

As the only surviving immediate family member of Dorothy Gay Howard (Dot), I would like to express my infinite appreciation to my grandniece, Michelle Marie Fowler (granddaughter of Barbara Geraldine Howard Kishiyama and Dot's grandniece) for her persistence over the years in her attempts to locate my sister, Dot. Without Michelle, I would not be able to begin the journey of healing and closure that has eluded our family for the past 56 years. It was through Michelle's connection with the Doe Network ([www.doenetwork.com](http://www.doenetwork.com)) and subsequent discovery of Jane Doe 433UFC that she first began to believe that the Boulder Jane Doe could be her long lost great-aunt, Dorothy Gay Howard. I give full credit to Michelle for not only making the connection, but pursuing the matter to its ultimate resolution.

Fifty-six years ago, I saw my sister for the last time. Following Dot's disappearance, my family had to adjust to her absence. Although Dot was physically gone from our lives, she was not forgotten. In 1978, my parents, Roy E. Howard and Eunice G. Robinson Howard moved to San Diego, CA where I lived with my family at the time. Barbara and her family remained in Tempe, AZ. Although my father moved across state boundaries, he continued to pay life insurance premiums on Dot's policy until his death on February 10, 1985. My father was sure that one day, Dot would return home. My mother passed away on December 24, 1994. I am glad that neither of my parents lived to find out what happened to their oldest daughter for it would have shattered their world.

In 2001, Michelle, then 16, first began research into the disappearance of my sister. Each time she began looking into Dot's disappearance, she always sought my permission, which I readily gave. In 2007, a close friend of Michelle's, Simeon Stala, shared his story about the similar disappearance of his sister. When Michelle told him about my sister, Simeon recommended she try The Doe Network. At this time, Michelle searched periodically, but limited her search to Arizona. In December 2008, Michelle once again began searching for Dot, this time expanding her search to surrounding states. With this search, she found Jane Doe 433UFC from Boulder and provided me with links and information. Based on information from The Doe Network, I did not believe the physical description matched my sister.

In the spring of 2009, Michelle searched for Dot again, but still believed that "Boulder Jane Doe" could indeed be Dot; however, without conclusive evidence she was unable to pursue her strong instincts. Fate came in the form of a paper Michelle was researching for a college course on September 27, 2009. While conducting a Google search, Michelle came across an article regarding a "Boulder Jane Doe," thought to be the first victim of serial killer, Harvey Glatman. After searching for more information, Michelle was able to find that the article was talking about the same Jane Doe 433UFC she had wondered about months earlier. Intrigued, she emailed Detective Steve Ainsworth of Boulder County Sheriff's Department and asked him if he would be willing to look into her missing family member.

Additionally, in her search, Michelle had also come across author and historian, Silvia Pettem, in September when she was researching the connection between Jane Doe 433UFC and Dot. After contacting Det. Ainsworth, Michelle followed up with an email to Ms. Pettem. Michelle then contacted me to let me know she had been in contact with both Det. Ainsworth and Ms. Pettem. On September 30, Det. Ainsworth contacted Michelle for my contact information. By this time I was also corresponding with Ms. Pettem.

Through the efforts of Det. Ainsworth, arrangements were made by Boulder County Sheriff's Office and my local sheriff's office (Polk County, AR) for me to provide a DNA sample, which could be matched against the DNA taken from Dot's remains during her 2004 exhumation. On October 23, 2009, I was informed by my local sheriff (Polk County, AR) that the DNA samples were a match. Boulder Jane Doe was positively identified as my sister, Dorothy Gay Howard, age 18, from Phoenix, AZ.

Detective Ainsworth has been extremely helpful to me and my family. We offer him our heartfelt gratitude and thanks. We are wishing him well in his investigation to "tie up the loose ends".

These past few weeks have been very difficult and bittersweet. I would like to express my eternal gratitude to the citizens of Boulder, Colorado for embracing my sister and taking care of her for the past 55 years. No amount of words can ever truly convey my thanks. I would also like to thank Silvia Pettem for keeping the story of the Boulder Jane Doe in the public eye all of these years. This unknown young lady adopted by the citizens of Boulder was not only "Someone's Daughter," she was a sister and aunt too. Given the myriad of emotions and shock of this discovery, I have decided to wait to make a determination on my sister's final resting place.

Dorothy Gay Howard was the daughter of Roy E. Howard and Eunice Geraldine Robinson Howard, both deceased. She was the sister of Barbara Geraldine Howard Kishiyama, deceased, and Roberta Marlene Howard Ashman (Mrs. John A. Ashman, Mena, Polk County, AR).

Dorothy had five nieces and three nephews, all born after her death in April, 1954. Jeri Lynn Kishiyama Auther, (daughter of Barbara and Dot's niece; two daughters and a son), Phoenix, AZ; Michelle Marie Fowler (Dot's grandniece -- the child of Barbara's oldest daughter), Madison, WI; Jon Charles Kishiyama (son of Barbara and Dot's nephew) who is married to Patti Schubert (one son and one daughter), Chandler, AZ. My family (Dot's nieces and nephews) include my sons Joseph N. Ashman who is married to Carrie LaBorde Ashman (two daughters and two sons), Brainerd, MN; and Jeffrey W. Ashman who is married to Connie L. Day Ashman (one daughter and one son), Winder, GA; Amy E. Ashman who is married to Brian J. King Lt. Col., USMC (three daughters),

Newport, NC. I am not in contact with the other nieces since Barbara's death in 2005. Willis M. Knierim, cousin of Dorothy Gay Howard, is a 45-year resident of Boulder, CO and there are 16 other cousins, scattered across the United States.

Roberta Marlene Howard Ashman (Jane Doe's sister)