Do you know the 'Original Night Stalker'?

By Colleen Cason, ccason@insidevc.com

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Based on victims' descriptions of the East Area Rapist, the suspect who killed Lyman and Charlene Smith might have shown these characteristics in 1980:

A white male in his 20s or early 30s. Medium height, husky build with a muscular upper body. A tattoo of a bull on either forearm. Blond or light brown hair. A high-pitched voice. Seemed middle class in his manners. Jogged with a white German shepherd. Drove a white '70s Pontiac. Mentioned he once lived in Sacramento, Davis, Contra Costa County or Goleta. Preferred bondage or sadomasochistic sexual practices. Showed proficiency in tying ornate knots. Gave gifts of jewelry. Showed unusual interest in the Smith murder investigation. Inexplicably was absent in the late hours of the night. Showed contempt for authority, tendency to blame others. If you have information, you can report it to the Orange County Sheriff's Department at (714) 834-2583, or at www.ocsd.org/SerialKiller/LeadSheet.asp. Or to Detective Sqt. Jerry Thurston, Ventura Police Department, 339-4400.