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Vigil for missing Waterbury man

Vigil for missing Waterbury man-story by Carolee Salerno

by News Channel 8's Carolee Salerno
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Billy Smolinski

Naugatuck (WTNH) _ A vigil was held tonight to remember a Waterbury man that has been missing for 3-years.

Billy Smolinski, Jr. was last seen in August of 2004 at his home on Holly Street.

"Hopefully we will find him, but we may never find him," said Billy's mother, Janice Smolinski.

Janice has been waiting three long, heartbreaking years for answers in the case of her missing son, Billy. Family and friends gathered to support the Smolinski's on the Naugatuck town green.

"Today was a real tough day, it will get better, but we gotta find him, we've gotta find him to put him to rest," said Bill Smolinski Sr.

The last time anyone saw Billy was outside his Waterbury home. He apparently asked his neighbor to take care of his dog for a few days, but his family says things didn't add up. Police believe foul play was involved in his disappearance, but to this day no one has been arrested.

The families of other missing adults shared

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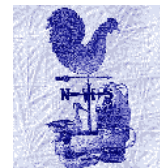
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in the Smolinski's pain, including Mary Lyall of Saratoga, New York.

"It's almost 9 1/2 years since my daughter has been missing," said Lyall. "The word missing in no way describes the sense of hopelessness, frustration, anger and despair that goes through their minds."

Janice Smolinski says she and her family will never give up, but she says she is praying someone will come forward with information.

"We're not going to forget, its been three years, we're stronger than ever. How can you forget, there's no way," said Janice.

If you have any information about the whereabouts of Billy Smolinski, please call the FBI in New Haven at 203-777-6311.



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