

realized he had shot himself. I remember saying to myself over and over Oh my God , Oh my God, Royce what have you done. I turned on the lamp you know the one that comes on when it wants too. I said yes (the switch on the lamp had a short.) I saw the gun and his picture they were covered with blood. I examined him and felt a swollen place on his neck were he was hemorrhaging. I removed the towel from my hair and made a pressure bandage. I had pulled his arms together and Straightened his shoulders and his head to clear his airway. His pulse was thready. I put my ear down on Royce's chest. His heart was in retrieval phliberation. I had called 911. They didn't answer. I hung up and redialed carefully. It started ringing still no answer I put Royce's right hand against the towel to keep pressure on while I screamed for Candi to help get the children over to Johnnie Archer's house and call 911 for help. Finally 911 answered I told them what to bring that Royce was becoming clammy and placid, please hurry. When the Police came I was trying to cover myself. Gary White helped me with my pajama top. I repeated he needs an airway and IV fluids now. They took me by my arms and were forcing me out, when I heard a gushing sound. We all turned and looked back at Royce, his head fell over, Mother he was still bleeding. After a while I became frustrated I looked at the clock it was 7:12. I said where is the ambulance? It was a load and go, something had to be done. I went across the street to wake J.J. "Johnny Joe Huizar" "and ask him to go and get our neighbor who's a Trauma specialist Betty Barkely RN. J.J. and Lisa returned to my house and said she wasn't home. I called into the bedroom, I am a nurse, and can place an airway and IV's. The room was full of police. I could here zippers and plastic moving. I believed they were continuing life support. Tony Holman came out to the den about 7:35 and said there was nothing he could do.

At that moment I knew the Police removed the only qualified professional supporting Royce. He was traumatized . Desiree had accessed Royce's condition and began life support measures checking the Hemorrhaging and keeping his airway clear. The gushing sound was my son-in-law's blood pushing the towel away

A trauma patient may appear deceased to an inexperienced person such as Officer White yet in fact be in hemorrhagic shock. James Mc Clure MD in Lufkin was left for dead and because of an experienced medical professional he is practicing Medicine today. Royce may or may not have not lived. That has no bearing on EMS procedures. No one can stop CPR except a doctor, coroner or a medical examiner. Royce was not pronounced dead until 7:49. Lt. Harris said Royce was still bleeding when he got there. My daughter was doing everything by the book. I broke down in tears when the 911 tape was played in that courtroom. When you listen carefully you will hear the desperation, the frustration when 911 took so long to answer. The cry for help and urgency in her voice came through loud and clear, she was begging them to please hurry, bring an airway as she was relating his condition to the operator. If you have ever been in a life or death struggle you are more qualified to recognize that desperate tone in one's voice. You can tell if its real. Because of the length of time it took for 911 to answer knowing time was so critical that every minute counted you could sense she knew she had to have assistance. My daughter began life support measures immediately she tried to take control to stabilize the situation and was met with total disregard and indifference to the fact she was a competent professional Nurse. A mother knows a true call for help and I'm telling you she was sincere on that tape. I have only hear that tone in her voice twice before in her life. The most important fact it verified what she had said from the start. You do not have to have a particular light on to know what you smell, feel, hear or see. The Aquarian light, the light on the stove vent, the lights from the den and TV gave enough reflective light for her to see Royce nose hemorrhaging, she surely could see a gun with or without the lamp. The lamp was to shed more light to better access Royce's condition. Royce's family were grieving yet they weren't surprised. Later that afternoon I asked Royce's cousin Darwin "Bo" Smith Did he know Royce was so depressed? "Yes I knew he was depressed, He didn't have to do this, I'm mad at him." I said "I know you were close." I made a round trip down here yesterday. I was late getting home.

The next thing I knew Kathryn Barrett woke us." The Shaw family were respectful and gracious to our family, almost apologetic. Desiree was worried about giving Royce the best funeral possible. Mother he deserves the best. He's worked so hard and he's been through so much trouble with Clayton. Shuu, I said "let's try and get some rest and I'll meet you at Gibson's in the morning." She gave me the key to her house. You never needed one because you could remove the bay window screen lift the the window and just step inside. The keys were left for the children over the post or under the porch mat if the windows were locked. There was a sliding glass back door that wouldn't lock half the time. The night this tragedy occurred I Took a shower in Royce and Desiree's bathroom. I couldn't help noticing the drain wouldn't work properly, you had to hang something like a wet washcloth to weight the drain lever down. The screws were out of the face plate. I tightened the cut off valve yet it kept dripping. It was a single mixer control handle. If you put your hand under the faucet it would leave a ring of water in your palm. I could tell it was leaking on the hot water side. It was dripping down the back of the faucet into the drain. It bothered me because it sounded like pipes had air water was leaking. I made a mental note of things to fix on the next trip. I have worked on rental property for many years and built my first home. I looked in their walk-in-closet to find a robe to put on while my clothes were drying and saw two guns wrapped up. Royce's shotgun and a 22 pistol. There was an unwrapped rifle that I had never seen before. The smell of gunpowder was still strong in the bedroom. The mattress and the white eyelet comforter were gone. On the self above their bed I noticed their change pot but their ceramic watermelon and picture of Royce with his trophy buck were missing. Royce had a large heart painted that said I love you to Desiree on the mirror. There were telephone numbers scribbled on a scratch sheet. There was a paper in Royce's handwriting with prices and sizes of stock trailer dealers and their telephone numbers. I fed and watered the animals, fed the fish and the pet turtle. I noticed neither the front or back yard was mowed. In all the years I've known Royce I've never seen this. He was very

particular. He was worried all the time about doing things just right. He planted flowers and mowed his mother's huge yard. His elderly mother and aunts were in constant need of things to be done. He helped the kids in a multitude of activities and took care of their rented farm. I took ice tea from the refrigerator I couldn't help but notice that all of Royce's favorite foods and drinks were there. Since his surgery Desiree and the girls had been pampering him. This home was filled with sadness without his presence Desiree and the children were heart broken because they loved him so much. Eddie Jr. said, "I'm going have to be the man of the house now." I couldn't keep from breaking down. I remembered when they gave Royce his new chair. Desiree was sitting on the floor between Royce's legs, he lent forward with his arms wrapped around her when she looked up and smiled he kissed her. I said "I wished I had a camera". They started laughing. They were always in tender embraces. I went to sleep looking at pictures. The next morning I started to open the front door and found the deadbolt had been installed upside down and I remember saying to myself my goodness there's a lot of work to do around here, I'd better come in the truck. There was a hole in the wall and the door and lock to Caylon's room was busted. There were suitcases and packages on the dining table and in Candance's room there was a suitcase open with a book on top. Desiree and the three girls and Eddie Jr. had came in Saturday night from visiting the hospitals in Houston and last minute school shopping in Conroe. School was starting the next day which was Monday.

The last time I talked with Royce I called to see about him. Royce said them dumb Doctors decided after galbladder surgery I didn't have gallstones, I had adhesions from the gastrectomy. Sharon said get a grip, but I've had about two years worth of pain. Now they won't pay for the extra tests. We were talking about network marketing and he wanted me to join. I mentioned this had the earmarks of a pyramid scheme, Royce immediately became defensive and said please don't call it that. I said "I'm sorry Royce. I don't mean to hurt your feelings but there's just no free lunch out

there. I'd rather not." "O.K. I'm just giving you a chance to get in on the ground floor but I understand. Hey! I ordered Desiree a helmet. Good, take care now, please call me if you need anything, love you". "Oh I will, don't worry", Love you too," he said. Oh but I did worry, enough to go down to see about him. I knew I disappointed him by not joining. Something was wrong with Royce. I didn't like the way he sounded. I went on Saturday the 10th, the day before his death. I searched for him all day. He mentioned the races in Tyler, but with the bad weather he should've be home. I last called from Luby's at closing time, no one answered so I came home in the storm.

Lt. Charlie Harris and officer Eddie Mathews came to Desiree's home to look for a suicide note, they said. They were definitely looking in strange places such as saddles bags on the motorcycle, under the mattes, under the dash of the boat, in tool boxes in general all over the garage and inside the house. We heard later they were there looking for drugs. Someone at work told the Police Royce obtained them on his motorcycle trip with Steve Smith. Royce went to places on this trip he frequented as a young man. This was the week before his surgery on the 29 of July. They went through Royce's medicines. Lt. Harris asked Desiree why Royce was taking pumpkin seeds. Did he have a problem with his virility? Then he asked Desiree why Royce was on pain medication namely Vicodin and she told him it was because of his surgery. He asked was Royce on anything else but I stepped out into the kitchen and didn't hear her reply. When I came back into the room Lt. Harris said "well I never heard of anybody cleaning their gun at 7 o'clock in the morning." Desiree said 'well you don't know Royce Shaw he has been known to clean the aquarium at 4 o'clock in the morning," Lt Harris said 'what about him using shorts to clean guns? She walked away from the gun cleaning basket on the floor beside Royce's side of the bed and stopped at Royce's chest of draws opened the top drawer which was full of cleaning rags made out of discarded underwear. Desiree said he uses these for everything. Royce carried a rag in his back pocket when he was working around the house or at work at Temple Inland. When the girls showed their livestock he had a special lucky blue one. Royce

wore glasses and he was cleaning them all the time. His crew gave him flowers and attached a rag to the wreath. I have a picture of it on his headstone. Desiree showed Lt. Harris and Officer Eddie Mathews the guns that were wrapped in the bedroom closet with rags and towels. Lt. Harris asked Desiree "how did that picture get in the bed." She said "I don't know." Desiree was polite to Officer Matthews but it was plain she did not respect Mr. Harris. After they left Desiree told me why. She said "I asked him what took the ambulance so long" Lt. Harris replied "Lady I don't care if a doctor had of been standing beside your husband he wouldn't have been able to save him." Desiree went on to tell me he had in the past endangered her patients lives and they had words about improper procedures.

After Royce's death Desiree sought Psychiatric help. Lois Gonzales PHD. She was diagnosed as having post traumatic shock She was put on medication to sleep. She had to go back to work within a week after Royce's death. She was the sole provider and care giver. She was also seeing an MD. After a month Royce's daughter Ashley's received a social security check. Four months later the three children in her care had not received any. Desiree's ex-husband Clayton received them, even Eddie Shaw Jr's., then he deposited Eddie's in Christi's name when questions arose. Clayton profited financially as well as personally. I asked Desiree to come home with me. With Royce gone Clayton's will hurt you with his constant harassments. He has influence with the law and he is not above abusing his power. Desiree said, "I was born here. This is my home. One day people will realize he is not the man he pretends to be. The children need to have familiar surroundings right now. It's hard enough without Royce."

Then the unthinkable happened when they charged Desiree with murder. Lt. Harris was obsessed to put Desiree in prison. He was on KTRE TV news often.

Desiree has diligently asked for the Police recordings. They have not been forthcoming.

Lt. Harris, the Chief Investigator, testified that for almost four months he talked to anybody and everyone that would listen to him. Many of them told me his words were that he was 100% sure Desiree Shaw killed her husband. This was viciously spread over Angelina County. Lt. Harris DPD and Chief Danny Ray DPD attended the same Church as Royce and Desiree. Rumors abounded. Desiree accepted from Pastor Richard Owen to attend his church. Brother Owen is a Deputy Chaplain at the county jail. After Desiree's conviction, He said, "there is something terribly wrong about their investigation. He said, you can see the gun and the shell casing? still on the bed. " Two years later I knew what he meant

Judge Gerald Goodwin of the 159 th court is a good friend to Clayton Richardson my ex-son-law, they went to school together. The relationship was too close for him to preside over Desiree's trial. He knew Clayton and Desiree for many years. He knew my grandchildren all their lives. He was aware of the bitter custody fight in 1993 over Christi and Candance Richardson and the money the girls had won in 4-H. He was aware Clayton was angry about the outcome. Royce's attorney Sandra Roberts argued for another Judge from Nacogdoches to preside over the custody hearing. This was because Clayton Richardson was a commissioner and his wife Darlene had worked for Judge Goodwin. The new Judge ruled that Clayton was to have custody and the money would stay with the Shaw's. Clayton said "I don't want the girls without the money." He was furious. Judge Goodwin was aware of the 1993 mailbox charge against Desiree. He took Clayton and Darlene's version. Clayton threatened Desiree when they divorced saying that he would get her if it was the last thing he did.

A short time later Clayton and Darlene Richardson used his influence to file charges on Desiree and have her arrested without an investigation by the Police. The three girls with Desiree, Caylon Richardson, Cheri Archer, Ashley Shaw were not questioned. Broke from the custody battle, Desiree plead to reckless

endangerment. Again Mr. John Heath was her attorney. He said it would be like a slap on the wrist. Desiree said Mr. Heath didn't remember he was her attorney in 1993. During the sentencing phase when the girls asked to testify about the 1993 mailbox charge, to get the truth of the matter, Judge Goodwin said "You don't want those ducks fling up off that pond" "Everything is not butter flies and roses with Christi and her mom", Oh but they did. To tell the truth and confront the charge as it should have been done in 1993. It would have exonerated Desiree. She had never been in trouble with the law before this. In fact our family's history is law abiding. The gossip that had been rampant for 3 years. This hung over Desiree's head like an albatross. The jury needed to know the truth. Desiree would not have been a suspect had Lt. Harris not been able to pull the 1993 charge up in her case file. Lt. Harris's Affidavit of his complaint is proof he believed Desiree gave a conflicting statement. She did not and this can be proven. This charge was made by two under aged children. Christi and Candance Richardson. Pressured and told what to say and write down by their father and step-mother. They have grown up with this lie wanting to tell the truth, wishing they had not been pushed into hurting their own mother. Until Desiree was charged with murder and convicted they didn't realize what a terrible thing they had done. During the sentencing phase they sat close together nodding their heads no, weeping with tears streaming down their faces. They were listening to Mr. Wilson, charging their mother of an act in 1993 they knew she never committed. That is why their grief was so unbearable.

This year Judge Gerald Goodwin decided to retired five years early. Clayton Richardson is no longer a commissioner. Public opinion in Lufkin, Texas has spoken.

Mrs. Lois Gonzales PHD, of Huiarta and associates stated that in her opinion Desiree was not in denial and that she felt Desiree was truthful when she said she was innocent on the 1993 charge brought against her. It was in Desiree's probation that she see Dr. Gonzales. Office area code 936-637-7600 Lufkin, Texas.