

Dallas Times Herald

Police Learn Little In Newsman's Death

Detectives reported little progress Wednesday in the investigation of the mysterious death of Times Herald reporter James E. Koethe.

The 30-year-old newsman's missing car was found abandoned Tuesday in the 4600 block of Victor near Buckner Park.

Homicide Bureau Capt. Will Fritz said investigators were unable to find any fingerprints inside the automobile.

The car had been the object of a citywide search since Monday morning when the reporter was found dead beneath a blanket on the floor of his bedroom at 4115 San Jacinto St.

Detectives are still awaiting a full autopsy report to determine the cause of death. Investigators said they hoped to have the report ready by Wednesday afternoon.

Police believe Mr. Koethe died sometime between late Saturday night and dawn Sunday.

Detectives Charles Dhority and E. R. Beck said three weapons—two rifles and a pistol—a wrist watch and money were missing from the apartment where the newsman's body was found.

Capt. Fritz said the thief passed up a valuable coin collection and two expensive cameras while apparently ransacking the East Dallas apartment.

Funeral services and burial for The Times Herald newsman — a member of the newspaper's SUNDAY magazine staff — were held Tuesday afternoon in his hometown of Seymour.

Newsman's Rites Held In Seymour

Funeral services for James F. Koethe, 30, a Dallas Times Herald reporter and member of the newspaper's SUNDAY Magazine staff, were held at 4 p.m. Tuesday in the First Presbyterian Church of Seymour. The Rev. W. Clinton Edwards conducted the services. Burial followed in the Masonic Cemetery there.

Mr. Koethe, a native of Henrietta, was found dead in his apartment Monday morning by his landlady after he failed to report to work.

A graduate of Seymour High School, Mr. Koethe was also a graduate of North Texas State University in Denton. He joined The Times Herald as a general assignments reporter and feature writer on April 9, 1962.

After graduating from college, Mr. Koethe spent two years on the staff of the Denton Record-Chronicle and joined the staff of the Wichita Falls Record-News in 1955 as a staff writer. From 1957 to 1959, he served in the U.S. Army at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md., after which he returned to the Wichita Falls paper.

He is survived by his father, Finley Koethe of Seymour; his mother, Mrs. Leola Wirz of Seymour; and his grandfather, Charles L. Koethe of Henrietta.

Pallbearers were Clyde Whiteside, Joe Wood, Wesley Styles, Tom LePere, Paul Rosenfield and Hal Lewis.

Elliston Funeral Home in Seymour handled the services.

no continuation
of story