

NY Post 11/7/70

# Mom & Dad Slain; Boy, 17, Is Held

By JAY LEVIN and OY EGAN

A 17-year-old youth with a reported history of emotional disturbance was charged with homicide today in the knife murders of his parents during an argument in their Bronx apartment.

Police charged the youth, Larry Mullen, slained his parents to death in a fierce struggle last night as a family relative sought in vain to enter the locked apartment at 240 E. 190th St. to save the couple.

The relative finally summoned Patrolmen James Oxley and Thomas Hansen, who said they broke down the apartment door to find the dazed boy standing in the foyer over the body of his mother, Loretta, 53.

The body of the father, Patrick, 63, a Transit Authority employe, was on the floor of a bedroom. The 12-inch kitchen knife believed used in the slayings was nearby.

"The kid had a blank expression on his face," Oxley said. "He kept saying, 'It's horrible. How horrible.' Both parents were mutilated, slashed up all over their bodies."

The heavy-set youth, who was shoeless and wearing only bellbottom slacks, was taken to Fordham Hospital for treatment of arm wounds apparently suffered in the struggle.

Later at the Bedford Park police station, Mullen ignored questioning by detectives. He sat in a chair with his arms hanging straight down at his sides. His head with a mop of longish-unkempt hair was slumped on his chest. He raised it only about once every 10 minutes and he appeared in a stupor.

Frederick Dowling, the family relative who lives in the E. 190th St. building and rushed to the Mullen apartment after hearing sounds of a fight, declined to talk to reporters.

But neighbors and police said there had been some discussion in the family on committing the boy. He was

said to have dropped out of Manhattan Prep and wasn't working but was taking a high school equivalency course.

Police said as far as they knew the boy had never been hospitalized, but one detective said: "He has a history of being emotionally disturbed."

Neighbors described the youth as "a quiet boy," although one called him "ullen." The family was said to have lived in the building for several years, but neighbors said they knew the parents only by sight and rarely talked to them.

Detectives said the youth did not appear to have taken any drugs. No drugs or alcohol was found in the apartment.

NY Times 11/7/70  
**BRONX YOUTH IS HELD  
 IN PARENTS' DEATH**

A 17-year-old Bronx youth was arrested last night after he alleged stabbed his father and mother to death in their Bronx Park apartment.

Patrolman James Oxley said that he and his partner, Thomas Hansen had answered a call of a family argument at 246 East 199th Street at 8:15 P.M., phoned by neighbors.

Patrolman Oxley said that when they arrived at the apartment, the youth, identified as Lawrence Mullan, 17 years old, refused to open the door. When the two policemen kicked the door down, they found the mother, Loreta, 50, lying dead by the door, her face and body "badly mutilated."

Inside, on the bedroom floor, the father, Patrick, also, was found, with a 12-inch kitchen knife on the bed. The walls and floor of the apartment were covered with blood.

The young Mullan was taken to Fordham Hospital where he was treated for a cut left arm and a cut lip, which the police said were apparently sustained during a struggle.

NY Daily News 11/7/70  
**Parents Die by Knife  
 And Boy, 17, Is Held**

By ARTHUR NOBLE

Police of the Bronx Park station seized a 17-year-old youth last night in the fatal stabbings of his father and mother in the family apartment at 246 E. 199th St., Bronx.

Police said the long-haired, tall and heavy-set youth, identified as Larry Mullan, stabbed his father, Patrick Mullan, 69, to death at 8:30 p.m.

**Chases, Slays Mother**

When his mother, Loreta, 50, ran from the apartment screaming, police said the youth pursued her and stabbed her to death in the hall.

Called by neighbors, police found the youth shirtless, standing in the doorway, shaking his head.

and saying, "How horrible! How horrible!" He refused to answer questions.

**High School Dropout**

The youth was treated at Fordham Hospital for a cut on his left arm inflicted during one of the fatal stabbings, police said.

A long-bladed kitchen knife was the weapon, police said. Police said Larry had dropped out of Manhattan College High School and was taking high school correspondence courses.

# Boy, 17, Is Accused Of Killing Parents

By JOHN RANDAZZO

"It hurts, my hand really hurts!" That is all Larry Mullan, 17, accused of stabbing to death his mother and father after an argument in their Bronx apartment, told police at the Bronx prearraignment center yesterday.

He clutched his bandaged right hand with 13 stitches in it as he awaited arraignment.

The youth, described as an "emotionally disturbed" high school dropout, was arrested Friday night in the blood-spattered, third-floor family apartment at 246 E. 199th St.

#### Call From Brother

A few hours earlier, Morrisania station police said, they had received an emergency call from Larry's brother, James, who told them his brother had just called him up and told him he had killed their father, Patrick.

Police burst into the apartment and said they found the youth standing dazedly over the body of his mother, Loretta, 63, in the foyer. The father, 63, a Transit Authority employe, was on the bedroom floor.

Alongside the father was a 12-inch stiletto. The family pet, a brown and white mongrel dog, was found cowering in the corner

of the living room. Police said young Mullan had "a collection of fancy Spanish knives."

#### No Resistance

Larry offered no resistance. He was taken to Fordham Hospital for treatment of cuts on his upper wrist and lip.