

Marsha P. Johnson, black transvestite survivor of the 1969 Stonewall Rebellion, Andy Warhol model, internationally acclaimed entertainer with the Hot Peaches Review, Anvil icon & a legendary ~~hooker/panhandler~~ ^{Prostitute} on Christopher Street & the West Side Highway was found floating in the Hudson River at the foot of Christopher Street late Monday afternoon, July 6th.

Marsha, a much beloved fixture in the Village for many years, was wearing men's clothing & had apparently drowned three or four days earlier, ~~Thursday 7/3 or Friday 7/5~~. The body was so badly decomposed that surviving family members - brother & sisters, Robert, Jean & Norma Michaels of Elizabeth, N.J. - were not allowed to view either the body or photos thereof for identification purposes. ^{Fingerprints were used & the remains then cremated.}

While foul play has not been ruled out, Marsha - whose given name was Malcolm Michaels Jr. - just before disappearing early thursday morning, 7/2, gave bouquets of flowers to close friends & family members, disposed of his personal belongings & commenced displaying the excessive religiosity which had been the harbinger of ^{his} previous psychotic episodes.

During ~~his~~ ^{her} last breakdown during the fall of 1991, Marsha described seeing his long deceased father "in the water on the bottom of the river." Although certain Marsha was incapable of intentional self-destruction, Randy Wicker & George Flimlin, with whom Marsha had lived in Hoboken since 1980, theorize Marsha once again thought he saw deceased loved ones in the river or floating on the clouds above & simply walked ^{toward} to join them. ~~Anyone with information is urged to call 212-255-1439~~

A traditional Episcopalean liturgy & memorial service will at 3:00 p.m. be held on Sunday, July 19th, at St. John's Church,

.. Immediately afterwards, at 3:30 p.m. a special ^{secular open-mike} remembrance & celebration of Marsha's life will commence. All bring flowers if they wish are invited to come & share their memories with others.

Randy Wicker