

## Jonestown parents lament:

# 'Leave us with our memories'

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SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) — When Gladys McKinney heard the news of the bloody airstrip ambush in Guyana, she thought to herself, "Vicky will come home now."

Now, more than a month later the body of her 20-year-old daughter has been returned for burial here.

Vicky McKinney Marshall was a victim of the mass murder-suicide of more than 800 members of the Peoples Temple in Jonestown, Guyana.

Her body was returned here from Dover Air Force Base in Delaware for private graveside services on Saturday. The bodies of Mrs. McKinney's son-in-law, Danny L. Marshall and her 18-month-old granddaughter, Gerina, who also died in Jonestown, remain in Delaware.

"They (the State Department) are sending no babies back because they cannot make positive identification," Mrs. McKinney said in an interview with the South Bend Tribune.

"I've been trying to locate Danny's father in California but have had no success," she said.

Mrs. McKinney said she wanted to have the body of her son-in-law brought here.

"But I didn't have the money. I called the Red Cross like the State Department advised but they referred me to four churches after they said they didn't do this kind of assistance," she said.

She explained that ever since the Nov. 22 when the State Department called to inform her Vicky's name was on the list

of victims, "We have wanted to avoid being pointed out as those people who had relatives in Guyana.

"This is something tragic, not sensational," Mrs. McKinney said, adding, "we would like to keep everything low-key and be left alone with our memories...The pain and wondering of why will be with me for a long time."

She declined to say anything about the Rev. Jim Jones, the leader of the Peoples Temple, who also died at Guyana. "I saw him once, but never heard him speak. I would not have wanted to. My beliefs are more traditional."

Calling herself a "christened Methodist," Mrs. McKinney said she believes in "this country's declaration for freedom of religion.

"I can't understand why they call the Peoples Temple a cult," she said. "To the people, it was their church and no different than you or me going across the street to worship in the traditional way."

Mrs. McKinney is convinced that in the beginning, the Peoples Temple had to be doing some good because "old black people will not give up their money that easy. And young black people usually don't have much money to give."

She believes it is possible that power warped Jones and said that she began to feel uneasy about Guyana in September when letters that had been written regularly by her daughter stopped coming.

Mrs. McKinney said a son in California called her asking if she could find out what was happening there after rumors began circulating in Francisco, where her daughter and family had lived until going to Jonestown last year.

Mrs. McKinney was not specific about the rumors saying, only "they were the same rumors which led Congressman Ryan to go to Guyana.