

'SHE HAD SUCH A COMPASSIONATE SPIRIT'

Linnea Dick remembered



Opal Dick places her hand on her daughter's casket as her husband, Don, holds her at the close of the funeral Thursday for Linnea Audrey Dick at St. Andrews Episcopal Church.

Photos by Rich Abrahamson The Coloradoan

Friends, family share memories, say goodbye

BY HALLIE WOODS
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Despite pouring rain, dozens of people waited outside St. Andrews Episcopal Church on Thursday to say goodbye to the woman with a personality as fiery and vibrant as the color of her hair.

The small church could not hold all the people who came to celebrate the life of Linnea Dick, so many watched from the hall or listened from out-

side the church.

Family and friends described Dick, 20, as a fun, caring and loving young woman who wanted to help those in need.

"She had such a compassionate spirit," said her mother, Opal Dick, in a statement read by Eric Gliva, Linnea Dick's brother-in-law.

Dick was found dead in her Fort Collins home May 30. She had been strangled and sexually assaulted before two fires

PHOTOS ON COLORADOAN.COM
View a gallery of photos from the funeral

Fort Collins police arrested Joseph Curl on Monday afternoon. He is charged with first-degree murder and sexual assault in Dick's death.

Dick, a student at Front Range Community College, aspired to get a bachelor's degree from Colorado State University and dreamed of helping other people.

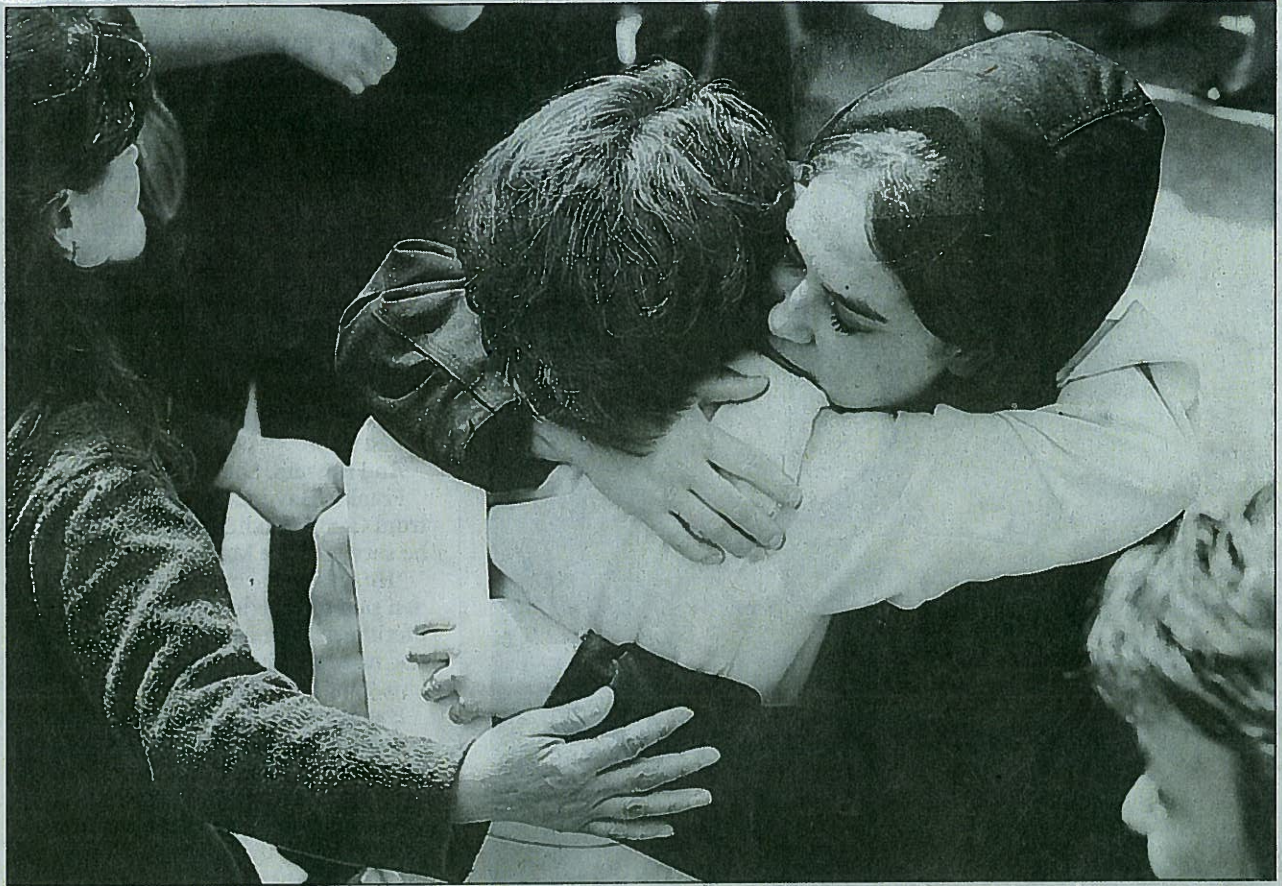
"In my future I will do many things," Pastor David Bradshaw read from

were set in her home in an attempt to cover up evidence, police say.

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s her hand over gram.



A friend of Linnea Dick's, right, hugs Linnea's mother, Opal Dick, after the funeral services Thursday. Those who spoke at the services remembered Linnea's love of animals, music and dance. *Helen H. Richardson, The Denver Post*

FUNERAL: Memorial to benefit animal shelters

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so many things she wanted to do before her life was taken from her."

During the service, the family, Bradshaw and friends recalled how Linnea Dick's passions were music, dance, photography and cooking.

They recalled her love for animals, saying she rescued many animals in need. She loved her pets, including her dogs, Lage and Bentley; her cats, Desi, Kahjuh and Teensil; and her lizard, Van Gogh.

And her mother made her a promise during the service — "your animals will be loved."

"I will talk to you every single day," promised Opal Dick. "I will look for signs every day that your spirit is with me."

On a screen near the white casket, the mourners saw 90 pictures of Linnea's life with a theme that resounded of family and animals — with her mom and dad, with her sister, Andrea Gliva, and with her pets — the cats, the dogs and riding horseback.

"I want you to know that I love you very much," Andrea said. "You always made me look at things with a different perspective. I know at times I was hard on you, but only because I wanted the best from you.

"You were one of the sweetest people I ever knew. I know you are in a safe place now," she said.

Surrounding the casket were dozens of floral arrangements. On top of the casket in a steel-colored frame were two pictures of the young woman who was a student at Front Range

Community College and had planned to finish her bachelor's degree at Colorado State University. Her dad, Don, has worked in the CSU chemistry department for 38 years.

On the day her murder was discovered, her aunt Rose Carroll recalled, there was a beautiful sunset to the west of Fort Collins, "and all of us who saw that sunset knew you were in heaven," Carroll said. "I will love you and always miss you."

The family asks that donations be made to the Linnea Dick Memorial Fund to benefit animal shelters in northern Colorado c/o Carroll-Lewellen Funeral and Cremation Services, 503 Terry St., Longmont, CO 80501.

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