

This is the hardest statement I have had to do. How do you explain what my family went through?

Marcedes was a very young beautiful woman. She loved her family. She was a kind, loving and trusting woman. She always had a beautiful smile. Marcedes loved to have fun. She loved to play jokes on me when I would come and visit, like hiding my shoes or purse and making me look for it. When she got caught playing her jokes she would just burst out laughing and say "Got you! You should have seen your face." It's a heartbreaker that we can never have those joyous moments with her again. We would always have a good laugh. I miss her little jokes she use to do me. I miss her beautiful mischievous smile. I will never have those times with her again. I really miss her. She may not have been perfect but she was perfect for us.

Marcedes has two beautiful children, a son, Titan and daughter, MacKenzie. The pain and terror they have gone through and are still going through is unimaginable. Both cry and want their mommy home. They suffer with nightmares and are afraid to be alone. They miss her so much, it hurts. To see their pain is heartbreaking and all I want to do is take the pain away, but I can't. They both ask questions about their mom that are

sometimes hard to answer. It hurts so much to see them in so much pain. I tell them I miss mommy very much too. I want her to come home, but she can't. I tell them that their mommy is an Angel in Heaven now. She loves you both so much. I explain she is watching over you from Heaven. I try very hard to comfort them. The pain is so unbearable I shed tears with them. I try my hardest to be strong for them. Her children have to grow up with no mom now.

Marcedes was missing for eight months and we had no idea where she was. When we didn't hear from Marcedes we started looking for my girl. Her mom couldn't put in a missing persons report because she was afraid that she wouldn't ever come home, and her worst nightmare came true. I had to put in the missing persons report into the police. We drove around to all the places she frequented. Asked everyone if they had seen her. Many said they haven't seen her in a while and will tell her to call her family if they did. Everyone we talked to said she was a happy and friendly girl.

The worst day was December 1, 2022, it broke us all. The police called and made an appointment to come see us. They told us she was murdered and where her body was. It was devastating. I was in shock. Brandy, her sister

started screaming and fell backwards, she had trouble breathing, and just kept saying, “No! No! No! Mom, No!” Jordan just burst out crying. Pam started screaming and crying. She then went into shock. I didn’t know what to do. I was in complete shock. I felt numb and immobilized. It took a while before we could start asking questions. The police informed us that they identified Mercedes by her DNA and were not going to search the landfill because they had enough evidence. I am not even sure how long the detectives, missing persons and victim services stayed.

That December was a blur. We were in shock. We went through daily routines just from habit. We planned to have a funeral for Mercedes, even though we did not have her body. We set a date for a memorial in the city. My sisters had to come over to make arrangements as we couldn’t do it. We were frozen. If it wasn’t for them we probably wouldn’t have done anything. We were just too devastated. If it wasn’t for the children we wouldn’t have done anything for Christmas that year – we had to do everything in one day. We had no presents for the kids yet.

Pam her mom has been unable to deal with the loss of her daughter and is still struggling. I am not sure if she will come back to her old self. She

cannot deal with the fact that she is actually gone and what was done to her. I cannot take that pain away from her, and as her mom, that's all I want to do. The pain will always be there, some days may be better than others, but it will never leave us. Her brother Andrew doesn't want to believe that she is gone. He may be starting to come around to it now but the impact of her death has not even hit him yet. I am afraid of what it will do to him.

Court has been very long and emotional. The heartache it has caused. Having to sit in the courtroom with this evil monster. Having to listen to all the excuses. Listening to what that monster has done to my girl hurts. It cuts my heart deep. I can see my girl fighting for her life. That will never leave my soul and mind. That monster had no right to do that to her and the other three women. This trial has been very hard. The last two years have been very difficult. It has impacted my family greatly. It has been a very difficult journey. It has taken part of our souls, life, away and we have to live with that everyday.

You were found guilty but that is just not enough. You are still living, and she is gone. She should still be here with us. You broke our hearts. We have an emptiness that will never heal. The pain you put us through was

horrible. I wish this on no one. You dismembered her and then put her in garbage bags. Next, you threw her in dumpsters like old trash. She was not trash. She was our light, our girl, our mom, our daughter, our niece, our sister, our granddaughter, our cousin, our aunt and our friend. She was our everything. She was loved by us all.

As in the last words of Buffalo Women were to you..... "Fuck You"