

Families

Writers spared neither side in these missives.

Garth Stapley

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, November 15, 2004 3:26 AM

To: Garth Stapley

Subject: Peterson Case

Garth,

I am glad this case has finally ended after 2 years of complete hell for Laci Peterson's family and friends. Not sure whether or not there ever is "closure" as it has become fashionable to say, however, at least the families can begin to get on with their lives and the nation as well for that matter.

regards,

[REDACTED]
Kansas City

Garth Stapley

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2003 1:01 PM
To: Garth Stapley
Subject: Laci Peterson Case

Hi Garth:

I just wanted to drop a note and say thank you for your articles. I have been keeping up on this story as much as possible since Laci's disappearance. It is such a shame to read about everything that could have happened to her and very sad to see what had happened to Laci & Baby Conner. I have been reading up on her case through the Modesto Newspaper. I actually check for articles every day.

What I can't understand is if Scott Peterson didn't do it then why is it that he never had any real emotion about the possibilities of her death and Conner's. Because with every man I speak to about this said that they would FIGHT for innocence. They would try very hard to find her and prove that they were innocent. Every time I see him on the news, he has a stone cold face, emotionless which is very odd.

Laci was such a beautiful woman and person. It is so hard to believe that a man that she loved and trusted could have done this to her and Conner. Deep down inside us all, we see him as guilty.

I have been praying for a break through in the case so justice is done. Laci's family and friends need their personal time to mourn and go on with their lives, even though I know will be difficult to do.

Every time I hear Laci's favorite song (Brown Eyed Girl) , I say a prayer for her and baby Conner.

Thanks again!

[REDACTED]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

June 3, 2003


As a mother of daughters, I
couldn't even begin to ~~imagine~~^{imagine} the pain
and hurt and anger of what Laci
Peterson's mother must be feeling.

I don't think Laci would want
to be remembered by how she died
but for who she was, her friends,
her faith and family.

There are no words that we could
give that would lessen her pain
we can only pray that God will
settle this quickly.

I am dedicating this poem to
Her mother in memory of Laci and Cassie

God Bless you and your family.


of Modesto

Set Free

Hi Mom, This is Laci

I have Conner by my side

The Angels gathered round us
on the day that we died

But Mom, don't worry

or let things get you down

Cause now we walk with Jesus

and we live within his realm

Mom, I want to thank you

for teaching me right from wrong

and some day we'll be together

when God will call you home

Until then, shed no more tears

or worry what's to be

Cause God knows all about it

and through him, he sets us free.

Garth Stapley

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2004 3:55 PM
To: Garth Stapley
Subject: Laci Peterson Trial

My heart genuinely goes out to Laci Peterson's precious family. Only a parent who has lost a child due to tragic circumstances can even halfway relate to their mental and physical suffering caused by the animal responsible for the loss of their daughter and unborn grandbaby.

From the very moment I heard about Laci's disappearance, I have prayed for she and her family. Every morning since the 26th (the date the news was brought to my attention) I have followed every article via television, newspaper, internet and word of mouth. Each day seemed to bring more and more sadness...and then the bodies were discovered. Thus, the final stab in a parent's heart.

Scott Peterson has been an "interesting figure" throughout this tragedy. A jury of 12 fine California citizens must find him guilty or innocent. Whatever the outcome may be, Scott has singlehandedly taken control of every twist, turn and contortion written about him during this tragedy. One of his finest preparations was to cunningly select Geragos as his defense attorney. A man who does his job superbly! He moves quickly and is careful to avoid giving the prosecutors any opportunity to lay their case out as perhaps they had originally planned. He would seemingly never second-guess himself. Whether Scott Peterson is guilty or innocent...Geragos was hired to find him innocent...period.

I believe in America's promise to a fair trial. I believe in the hope of innocent until proven guilty. But, I ashamedly admit that I began to believe in Scott's guilt on the day I saw a film clip of him cleaning the new truck he purchased shortly after Laci's disappearance and giving a "smirk" grin to the police stationed across his street. Certainly, this is not proof of guilt. But, rather proof that he is quite capable of playing with people's mind's. Charles Manson did this. Ted Bundy was just as good. No one likes to see someone behave in this manner, and therefore, it angers us! So, is Scott truly guilty of murdering his wife and child? Or, is he simply guilty of, frankly... pissing us off with his, "**It's all about me attitude**", during a very emotional and critical time following Laci's disappearance.

This is the end of the first week of testimony in Scott Peterson's murder case. I am extremely disappointed in the prosecution! They have had months to prepare for this case and it appears they were not ready. If this is as good as it gets, then I certainly have a clear vision of Scott Peterson purchasing a bigger boat and "truly" going fishing off the California coast! I respect Laci's stepfather, Ron Grantski, when he stated that the prosecution has made some mistakes while going out the gate. "But it's better than making mistakes all the way through the gate." Mr. Grantski, please don't settle for mistakes. You and everyone who loves you and your family should make it clear to the prosecutors that this is not an acceptable time to be making mistakes while "passing through the gate"!! This is NOT a dress rehearsal for Laci and Connor. Please go forward...and this time with no mistakes.

My personal note to the prosecutors. Laci and Connor's family have endured pain as no other. If Scott is found innocent ... and is truly guilty... the family will only endure an inconceivable torture as they watch Scott Peterson walk out of that building as a free man.

Thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts. My love to Laci and Connor's family.

[REDACTED]
Dallas, TX

Garth Stapley

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, June 01, 2003 3:11 PM
To: Garth Stapley
Cc: jcote
Subject: Laci Peterson

Importance: High

Dear Garth and/or John,

I am a High School teacher and University Professoressa currently teaching abroad, in Italy. I got your e-mail addresses off one of the Bee's articles.

I was horrified by the case of Laci Peterson. She is such a lovely looking woman. It is so hard to believe that something like this could happen, and yet, sadly, it does! There are things that happen in our society, that cause myself and others to shake our heads and be filled with a deep sadness for the world as we know it. It makes me wonder about the state of the human race. Who could do such things to another person? If it was her husband, how could he do this to his wife and unborn child? I am sure that this case has numbed many people into disbelief. I'm not back home presently, so I don't know what the reactions are there, but I can imagine it is something of a state-wide or national outcry. Why is it that thousands of deaths are merely statistics but one is a tragedy? I don't know. I can't answer that.

I am shocked and deeply disturbed by what has happened. I have never written to a staff writer about a story but am somehow touched by Laci's photo and image. Even when I saw the picture of her brother moving objects, I thought that these people looked like such nice, normal people- like my own family, my own best friends. What a devastating loss for them!

I understand the pain of death and loss firsthand. It is an excruciating pain. It is so final. However, I know of a few things that may help to ease the pain a little. I was wondering if there was an e-mail address that you knew of for Laci's family that people could write to so that they would know that there were others out there thinking of them and praying for them-even in Italy. My thoughts & prayers are certainly with this family in such a difficult time.

Thanks very much.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

Garth Stapley

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 13, 2003 12:17 AM
To: Garth Stapley
Subject: Peterson

Gee wasn't it just a short time ago that the Peterson's..... were complaining about the the Rocha family going into the same house that they are now staying in ????. I think staying in Lacis and Scotts house is kinda macab since.. it is the scene of a murder (crime scene). What are they thinking? With the high power attorney the Peterson's have for

Scott .. I would think he could of at least gotten a cheap hotel room.

And, sleeping with guns to protect himself is in itself bizarre. If the Peterson's are that scared why stay there...get a hotel room ..unless they have some morbid desire to sleep in a crime scene or maybe they do

not believe anything happen there ..it must be the Cult..maybe they will go after them,,, in either case I find the whole thing BIZARRE!!! JUST giving you my opinion....

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Garth Stapley

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Saturday, July 12, 2003 10:33 PM

To: Garth Stapley

Subject: your article/Lee Peterson

I think he's *full of it*...
what a fantasy world the Peterson's live in...

Garth Stapley

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 02, 2004 10:17 AM
To: Garth Stapley
Subject: Scott Peterson

Enough already with the talk about Scott being such a good kid. Obviously something went wrong. He loved himself so much that he didn't care or have any use for Laci and Conner, so he killed them. Laci's mother was right. Divorce was an option. But then again that is were the alimony and child support would take place. He was use to the high life. He had some big dreams that ended in a tragedy. My question is, even if he was not guilty, he certainly didn't show any emotions. Believe me if I was in his place, I would do anything to get myself out of it. The guilt is written all over his face.

What about Laci? Conner could have grown up to be a great child with such a loving & caring mother and family. I wish I could go see Scott and just slap him in the face. See if that would make him cry.

His family obviously didn't know he at all. His behavior is on disbelief and he needs to pay for what he did to Laci, Conner and the families of both.

I understand that his parents and family are in pain, but what can you say? Look what it did to Laci's family. They lost a daughter, sister & friend, grandchild, nephew. Love hurts in many ways.....everyone needs to reevaluate on what Scott was really made of. A monster. I hope for the death penalty. Let him experience the life as a prisoner first. I am sure there are a few that would love to be in the same room as him to teach him a lesson. He deserves a taste of the wild side, mister goody two shoes. He makes me sick.

[REDACTED]
Milwaukee, WI

Garth Stapley

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, November 10, 2003 10:19 AM

To: Garth Stapley

Subject: oxygen for Jackie

Question: Why is it that Scotts mother always has her oxygen on when in the public view, yet at times when she has been caught off guard she is not wearing the tubes. Is this a move by Geragos to get public sympathy for her and thereby helping Scott with the jury later on?

Garth Stapley

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 02, 2005 7:14 AM
To: Garth Stapley
Subject: Peterson's mother

I saw her on TV this she carried the ironing board out of the house (without the breathing machine) I would like to feel sorry for Scott's family but Jackie makes this impossible. She said to the reporters, " You guys got him in here now you can get him out." Talk about denial. It made it easy to see that placing the blame for why Scott is in the situation he is in will only continue to be placed on everyone else except Scott.

Stapley, Garth - Modesto

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2005 5:55 AM
To: Garth Stapley
Subject: Sharon Rocha

Okay, Sharon Rocha got what she wanted. She put an innocent man behind bars. Don't get me wrong my heart goes way out to the Rocha's but Scott certainly doesn't deserve a death sentence for having an affair.

It was disgusting enough to have Amber Frey and Gloria Allred capitize on poor Scott, making money and having their face all over the media. Now Sharon, her own Mom making \$\$\$\$\$\$. As if she hasn't gotten enough donations. As if her daughter is the only one in the entire world that a tragedy like this struck. This was all for the Christmas Eve story. All these people getting free money and will end up being millionaires while poor Scott sits behind bars and the real killer is still running free. Let's so some support for the Peterson's!

Garth Stapley

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, May 01, 2003 6:00 PM
To: Garth Stapley
Subject: Scott Petersen

Dear Mr. Stapley:

My family is appalled at the media circus surrounding Scott Petersen. What ever happened to the concept of innocent until proven guilty? We understand the anguish of Mrs. Petersen's parents, but our hearts go out to Lee and Jackie Petersen as well. Watching their son pilloried on national news shows and convicted before a trial has even taken place must be an emotionally crushing tragedy for them. I would like to send a letter of support to Jackie and Lee Petersen. May I send it through you, Mr. Stapley, or through the Mayor of Modesto? Please advise.

Mrs. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wesley Chapel, FL 33543

Garth Stapley

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 06, 2005 10:11 AM
To: Garth Stapley
Subject: Jackie

Why have we not heard more about the Father's of Jackie's three children born out of wedlock? They were born in a period of three years. Don't you find it strange that she had intimate relations ending in pregnancy with three men in three years?

Would Anne Bird be likely to answer this question?

[REDACTED]

Garth Stapley

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Saturday, May 31, 2003 8:07 AM

To: Garth Stapley

Subject: Precious Laci's personal Belongings

These Petersons appear to possess evil genes. I just dare them to bring charges against Laci's Mother. There will be such a public outcry, the likes of which they can't imagine. Laci's family had a right to retrieve her personal belongings. After all, that is all they have left of her life. I am waiting for the day to arrive when sociopath Scott Peterson meets justice head on and he will have to pay for this horrible crime.

[REDACTED]
Columbia, SC

sent: Friday, January 12, 2007 4:15 PM

Subject: Wow!


I've just finished reading "For Laci". There aren't words to describe the thoughts, feelings and emotions I've felt since starting this book only 2 days ago. I've cried buckets of tears. I can't fathom what the friends and family have had to endure going through the time from when Laci became "missing" ; according to that scum Scott, to the jury's decision to have him put to death. My heart goes out to each and every one of them especially Sharon, Ron and Brent. I'm pleased to hear of Shoran's therapy through her victim's right bill signed by Pres. Bush. I pray for her strength and pray that she may be able to be of support to other victim's families. There aren't many people on this earth that would be able to do what she has and will continue to do. She is a blessing, a gift from above.

Never have I felt compelled to email my thoughts after reading a book until this one. It shook me, rocked my world and made me look at my relationship with my own children in a completely different way.

My love, thoughts and prayers will continue to go out to everyone who has been effected by this whole ordeal.

To Sharon...you are an angel, a gift of God and I KNOW Laci is so thankful to you for being her voice to this day.

Love, Blessings and many Prayers to you all.


Fort Wayne, IN

11/28/2007