

NEWS ITEM: Platte County Record-Times

Former Wheatland resident, Jim Shelton, 40, was murdered in San Antonio, Texas, Sunday.

Shelton's body was found shortly before 7:00 p.m. Sunday, according to a spokesman for the San Antonio Police Department. Shelton died of a gunshot wound to the upper back and the back of his head.

The spokesman said there was no apparent motive and that the crime was being investigated as a murder. The spokesman offered no other details.

According to his wife, Linda Shelton of Wheatland, he had gone back to his office Sunday evening to return some things he had been working on and surprised one or more burglars in the process of stealing equipment. They stole a company truck, hauled the equipment and took Shelton to the edge of San Antonio and dumped his body in a ravine. An eye witness heard shots and the police were on scene within 15 minutes.

Linda is a kindergarten teacher at West Elementary.

The Sheltons moved to Wheatland in 1974 and Jim helped build the Wheatland High School after it had burned down. He opened his own plumbing business and was also a building contractor for a time. He had his own business and generally worked in other communities but called Wheatland his home.

(Unreadable portion of sentence) of manufacturing and field operations for the company's subsidiary, Refrigeration Engineering Corp.

He had gone through a five year apprenticeship in plumbing and pipe fitting and had a master's plumbing license.

He was raised in Cheyenne and received all of his schooling there. He enlisted in the Naval Reserves and was called to active duty in July 1965. He served in the Vietnam War on the USS Paricutin.

He married Linda D. McCall on Dec. 14, 1964 in Wellington, Colo. Upon his release from the service, they spent seven years in Laramie where Jim was involved in various phases of plumbing.

Survivors in his immediate family include his wife and children, Troy and Heather.