

December 4, 2004
Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

06:35:19

JSL: Can you tell me your name?

06:35:22

LRV: My name is Louis Richard Vargas.

06:35:25

JSL: And Mr. Vargas, where are we right now?

06:35:27

LRV: We're at 1317 O'Neil.

06:35:31

JSL: Who lives there?

06:35:33

LRV: Myself and my girlfriend

06:35:37

JSL: How old are you Mr. Vargas?

06:35:39

LRV: 47

06:35:42

JSL: Tell me a little about your family. Your mother, your father, your sister. Just tell me about your family.

06:35:57

LRV: It's a small family. Just my mother and my father and me left. Of course we have aunts and uncles and cousins and loved ones. But right now my father is a little handicapped and my

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

mother is trying to hold on there and I'm still within reach.

06:36:19

JSL: And what's, your father you said he's a little handicapped, does he have a medical condition at this point?

06:36:26

LRV: Yes, he's always taken it hard ever since my sister passed away. So. I don't know. He suffered a stroke and now he has more physical problems, so mother has to take care of him. I have to stay there for him.

06:36:46

JSL: How old are they?

06:36:48

LRV: I believe one's in the 70's and one's in the 60's.

06:36:53

JSL: And what was your relationship with your parents when you were growing up? What kind of relationship did you have?

06:37:01

LRV: We were both in school and trying to make our parents happy and working, and whatever they needed then we were there. And as we grew up we kind of headed our own ways.

06:37:14

JSL: And how did you get along with your mother and father in those days?

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

06:37:21

LRV: There was a lot of love. A lot of discipline. And they taught us a lot in how we grew up.

06:37:34

JSL: And tell me about the relationship between, you said you had a sister, what was your sister's name?

06:37:40

LRV: Her name was Wanda Jean Vargas.

06:37:42

JSL: And was she older or younger than you?

06:37:44

LRV: She's younger than me. About a year.

06:37:47

JSL: About a year younger. And what was her relationship with you?

06:37:53

LRV: We were close, like siblings always playing around, arguing, loving and we went through school together of course. She looked up to me and I needed her for backup. And we were inseparable.

06:38:11

JSL: What was her relationship with your parents? How did she get along with them?

06:38:15

LRV: She was a... They kept an eye on her more than they did me and that's because she was a young girl growing up so I can

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

understand that. And so they took care of her and kept an eye on her more than they did me.

06:38:30

JSL: Pretty strict?

06:38:32

LRV: Oh yeah. They wanted her to grow up to be good morals and good foundations and everything.

06:38:40

JSL: Which one of the parents was strictest with the daughter?

06:38:42

LRV: That was mom.

06:38:44

JSL: That's how it was in my family too. Tell me about Wanda as a teenager, where did she go to school, who were her friends, her activities.

06:38:57

LRV: Let's see, I think we both, she was following my steps, we went through the same school, elementary, junior high and high school. It was kind of hard for her to study, so she kind of looked up to me to help her out. So I did as much as I could but my mother was there. My father was always working and out of town that was his job. So my mother had to sometimes put up more with us. But she [Wanda] was learning, she tried her best.

06:39:33

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

JSL: So you were the better student of the two?

06:39:36

LRV: That's what I think she kind of said and we argued a little bit about that sometimes.

06:39:41

JSL: You wanted her to work a little harder?

06:39:43

LRV: Yes, I wanted her to do something with her life.

06:39:51

JSL: Did she make it through school?

06:39:52

LRV: I think, she dropped out. She didn't quite graduate.

06:39:58

JSL: And do you remember the names of the schools you all went to? At this point, it's been a long time.

06:40:07

LRV: Let me see, I think T.G. Allen, Wynn Seale and Ray High School.

06:40:11

JSL: Ray High School.

06:40:14

LRV: I think I left her for one year because I went to Miller.

06:40:17

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

JSL: You went to Miller?

06:40:20

LRV: That's another high school.

06:40:22

JSL: And tell me about Wanda's friends. Did she have a lot of friends and hang out with people?

06:40:31

LRV: Not quite that many. Again she led a strict life so I think maybe one or two.

06:40:39

JSL: And did Wanda have any children?

06:40:44

LRV: One. A little girl.

06:40:47

JSL: What's her name?

06:40:48

LRV: Melissa

06:40:49

JSL: And so that's your niece.

06:40:52

LRV: That's my niece.

06:40:56

JSL: And who is the father of that child?

06:41:02

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

LRV: Uh, the father was there at the beginning. His name was Lopez. I can't quite remember his first name. And I once, I guess he knew she was going to have a baby, he kind of got out of the picture. So my parents ended up paying for everything. So I guess they finally met and stuff. But I don't know if the daughter ever, my niece has ever met him. I'm not sure. But he was not in the picture.

06:41:40

JSL: So your parents were close to your niece.

06:41:44

LRV: Actually, they brought her up.

06:41:47

JSL: Tell me about Wanda after she had left school when she was an adult... Where was she working... who were her...? What kind of things did she do at that point?

06:41:58

LRV: After, after we... when she went as far as school. Well, I took off to Houston to work. So I didn't see her for a long time, for about 3 years. Weekends probably but then she stayed behind with parents. What I would hear [is that] she would not go for, you know, good dependable jobs. She would just go for, you know, whatever she could do to make money. And also she was staying with mom and dad, to help them. So she started working convenience stores.

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

06:42:35

JSL: What was the name of the store or the company that she work at?

06:42:40

LRV: I believe it was Shamrock.

06:42:43

JSL: And how many different Shamrock stores did she work at? Do you remember that at all?

06:42:46

LRV: I believe there were two. Two.

06:42:50

JSL: And I meant to ask you before, where do you work?

06:42:58

LRV: At the time?

06:43:59

JSL: At the time or where were you working in Houston?

06:43:02

LRV: Oh in Houston. I was working with a Central Welding. I was a field mechanic.

06:43:03

JSL: And where do you work today?

06:43:10

LRV: Today I work with the city of Corpus Christi.

06:43:14

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

JSL: Now what time of day did your sister work. Let me start over again. Was there a... did you come back to Corpus Christi while your sister was still alive?

06:43:29

LRV: As a matter of fact, let's see, yes I had just come back. The oil boom had finished in Houston, so I had come back, we came back to Corpus.

06:43:41

JSL: Ok. And you say we, who were you living with at that time?

06:43:44

LRV: The family that I had while I was married.

06:43:52

JSL: And what time of day was your sister Wanda working when you came back, around what time of day did she work at the Shamrock?

06:44:05

LRV: I think she would go in the evening and come out at night.

06:44:09

JSL: And how many people were working over there with her?

06:44:12

LRV: Just one, herself.

06:44:14

JSL: And that was this gas station over on South Padre Island Drive. Is that right?

06:44:20

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

LRV: Right

06:44:48

JSL: Your sister's no longer alive, is that correct?

06:44:51

LRV: No

06:44:52

JSL: And how did she die?

06:44:54

LRV: She was murdered.

06:44:56

JSL: Where was she at the time?

06:44:58

LRV: She was working at Shamrock.

06:45:00

JSL: Ok. And what I'd like you to do if you can is just remember back to that day, that evening, that night and tell us what you remember about it. Really from as early in the day as you want to as late in the day as you can remember.

06:45:13

LRV: Well, the night before she had asked that I go with her, we go out with her because she wanted to celebrate an evening with us. And I told her I might not[be able to], because [I] worked late, and I had a lot of bills to pay. She right away said that she would take care of my bills. She would go get them done before

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

the evening was out so that we could all go out. I said, "No, you don't have to do that." She said, "I will if you go out with me. I said, "Ok." Well, I got home to Mom's and Dad's home and ready to go and we get this disturbing knock on the door. A man screaming saying that something just happened at Shamrock, where my sister works and to be careful on the way over there but it doesn't look good. I took off on my own. And I made it there right before they put her in the ambulance and from there we went to the hospital. And she was gone.

06:46:35

JSL: What did you... What was so important that she wanted to go out with you that night? What did you think was so important?

06:46:43

LRV: I don't know. Apparently, I think... I mean I can't remember to that date. She was so excited for us I guess to meet some new friend she met. Being that her life was always trying to be the best you can and take care of yourself, probably she had, I'm thinking, found somebody that she was proud of and wanted us to meet him, to meet him, her, friend or something?

06:47:13

JSL: Did you think it was a young man, maybe, that she met that she wanted you to meet?

06:47:17

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

LRV: For her to be that excited, It would have to be something;
for her to want me to be there.

06:47:25

JSL: You never knew the name of that person?

06:47:28

LRV: No

06:47:30

JSL: But in your mind, she wanted you to meet her new boyfriend?

06:47:34

LRV: I'm thinking that. I'm thinking that's what it was going to
lead to.

06:47:42

JSL: And um, tell me again about how your evening there, as you
were waiting for her to get off work so you can go with her, was
interrupted. Who came, I don't need a name but just...

06:47:57

LRV: Who came to the door? I later come to find out, talking to a
man, and also within that time period that it was a neighbor
across the street's son who happened to go by the store and saw
what happened. And he wanted to be the first one to come and tell
us. And he was the first one that came and told us before we even
heard it on the news or anything

06:48:25

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

JSL: And how did he get over to your house from there?

06:48:25

LRV: I believe he was on a bike. I'm not sure.

06:48:29

JSL: And where were your parents living at that time? What street?

06:48:34

LRV: 2418 Cleo

06:48:37

JSL: And how far away from the gas station is that?

06:48:41

LRV: Oh not far at all. A couple streets to the main street and then up the freeway and down the freeway. You could get there in less than 10 minutes.

06:48:59

JSL: So when you heard that, you told your parents to stay where they were. You got in your car and you went over to the gas station. You said when you arrived there, you could see them, they were just starting to load your sister on gurney into the ambulance. Did you make any attempt to be with your sister at that moment.

06:49:27

LRV: Yes, and they restrained me and said this wasn't a good time to get into that area.

06:49:38

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

JSL: Did you happen to look over and see. What did you see at the gas station there at that scene, what did you see besides your sister?

06:49:49

LRV: It was chaos; there cops, officers, lights, ambulance, people moving all about. People... What struck me, even to today: Why were they cleaning up right away when this was too fresh? I mean, why disturb anything?

06:50:19

JSL: Well come to that. What were they doing, that you were just now referring to? Tell me about that.

06:50:24

LRV: All I remember is, I got, I got restrained. I looked at the ambulance, and they are loading her up. I look back at the door and it's pretty gruesome. And I see 2 individuals with gloves just wiping the floor as fast as they can, the entry and exit, same door.

06:50:41

JSL: Were they using little tiny swabs to take blood?

06:50:45

LRV: They were picking it up real quick with some large cloth or something.

06:50:54

JSL: So it was like they were cleaning it up?

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

06:50:53

LRV: Real quick.

06:50:58

JSL: Did you get a chance to look inside the gas station?

06:51:02

LRV: No. I took off.

06:51:07

JSL: And was there... when you arrived at the scene... were there, you mentioned a lot vehicles, and police personal, and emergency personal (unintelligible). Were there private individuals, people, you know what I mean, from the street, who had gathered to be onlookers?

06:51:28

LRV: I'm more than sure there was, I was just concentrating on my sister, but by just side views, yes.

06:51:39

JSL: Do you remember how many approximately?

06:51:45

LRV: No, I can't

06:51:48

JSL: When you drove up was there, you know you've seen in the movies and everything, tape, crime scene tape, yellow tape, did they have that spread around the scene?

06:51:55

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

LRV: No.

06:51:58

JSL: How close did you get to the front of the station where your sister was? How close were you able to get just as someone driving by?

06:52:

LRV: Caddy corner facing the first pump. Pumps right here; I got here that's as far as I got.

06:52:17

JSL: Were you between the pumps and the station?

06:52:21

LRV: I was in clear view of the station, pump was to the right.

06:52:26

JSL: OK, and you could have touched the pump from where you were?

06:52:29

LRV: Pretty close.

06:52:30

JSL: Yeah, and that's the island, there's just one island of pumps there.

06:52:34

LRV: Right.

06:52:35

JSL: So you were right near the island.

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

06:52:38

LRV: Right there.

06:52:38

JSL: And it was just on the other side of the island that you could see your sister, where she had fallen.

06:52:43

LRV: Yes, very close,

06:52:45

JSL: How many feet? Can you estimate?

06:52:52

LRV: Over 20 feet, little more.

06:52:56

JSL: What did the police tell you? What did you say to the police?

06:53:14

LRV: I need to get in there.

06:53:18

JSL: And did you tell them who you were?

06:53:20

LRV: Mm hmm...I sure did. And they said the only way you can see your sister is if you head to the hospital now. So I did.

06:53:29

JSL: Did they tell you what had happened? Did they say anything to you about what had happened?

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

06:53:35

LRV: No, they didn't say. They just said something tragic has happened.

06:53:46

JSL: Did they tell you anything about who was involved?

06:53:49

LRV: No.

06:53:52

JSL: Did you hear anything there about, any names of people who might have been involved?

06:53:57

LRV: No.

06:54.01

JSL: As quickly as you can, you got out of there and went to the hospital?

06:54:04

LRV: Right

06:54:08

JSL: And, um, who did you talk to at the hospital?

06:54:12

LRV: I believe the doctor was there in charge of the emergency. And then my parents were arriving also. So I ran right through those doors to meet my sister.

06:54:32

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

JSL: Were there police officers there to help you, talk to you?

06:54:37

LRV: I don't recall it.

06:54:48

JSL: After you left the hospital that night, did you go back to the gas station?

06:54:54

LRV: No. We went back home to Mom's house.

06:55:08

JSL: After that moment, after that time that night, there came a time where there were some hearings in court and there was a trial. Did you attend those hearings and trials?

06:55:21

LRV: Yes, I did.

06:55:23

JSL: In between that night and the time of those hearings and trial, was there any news about this on the local television? About this case.

06:55:39

LRV: Yes, they started airing on air, making people aware of what had happened at the store.

06:55:48

JSL: What did they use on the television to make people aware of what had happened?

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

06:55:54

LRV: Something I never heard that made me very furious was the 911 calls.

06:56:15

JSL: How many 911 calls did they play at the first trial, that was at the trial that had to do with your sister being killed and a man named Carlos DeLuna who was the defendant. Do you remember how many they played?

06:56:29

LRV: Maybe one.

06:56:30

JSL: Right. Ok. I've read the transcript of the tapes and I just brought you the transcript. On television, what were [they] using to tell people about what had happened?

06:56:47

LRV: They showed words on the bottom and they show some kind of figuration on top. But not only did they show those two things they put her voice in there. So you had three ways of hearing what was happening at the time.

06:57:11

JSL: And what were you hearing?

06:57:13

LRV: The most I heard of it, I believe there was more than one 911 call.

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

06:57:20

JSL: And when did you find about the other 911 call?

06:57:25

LRV: When I heard it on TV.

06:57:29

JSL: Ok did your family at some point file a law suit against the Diamond Shamrock?

06:57:36

LRV: Yes they did.

06:57:39

JSL: And the theory of that suit was that Diamond Shamrock had not had proper security to protect your sister. I meant to ask you she was there at night. She was alone. Were there video cameras in that Diamond Shamrock?

06:57:55

LRV: No prior to that, we had even asked them to build some kind of glass container to keep the attendants safe.

06:58:04

JSL: Did your sister work in any kind of glass like that?

06:58:07

LRV: No wide open.

06:58:08

JSL: How close was she to the customers, let's say when they came in to ask to get something or to give her money, or to ring

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

something up on the cash register?

06:58:18

LRV: Maybe go to other stations they are pretty separate, that station has a flaw. The counter is face to face with the customer.

06:58:32

JSL: What was that neighborhood like?

06:58:36

LRV: At the time, there was a lot of dancing going on next door. There was a club.

06:58:42

JSL: What kind of dancing?

06:58:45

LRV: I don't really recall. Loud music. So it was a busy area there.

06:58:53

JSL: Was it entertainment for gentleman at that place?

06:58:56

LRV: I think, I'm not sure. But it sure drew a lot of cars.

06:58:

JSL: What did your sister tell you about how she felt about that place?

06:59:04

LRV: She better never catch me at one of those places.

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

06:59:09

JSL: What did she tell you about how she felt about the gas station?

06:59:13

LRV: She had to work, she had to make a living. And the reason she picked that one was because it was close to home and they hired her there.

07:00:02

JSL: Now, between [the] time when your sister died and the trial, how many times did you see them playing that one 911 tape?

07:00:17

LRV: Over and over. Every month at least twice or more. It was a highly publicized crime. A lot of people heard it.

07:00:32

JSL: How'd you feel about that?

07:00:36

LRV: I think it could have been prevented. But I came to speculate the reasons why. There was ample time.

07:00:46

JSL: What did it make you feel like to see that happen?

07:00:49

LRV: Where was everybody at?

07:00:57

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

JSL: Between the time of trial and...I'm sorry between the time that your sister died and the trial, what kind of interaction did you have with the authorities, the police, the prosecutors?

07:01:17

LRV: They came, four of them came to my mother's house, and they came to talk to us and promised us everything would be taken care of. That we didn't have to intervene in no way.

07:01:31

JSL: Did you suggest the possibility of intervention?

07:01:34

LRV: Yes, I did.

07:01:35

JSL: Could you tell us what you said, what that conversation was?

07:01:39

LRV: At this time I was very furious and hurt, and I promised them that if they didn't take care of it, I would.

07:01:

JSL: [What did the police say to you?]

07:02:01

LRV: Not even to go there, that they would promise me that they'd be tedious to the end.

07:02:05

JSL: And do you...you said there were four detectives, were they plain clothes or were they in uniform.

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

07:02:11

LRV: No, they wore like suits.

07:02:14

JSL: Men, women?

07:02:17

LRV: I only remember 4 men.

07:02:20

JSL: Do you remember their names?

07:02:21

LRV: No, I don't.

07:02:24

JSL: Did you talk to any attorneys, or the four men who came with suits on. Do you actually know whether they were police, detectives, and prosecutors? Do you know who they were?

07:02:37

LRV: They were all detectives they said, they showed their badges.

07:02:41

JSL: Did you ever talk to the lawyers for the state? Or the prosecution? The district attorneys office.

07:02:48

LRV: No.

07:02:51

JSL: Now did you attend the trial?

07:02:54

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

LRV: Yes

07:02:55

JSL: So you saw the attorneys for the state?

07:02:58

LRV: Oh yes.

07:03:01

JSL: But they never spoke to you?

07:03:03

LRV: Not to me, they might have spoken to my parents. I was more sitting back, just studying everything.

07:03:16

JSL: What else did they tell you about the case at that point, when they came, those four gentleman?

07:03:26

LRV: They were there to pay respect and let us know that this was a very one of a kind crime scene that they had never witnessed and that involved one of the big chain stores and they were going to try to see how to correct this and find out what really happened.

07:04:00

JSL: Now have you ever heard the name, Carlos Hernandez. Let me ask this when did you first hear the name?

07:04:14

LRV: On TV.

07:04:16

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

JSL: And what did they say?

07:04:18

LRV: It's not so much what they said, it was what Carlos DeLuna kept repeating. He kept on saying: He was nowhere near: he didn't do it that; that his friend did it, this Carlos Hernandez.

07:04:47

JSL: Did there ever come a time when you were curious about the man Carlos Hernandez that you were hearing about on TV, what does he have to do with it and ask them if they were looking into the question of who this Carlos Hernandez [was]?

07:05:07

LRV: At that time, later on, I asked, we asked, my parents asked, Where is this man? Does this man exist, and where was he at this time?

07:05:24

JSL: Let me just...Did they tell you that they tried to find Carlos Hernandez?

07:05:31

LRV: They said later on that he was in prison at the time?

07:05:34

JSL: When you say later on when was that in relation to the trial, before trial, after trial?

07:05:42

LRV: During trial.

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

07:05:47

JSL: And so my understanding is to say that they assured you that Carlos Hernandez couldn't have done this because he was away at prison at the time?

07:05:58

LRV: Exactly.

07:06:02

JSL: He wasn't on the street?

07:06:04

LRV: No according to them.

07:06:06

JSL: He wasn't even in Corpus Christi, he was in prison.

07:06:08

LRV: He was in prison. We never questioned it.

07:06:26

JSL: Can you just tell me the name of the lawyer that represented your family in that lawsuit against Diamond Shamrock?

07:06:34

LRV: I believe it was Rene Rodriguez.

07:06:38

JSL: And that was filed sometime after trial? After the trial of Carlos DeLuna?

07:06:44

LRV: Yes.

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

07:06:46

JSL: And did your family win or lose that suit?

07:06:50

LRV: They won.

07:06:52

JSL: I guess, there was, in part, part of winning, there was some money from that lawsuit that was provided to the family. Did you yourself get any of that money?

07:07:02

LRV: No.

07:07:03

JSL: Why not?

07:07:07

LRV: I am, I was more happy that my niece was going to get taken care of. And that she wasn't going to grow up in hardship. So I told my parents to leave me out of this, and give it to you all so you can take care of her. And in a way give them back a daughter.

07:07:39

JSL: Who raised your niece?

07:07:50

LRV: My parents.

07:07:56

JSL: And what did you really want to get out of that lawsuit?
What was your goal in that lawsuit?

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

07:08:04

LRV: Out of that... What I wanted them to do is um... after taking care of my sister, that was aside, what me...what my parents and I wanted to do was make Shamrock aware they needed to safeguard their stores, protect their employees.

07:08:38

JSL: Eventually you came to find out that there [were] two 911 tapes, not just one. Ok. What did those two 911 tapes, would you tell us, tell me. What those 911 tapes together showed that happened that night?

07:09:03

LRV: It showed that first, she was aware of her surroundings. She knew something was going to happen. And as scared as she was she didn't make it look like she was calling the police. Although the police were at the other end of the line knowing what was about to happen, and disconnected her on the first call.

07:10:22

JSL: How did your sister's death affect your life?

07:10:51

LRV: Real hard on me. We used to be all family when she was around and after that I kind of like just wanted to be alone. Kind of started leaving my family behind. I just didn't want to carry grief or [for] them to anyway feel sorry for me, so I just said I'll put that away and live my life. And I have that memory.

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

07:11:30

JSL: At that time, the night of your sister's death until Dec 7, 1989 when Carlos DeLuna was executed, what were your feelings towards him?

07:11:50

LRV: I didn't know the individual, only what I come to hear. I couldn't believe that he did it, for what reason. If he only knew my sister he wouldn't of done this.

07:12:12

JSL: And why did you decide to sit down and talk to us?

07:12:20

LRV: After so many years, I said, so there's no stone unturned, I'd like to hear what you all had to say. I was curious.

07:12:55

JSL: How would you like your sister to be remembered?

07:13:05

LRV: Out of all this said and done, I like her to be memorialized and to help others and help people that go through this realize that she's back and she wants to help people not go through this again.

RP: Richard, do you think the police did a good job in finding out who did this thing to your family?

07:13:58

LRV: At the time, yes.

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

07:14:05

RP: But now, [looking] at the whole thing, what are your overall feelings about, tell us everything you feel about how it's all come to be.

07:14:13

LRV: Well, now I hear the rest of the story, I've now been introduced to a side of the story I never knew about. But like it's all come to everybody that was involved is resting in peace now. Everybody that's still involved as a victim will somehow get something out of this and carry on.

07:14:51

JSL: And who do you see as the people who are the victims now that are trying to carry on?

07:15:07

LRV: Us, everybody out there, everybody that's start going through this, other cases. They don't know what it's like.

07:15:19

JSL: Do you ever have any thoughts, Mr. Vargas, about Carlos DeLuna's family?

07:15:29

LRV: Yeah, I do. Had I known what I know now, this might have never happened this might have gone another way. So, I wish them the best. I can only sympathize with them. This is why I'm doing this. I am going around a lot with things just to get this in

December 4, 2004

Louis Richard Vargas Interview Transcript

memory of my sister. So that everybody can learn from this.

07:16:17

RP: Do you think Carlos DeLuna was responsible for this crime?

07:16:24

LRV: In that aspect, it's a harsh way of putting it but I'm not - I'm going to use that as an example for the future ones, the ones that do a crime like this. If you play with fire and you want to cover up for your friend and you want to look good and not get your friend in trouble and you know who did it and you take it, you take it to your death.

END OF TAPE