Dec. 24	CH	Joe Evonitz chokes Kristen until she passes out on Christmas Eve for an unspecified reason.
Childhood	CH	Jennifer Evonitz described life in the Evontiz house as, "We lived in a prison, Joe was a very controlling person. He wanted us to make straight A's . If we didn't we were stupid. It was all about power and control. 'You'll get an A or you'll get a beating.' I see him as a sadistic man who got pleasure- I know I saw the pleasure in his face- out of making us miserable."
May 1980	16	Graduated high school at the age of 16.
1983	20	Broke into a neighbor's house and stole coins. His mom defended him when questioned by the police and he was never charged.
Feb 1984	20	Wrote a rubber check to K-Mart for \$350.00
Feb. 1984	20	After the rubber check incident his dad made him choose between living on the streets or joining the Armed Forces.
Feb 1984	20	Enrolled in the U.S. Navy.
1985	21	Parents divorce because of mother's phone affair with inmate. Tess, his mother, marries Perry Deveaux. Deveaux was serving a life sentence for the brutal rape and murder of fifth grade school teacher, Kathleen Sanderlin of Sullivan's Island, South Carolina. Tess changes her name to Lorraine Deveaux after they get married at Lieber Correctional Institute. Joe, his father re-marries a woman from northern Ethiopia by the name of Ezghaharin.
Aug. 1985	22	Transferred to U.S.S. Koelch in Jacksonville, Florida.
Jan. 1986	22	U.S.S Koelch is called in to search for the wreckage of the space shuttle Challenger. Evonitz was the sonar technician on this epic search for the wreckage.
Sept. 1986	23	Evonitz's maternal grandmother Hester Ragin dies. He was reported to be closer to her than anyone else in the world.
Jan 3, 1987	23	Marc is stationed at May Port Navy Station in Jacksonville, Florida on the U.S.S. Koelsch. During this time Marc pulled up beside Kelli Ballard, age 15, in his car and masturbated while she walked her 3 yr old sister down the street. The next day

		Kelli and her mother spot Marc following them in a mall parking lot where they got his license plate number and called the police.
Feb. 9, 1987	23	An arrest warrant was issued for Evonitz for a lewd/lascivious act in the presence of a minor child. Evonitz returned to port after a mission and was sent immediately to the base hospital for hepatitis. After spending five days in the base hospital he was released to the police. Evonitz told the police that he "had a problem masturbating in front of girls."
June 30, 1987	23	Evonitz admitted to being drunk during the incident and pleaded no contest to the conviction. Marc received a \$252.50 fine and probation for three years. He was also required to have a mental health evaluation and treatment from a psychosexual counselor. This incident caused him to be demoted from Petty Officer 3rd class to Petty Officer 2nd class in the Navy.
March/April 1988	23	The Navy placed him in an alcohol rehabilitation program where he was diagnosed with alcohol abuse.
August 11, 1988	25	Married Bonnie Lou Gower when she was 16. He didn't invite his dad to his wedding. She told investigators that their sex life was normal even though he would come home, blindfold her and rape her for 3 hours.
Nov. 1989	25	Re-enlisted into Navy for 3 more years
Nov. 6, 1992	28	Honorable discharge from Navy. He received the Navy Achievement Medal for leadership, Navy Good Conduct Medal, two Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Ribbons, a Sea Service Deployment Ribbon and a National Defense Service Medal.
Jan. 1993	28	Evonitz moved to Spotsylvania, Va. He worked in Fredericksburg, Va. as a salesperson at Kaeser Compressors. Women at work avoided him because of his tasteless jokes. He was reported to only talk about women in degrading ways and to have had anger management issues while employed with the company.
Feb. 12, 1993	28	Marc had a letter published in the <i>Fredericksburg Free-Lance Star</i> with the headline reading, "Bigotry Against Gay's Betrays Nation's Ideals."
June 1995	31	He broke into the house of 2 sisters, ages 11 & 13. He brought blue fuzzy handcuffs and a .25 semi-automatic handgun. He locked the 11 year old in the bathroom while he raped the 13 year old. He was never a suspect for this case.
August 1996	32	Bonnie left him because she felt lonely and unloved. She was having an online affair and moved to California with the man she was having the affair with.
September 9, 1996	32	Sofia Silvia, age 16, disappeared. Evonitz had told his work he had a dentist appointment and he left around noon. Sofia disappeared from her front porch while doing homework. There were no signs of struggle.
Oct. 16, 1996	32	In King George County maintenance manager Gary Norman spotted a blue bundle wrapped in rope floating in Birchwood Creek. It was later found to be Sofia Silva's body.
May 1, 1997	32	Evonitz called in sick at work so he could appear in bankruptcy court. After court he went to the Lisk family home in Spotsylvania. He had been stalking Kristen Lisk, age 15, and Kati Lisk, age 12, and would abduct both of them from their front yard after the school bus dropped them off.
May 6, 1997	32	A book bag was found in the South Anna River that led to finding the bodies of Kati and Kristen Lisk. Forensic evidence consisting of the fibers of a carpet linked the two cases (Silva and Lisk) together.
1998	34	Divorce for reasons of irreconcilable differences was filed after eight years of marriage to Bonnie Lou Gower.
1999	35	Evonitz and his girlfriend Faith (whose real name has been protected) moved in with his sister Kristen in Columbia, South Carolina.
June 24, 2002	37	Evonitz went to rape and kill a victim that he had been stalking for several weeks but she saved her fate by altering her routine that day. He moved on and found Kara, age 15 of Lexington, South Carolina. He solicited magazines to Kara in order to get her closer to his car. Once close enough to the car, he forced her, at gunpoint, into a green plastic storage container in the trunk of his car, and took her to his apartment. His wife and her mother were vacationing at Disney World at the

		time. He tied Kara up, raped her, and forced her to watch the evening news about her kidnapping. After watching the evening news he tied her to a homemade wooden apparatus to spread her eagle. For the next few hours he forced her to watch pornography from his extensive child collection. He would pause the tape from time to time to rape her again.
June 25, 2002	37	After following Evonitz's demands diligently throughout the night Kara earned his trust to the point of him falling asleep. Kara escaped from Evonitz 's bedroom while he was sleeping early that morning. Kara immediately went to the police, and led them to Evonitz's apartment, but he was already on the run to Florida
June 27, 2002	37	He stayed in a motel for 2 days in Jacksonville, Florida. He called his sister, Jennifer, to meet him at IHOP and she instead called the police and turned him in. When Evonitz showed up and saw the police he fled in his vehicle doing speeds of 120 mph, with no lights on, going the wrong way in traffic. When finally cornered by the police on Bayfront Drive in Sarasota, Florida, he committed suicide in his car by shooting himself in the head, with the same .25 semi-automatic handgun he had used to abduct the girls.
June 28-30, 2002	37	A few days after Evonitz's suicide the police found a lockbox at his residence that linked him to the 3 Virginia murders. The lockbox was found to contain personal items of Sophia Silva and the Lisk sisters. Forensic evidence such as Kati Lisk's handprint on the roof of his trunk, and fibers from his blue fuzzy handcuffs and the carpet of his home were found on the girl's bodies that linked him with the murders, as well.

General Information

Sex	Male
Race	White
Number of victims	Attempted 4, Killed 3
Country where killing occurred	United States
States where killing occurred	Virginia, attempted 1 in South Carolina
Type of killer	Organized Lust
Height	5 feet 9 inches

Childhood Information

Date of birth	July 29, 1963
Location	Columbia, South Carolina
Birth order	1 st of 3
Number of siblings	2 Sisters
XYX?	Unknown
Raised by	Both parents
Birth category	Oldest
Parent's marital status	Together during childhood but later divorced
Family event	Parents Divorced in 1985, Grandma died in September 1986
Age of family event	22,23
Problems in school?	No
Teased while in school?	No
Physically attractive?	Considered Average
Physical defect?	No
Speech defect?	No
Head injury?	No
Physically abused?	Yes, by father also witnessed sisters being abused
Psychologically abused?	Yes, father consistently called him a moron and put him down
Sexually abused?	No
Father's occupation	Army, consistently moving and being re-stationed
Age of first sexual experience	13 started making obscene phone calls, Suspected that at 16

	he molested his younger sister
Age when first had intercourse	Unknown
Mother's occupation	Housewife
Father abused drugs/alcohol	Yes, alcohol
Mother abused drugs/alcohol	No
Cognitive Ability	
Highest grade in school	12
Highest degree	High School Diploma
Grades in school	As a freshman was on list of outstanding students and graduated at age 16.
IQ	Not mentioned
Work History	
Served in the military?	Yes
Branch	Navy
Type of discharge	Honorable Discharge
Saw combat duty	No
Killed enemy during service?	No
Applied for job as a cop?	No
Worked in law enforcement?	No
Fired from jobs?	No, would quit before they could fire him
Types of jobs worked	Navy Sonar Technician, Salesperson at Kaeser Compressors, Auditor at Walter Grinders
Employment status during series	Employed
Relationships	
Sexual preference	Heterosexual
Marital status	Married
Number of children	0
Lives with his children	N/A
Living with	Spouse
Triad	
Animal torture	No
Fire setting	No
Bed wetting	No
Killer Psychological Information	
Abused drugs?	Yes, marijuana
Abused alcohol?	Yes, placed in alcohol rehabilitation by the military
Been to a psychologist?	Yes, had a mental health evaluation along with psychosexual counseling.
Time in forensic hospital?	No
Diagnosis	Alcohol Abuse by military, others unknown
Killer Criminal History	
Committed previous crimes?	Yes, petty theft, rubber checks, and lewd/ lascivious act in the presence of a minor.
Spend time in jail?	No
Spend time in prison?	No
Killed prior to series? Age?	No
Serial Killing	
Number of victims	Killed 3, attempted 4, raped 6
Victim type	Young girls, all were slender with brown hair
Killer age at start of series	33

Gender of victims	Girls
Race of victims	White
Age of victims	Killed: 12, 15, 16 Raped: 11, 13, 15
Method of killing	Strangulation/Suffocation, he would strangle them with his hands, a rope or drown them.
Type of serial killer	Organized Lust
How close did killer live?	All lived within 2 hours of his home. He would stalk them and learn their daily routines. He kidnapped them from their own homes.
Killing occurred in home of victim?	No
Killing occurred in home of killer?	Yes, would bring them back to his house after kidnapping them.
Weapon	Brought a .25 semi-automatic handgun with him, used a rope or his hands to strangle the victim, used blue fuzzy handcuffs to restrain his victims, and had a homemade wooden restraining device to keep the girls in spread eagle position.
Behavior During Crimes	
Rape?	Yes
Tortured victims?	Yes, he restrained them, shaved their pubic hair and then raped them for hours.
Stalked victims?	Yes, would watch and learn their after school routine and then kidnap them after school right from their front yard.
Overkill?	No
Quick & efficient?	Yes
Used blindfold?	No
Bound the victims?	Yes, blue fuzzy handcuffs, homemade wooden apparatus
After Death Behavior	
Sex with the body?	No
Mutilated body?	No
Ate part of the body?	No
Drank victim's blood?	No
Posed the body?	Would put the victim's outer clothes back on
Took totem – body part	No
Took totem – personal item	Yes, had a lockbox with the girls' possessions in it including underwear, news paper clippings, notes about murders, and child pornography.
Robbed victim or location	No
Disposal of Body	
Left at scene, no attempt to hide	No
Left at scene, hidden	No
Left at scene, buried	No
Moved, no attempt to hide	No
Moved, buried	Yes, dumped the victims bodies into nearby water sources
Cut-op and disposed of	No
Moved, too home	No
Sentencing	
Date killer arrested	June 27, 2002. He was never arrested but was cornered by the police and when the police dog attacked him he shot and killed himself.
Date convicted	Never convicted, killed himself before they could arrest him
Sentence	None
Killer executed?	No
Did killer plead NGRI?	No
Was the NGRI plea successful?	No

Name and state of prison	No
Killer committed suicide?	Yes, shot himself in the head
Killer killed in prison?	No
Date of death	June 27, 2002

References

- Davis, Patricia & White, Josh. Center for missing children provided link, supervisor saw possible connection between slain VA girls, SC suspect. *The Washington Post*. 2 Jul. 2002.
- Fanning, Diane. (2004). *Into the Water*. New York: St. Martin's.
- Glidewell, Jan. Images of child tragedies stand test time. *St. Petersburg Times*. 9 Dec. 2002.
- Glod, Maria. As police closed in, Evonitz admitted crimes to his sister. *The Washington Post*. 3 Jul. 2002.
- Glod, Maria. Detectives fear other victims; Police retrace steps of girls' abductor. *The Washington Post*. 15 Aug. 2002.
- Glod, Maria. *Lisk* case detectives planning web chat; Answers expected to be limited in ongoing probe. *The Washington Post*. 7 Aug. 2002.
- Glod, Maria. *Relatives interviewed in Spotsylvania case, FBI pours over stacks of evidence in probe of suspect who killed himself*. The Washington Post. 24 Jul. 2002.
- Glod, Maria. *Slain girls' cases closed; Fibers, prints tie dead man to 3 VA killings*. The Washington Post. 14 Aug. 2002.
- Glod, Maria. *VA community awaits closure in girls' killings; Probe of SC man continues; Residents forever changed*. The Washington Post. 9 Aug. 2002.
- Glod, Maria & Davis, Patricia. *Effort to link dead suspect to slain girls continues*. The Washington Post. 9 Jul. 2002.
- Hidden fact in the Rice case*. The Washington Post. 15 Jan. 2002.
- Jones, Jamie. *Detectives seek links to 1993 killing*. St. Petersburg Times. 4 Jul. 2002.
- Krishnamurthy, Kiran. *Evonitz allegedly confessed to sister; Cited involvement in some crimes*. Associated Press News Wires. Article 6. 3 Jul 2002.
- Notes indicate Evonitz stalked Culpepper girls*. Associated Press Newswires. Article 8. 5 Jul. 2002
- Pugh, Kari & Hall, Jim. *Discovering Deadly Secrets*. The Free Lance-Star. 13 Jun. 2004.
- Pugh, Kari & Hall, Jim. *End came with love, fear, horror*. The Free Lance-Star. 16 Jun. 2004.
- Pugh, Kari & Hall, Jim. *The making of a murderer*. The Free Lance-Star. 14 Jun. 2004.
- Rein, Lisa & Layton, Lyndsey. *SC man killed 3 VA girls and MD woman, police believe, rape suspect who shot himself had incriminating notes, map*. The Washington Post. 1 Jul. 2002.
- Richard Marc Evonitz. *Serial Killers A-Z*. Retrieved from http://www.geocities.com/verbal_plainfield/a-h/evonitz.html on 21 Jan. 2005.

Sanminiatelli, Maria. *VA residents look for slaying clues*. Associated Press News Wires. Article 3.
2 Jul. 2002.

Richard Marc Edward Evonitz (July 29, 1963 – June 27, 2002) was an American serial killer, kidnapper, and rapist responsible for the deaths of three girls in Spotsylvania County, Virginia and the abduction and rape of a 15-year-old girl in Richland County, South Carolina. Evonitz has been suspected of other murders, and confessed a number of crimes to his sister shortly before committing suicide. On June 24, 2002, according to his victim, Richard Marc Evonitz, a white male, age 38 years old, abducted a 15 year-old girl in Columbia, South Carolina, and imprisoned her in his apartment for approximately 18 hours while he repeatedly sexually assaulted her. The victim was able to escape and Evonitz fled to Sarasota, Florida, where he committed suicide after being surrounded by law enforcement authorities. Consequently, a trial and conviction of Evonitz for this and the below crimes to which he is linked is not possible. Richard Marc Edward Evonitz was born July 29, 1963 at Providence Hospital in Columbia, South Carolina to Joseph Evonitz and Tess Ragin Evonitz. He was the first of three children; two daughters, Kristen and Jennifer, followed him in 1968 and 1971. Known as Marc to avoid confusion with a paternal uncle also named Richard, he graduated from Irmo High School in 1980 at age 16. Career. After high school, Evonitz worked briefly as the manager of a Jiffy Lube before joining the United States Navy. Richard Evonitz (Richard Marc Edward Evonitz) an American serial killer kidnapper, and rapist responsible for the deaths of three girls in Spotsylvania County, Virginia between 1996 and 1997. An abducted 15-year-old girl escaped and was able to identify Evonitz as her attacker. Evonitz fled after finding the victim gone but police were able to locate him near the waterfront in Sarasota, Florida. Richard Evonitz shot himself while surrounded by police on June 27th 2002.