

## Years later, family shines spotlight on man's shooting death

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It has been two long years since Daniel Carver's family members heard that their brother, son, father and loved one had been found fatally shot just streets from his home.

Though some of the pain has eased with time, family members say they still need the answer to at least one question: Why?

Of course, the how and the who are important questions as well. But though the years-old case lost in a sea of Vallejo shootings is still open, police say it has all but gone cold. No new information has arisen.

Carver's family is determined to help. Twice a year -- on the day of his death and the day of his birth, in August and December, respectively -- they hold candlelight vigils and canvas the Vallejo streets closest to the street where Carver was found slumped, shot twice, on a residential porch.

Today will be at least the third time the family has returned to Idora Street, and for the first time, with the help of the Solano County Guardian Angels.

Guardian Angels Chapter Leader Omar Martinez said he is joining the family to distribute about 250 fliers explaining who Carver was and asking for help because "it goes back to the roots of what the Guardian Angels are about."

Guardian Angels is a citizen patrol group whose mission is to reduce crime through community involvement.

"Hopefully, by seeing our presence, hopefully someone will step up and come forward," Martinez said. "This is a tragic loss -- not only for the family but for the entire community. It's something sad that's happening a lot to an extent right now. I can feel the void in their voice when I talk to them. It's a loss -- but it's a bigger loss when you don't know what happened."

Carver, 33, the father of four, who then ranged from 2 to 15, was shot in the upper body about 9 p.m. Aug. 8, 2007 near the 300 block of Idora Street.

Carver had left his girlfriend to go for a walk when he was apparently shot by assailants from a moving car, witnesses reported.

Janice Allen Jr., Carver's sister, said her family doesn't want anyone in that neighborhood to forget her brother's face, because "I know someone knows something."

"I think sometimes, we're not inclined to rat people, out ... even when they do something so terrible," Allen said in an interview this week. "But I understand ... but it's not right."

Allen said her philosophy is to keep her brother's face and story alive in the minds of the residents who may have valuable information to give police.

"I'm not willing to stop being an annoyance to them," said Allen, who lives with two of Carver's children and her parents in Suisun City. "Mostly, it's like we're never going to forget, so neither should anybody else."

After some thought, Allen added, "I think it would give us some peace -- I know it would give us some peace. It's been so hard."

Carver's family and friends plan to begin their vigil and neighborhood canvassing at noon today on the 300 block of Idora Street, spreading outward.

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