

I was blessed to talk with Derrick's mother, Betty Henagan, regarding the disappearance of her son. Betty indicated that Derrick met a girl online. Shortly thereafter, he moved to McMillan Michigan, a small town west of Newberry, where she lived. Betty believes the relationship was turbulent. On August 4, 2008 she was notified by the girlfriend that Derrick had disappeared. This was the bringing of a mother's worst nightmare.

What kind of person is Derrick?

Betty describes her son as being, "Very energized!"

"When Derrick was a child, nothing slowed him down. He never quit talking, as a child he had the gift of gab."

Derrick carried this gift into his career as a car salesman, but Derrick's true pride and joy is his 7 year old son who also shares with him a passion for cars. Derrick would spend time with his son teaching him all about cars, quads, and snowmobiles.

"He has his daddy's smile," Betty describes her grandson, "His smile lights up the world not just the room, he is what keeps me going and it is as if I have Derrick right here with me."

The investigation remains ongoing. Michael Neiger, from the Michigan Backcountry Search and Rescue, MiSBAR, states,

"MiSBAR is actively working on this case in support of the Michigan State Police at the Newberry Post, and that further investigation and ground searching by MiSBAR is continuing"

Another group, "Missing Youth foundation" (<http://missingyouorg.com>), is also assisting with this case. Betty stated she sent them a certified letter giving them full power to help find her son.

Betty lives downstate and one of her goals is to come to northern Michigan and meet the investigators and speak to them face to face.

Where does Betty get her support and strength?

"I get support from my church, Hope Lutheran, and from friends and people in my community. Whenever I see them, they offer encouragement by giving me a hug and letting me know they are praying for Derrick. They remind me, with each passing day, that there is always hope. Betty also has a very special friend, Jodi, who calls her several times a day.

Betty states, "If it was not for Jodi I think I would just curl up and sleep this away, but so far, it's not going away".

A memorial service will take place at the site Derrick went missing on the weekend of May 15-16. A cross will be placed at the site, along with a balloon release.



MISSING

Jeremy Gould, 27 of Iron Mountain, has not been seen or heard by family since March 6 2010.