

*In the last episode..  
-play snippet of Redditor that Vanished-  
Welcome back to Nexpo.*

## *Introduction*

On January 31, 1993, the wife and daughter of a Texas man named David Lewis would return home to discover him nowhere to be found. Soon after and across the country, an unidentified man would be spotted walking down the side of a highway, before being killed in a hit-and-run. It would take over 11 years for these stories to converge, leaving investigators stumped and puzzled along the way.

The disappearance, as you might expect, was sudden and abnormal, but shine light into the possibility that David Glenn Lewis *just might* have been hiding something.

*-title sequence with music-*

## *I: David's Disappearance*

*-bring up montage of commercials, then Superbowl footage-*

It was 1993. Superbowl weekend to be exact.

With preparations in-place and a lively Dallas, Texas awaiting an influx of sports fans, festivities were abundant for one of the biggest sports events of the year.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of January, David's wife and daughter, Karen and Lauren, embarked on a 400-mile trip from their home in Amarillo to Dallas for a weekend of shoppin' in the city. The reason why David stayed behind is... unclear. Some have stated that he wanted to record the game to a VHS, and since their VCR lacked a function to begin a recording at a set date, he had to be there in person to start it. Others, such as his wife, have made tangential statements alluding to the possibility that he had to work - since he was a lawyer.

*-brief pause/fade-*

From the span of January 28<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup>, what took place back at the Lewis home is unclear. By January 31<sup>st</sup>, though, Karen's testimony aided investigators in piecing together those missing events.

That evening, the game was scheduled to begin at 5:30pm central. A few hours after this, around 11:15pm, Karen and Lauren would arrive back at the home to discover David nowhere to be found. His car was missing, there was clean laundry in the drier, his watch and wedding ring were intact- on the counter, there were two freshly made turkey sandwiches in the fridge, and the VCR had recorded even after the match was over.

At first glance, the circumstances here wouldn't exactly raise red flags since there appeared to be no evidence of foul play, and so Karen assumed that he'd merely been working late or watching the game somewhere, and would return soon...

*-fade-*

*-timelapse-*

David Glenn Lewis never returned home again. One day later, his wife would officially report him missing.

*-fade-*

## *II: The Hit and Run*

At around 10:30pm on the night of February 1<sup>st</sup>, a motorist on State Route 24 in Yakima, Washington encountered what they believed to be a man walking on the side of the road. Since it was so late, his actions were cause for suspicion because it wasn't exactly common to find people hitchhiking in the dead of night. While it was hard to tell, they believed that the man was dressed in military-style clothing and work boots.

Following this odd encounter, they found a safe spot to make a u-turn so they could loop back around to check up on him. When they finally managed to get back, they discovered his body, but it was lifeless on the side of the road. A Chevy Camaro was allegedly spotted fleeing the scene when they approached him, however attempts at catching the plate information were unsuccessful.

After this discovery, they rushed to file a report, and police arrived on the scene shortly after. Investigations into the body found that there were no drugs or alcohol in his system, and there was unfortunately no form of identification, leaving him stuck as an unidentified John Doe. The Chevrolet Camaro that was spotted was one of the only working leads, and since the shoulders on State Route 24 weren't exactly pronounced, the hit and run that took place was eventually deemed accidental, leaving the case to remain stagnant.

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## *III: The Lewis Investigation Begins*

Conversely, back in Amarillo, the investigation into David Lewis was just ramping up. The very next day, his red Ford SUV was spotted outside of the Potter County Courts building, a mere 10 miles from the Amarillo airport. Inside the glove box, investigators were able to find his credit cards, drivers license, and checkbook, in spots that Karen claims he usually keeps them.

Soon after this discovery, Karen Lewis expressed even greater concern since it was incredibly out of the ordinary for him to just up and vanish without *any* of his possessions or identification. It began to seem that there was a piece to the puzzle that investigators were missing. Something that had potentially placed David in the crosshairs of an adversary.

*-pause-*

And... that's because there was. In one of her testimonies, Karen claimed that a few weeks prior to his disappearance, her husband told her that he believed that he was in danger, but wouldn't provide any information as to what the immediate threat was.

This eventually led David's family to express the belief that it could've been linked to his work as an attorney. He had allegedly been wrapped up in a high-stakes lawsuit against his former law-firm, *Ham, Irwin, Graham, and Cox*, with a wealthy client suing them for conflict of interest. A week after he went missing, David was scheduled to fly to Dallas for a deposition, determined to reveal the firm's misdeeds

no matter the cost. It was noted by his father that shortly before he vanished, he claimed that he was *“going to tell the truth, whoever it hurts”*.

These leads, unfortunately, also materialized nothing...

*-slight boom to black-*

A few months later, a discovery was made involving David Lewis' and *plane tickets* that he'd purchased the weekend he went missing.

Two of them. One from Dallas to Amarillo, Texas, purchased on January 31st. And a second from Los Angeles to Dallas, purchased on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February. This effectively places Lewis at the DFW airport on the 31<sup>st</sup>, and at LAX the very next day. It's widely believed that he had pre-purchased his return flights while at each location, although the actual date of the flights he purchased and if he actually used the tickets are unclear. This leaves us with three lingering questions, though. Where was David Lewis going? How did he get to where he was without any sort of trail? And why did he purchase return tickets back home?

To answer the second question, we have to consider the time period that his flights were purchased. Since it predates the 9/11 tragedy, airline rules in the US were much more lax than they are today. Back then, one would be able to purchase a ticket using a completely different name since a valid ID wasn't required to board the flight. Of course, this is far from how things are today so this doesn't work anymore, but most are set on the belief that this is what Lewis had done on his flights outta town. Regarding the *why*, well, that's still unclear. Some have postulated that he was trying to get away from the danger that he alluded to with his wife, covering up his tracks along the way. It's believed that, for him, it wasn't as imperative to fly under the radar, so to speak, while returning home.

But, that is, if he ever planned to.

*-fade-*

#### *IV: David's Weekend and Turn of Events*

By June of that year, leads remained sparse as circumstantial details trickled in. It seemed like piecing together what and where David Lewis did and went was paramount to harvesting any sort of answer on his current whereabouts and motivations. A Del Rio, Texas news publisher by the name of the Del Rio News Herald published an allocated timeline up to that point in the investigation, and while it doesn't exactly provide any definitives, it does exemplify the fact that Lewis' weekend was far from ordinary.

According to the writeup, starting on Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, Lewis had left his workplace at noon, claiming he was sick. The next day, a friend spotted him rushing through the Southwest Airlines terminal at the local airport with no luggage. On Saturday, \$5,000 was deposited into Lewis' bank account, with a neighbor spotting his red SUV at home. By Sunday morning, he was spotted standing across the street from the court building, taking a photo of his car in the parking lot. And by Monday morning, a Dallas cab driver drove a man matching the description of Lewis from a hotel to the Dallas airport. The driver claims that *“the passenger seemed nervous and fumbled through a wad of \$100 bills to pay the fare”*.

Now if we assume that all of these claims are accurate, then they hint at the possibility of Lewis paying for his plane tickets with cash to further avoid being tracked. Considering the fact that he left all of his

personal possessions including his credit card and ID at home, this, of course makes sense. What stands out here, however, is the \$5000 that was deposited into his account. Unless he was allocating a substantial chunk of that for some other obligation, I don't think a few taxi rides and plane trips would come anywhere close to reaching that monetary milestone. The only explanation that could account for a sum of this magnitude would be some sort of direct deposit from his employer being wired into his account. Considering the fact that he was a seasoned lawyer, it wouldn't be far-fetched to assume that this would be the reason. But, if that *were* the case, why would it, at all, be notable? If this were his typical pay then it would be simple to discount it as *just that* – work compensation.

Jumping to his Dallas, Texas encounter on February 1<sup>st</sup>, I'd like to highlight something. If he were taking a taxi *from* a hotel *to* the Dallas airport, then we have to assume that he spent the night in Dallas, after arriving there the previous day. Thinking back on the chain of events, though, presents a unique inconsistency. Looking back, we can recall that Lewis allegedly had a desire to record the Superbowl matchup, *and* there were freshly made sandwiches in the fridge. If David were to have been spotted that morning taking a photo of his vehicle at the court building, then the only way that he would've been able to make it back home would've been to take a taxi, or get someone to pick him up. For someone with so many extraordinary variables surrounding his disappearance, something as simple as wanting to record a football game is... immensely unexceptional.

The typical long-play VHS tape records approximately four hours of footage, and the average football game is around 3 hours and 12 minutes long. IF we're assuming that the VCR didn't have any sort of auto-record feature, then it makes the events surrounding this that much more puzzling. Why go through the effort of dropping your car off that morning only to make it back home, going about your day, and even making sandwiches like everything's alright? Why up and vanish *after 5:30*, leaving behind each and every valuable belonging you have?

This is, of course, assuming that the VCR *did not* have an auto-record function. Unfortunately, confirmation for and against this minute detail have never been released, and because of that it's unclear whether he left that morning when he was spotted, or later that evening. Both possibilities would be equally puzzling.

That sentiment largely encompassed the investigators researching into the Lewis case. It seemed that the pieces were falling in-line, however substantial answers and leads to his body were mostly non-existent. Because of this, after 11 months, the search unfortunately concluded, leaving this case to sit untouched, until anything further came of it.

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### *V: David's Identification*

It would take over ten years before the events that took place in Yakima and Amarillo would converge. In 2004, a Washington state detective named Peter Ditter was reading a series by the name of "Without a Trace". After becoming fascinated with the topic of missing persons, he embarked on a personal initiative to identify any that he could.

After researching into a few and their characteristics outlined from the series, he eventually stumbled upon coverage of the situation that played out that night in Washington. He cross-checked the photo from the crime scene with various contenders, and realized that the person looked incredibly similar to

*David Glenn Lewis of Amarillo.* The only catch was that Lewis was known to have worn glasses, while the unidentified body wasn't wearing any when he was found.

*-quick cut to audible keyboard sounds, clicks, and studying-*

Upon further investigation into the characteristics and items that were found on John Doe's body, however, a pair of spectacles were among them, effectively sealing the deal that this man was in-fact, David Glenn Lewis.

*-slight boom-*

But, of course, that was just their personal hunch. And so they took it a step further. Dittner eventually got in contact with Amarillo police, coming to an arrangement where the police department would obtain items from the dormant investigation and would reach out to Lewis' mother, requesting a DNA sample to cross-check. After analysis, it was eventually determined to be a match, finally concluding a decade-long hunt for the Amarillo man that mysteriously went missing...

*-fade-*

## *VI: Closing Remarks*

But of course, this discovery would only raise more questions than answers.

What obligations would David Lewis have in Yakima, Washington, of all places? Why was he spotted in military-styled clothing and work boots; clothes that Karen's come forward to claim are extremely unusual for him? If he had all of this cash, why wasn't he able to grab a rental car or a taxi? We can't claim that he had drugs or alcohol in his system since those tests came back negative, so *why exactly* was he spotted walking down the side of a Washington highway at 10:30 at night?

Well, that's... where everyone's stuck. Some have postulated that it could've been tied to the case he was working on against his former employer, and others have settled on the possibility that it could've been linked to a mental breakdown. If you ask me, I believe it was related to some sort of an episode of sudden paranoia, brought upon himself through that threat he hinted at with his wife. What that threat is, *could* be tied to his work, or *could* be something completely out of the picture. Considering the fact that he ended up in Yakima, Washington of all places, lends to the potential that he might've been more secretive than he made out to be. But, that's just the thing – that's merely speculation, something that this investigation is no stranger to. And that's the frustrating part.

*-fade-*

And that's where we sit. The inconsistencies and questions surrounding his disappearance are some that have gone unanswered for decades, leaving investigators and researchers alike scratching their heads. Unfortunately, they, too, may remain as such, because the only person who truly knows what played out that bizarre weekend is David Glenn Lewis, who left his entire life behind – with hardly a lead to follow.

I'll see you in the next one, I love you all, and good night.

*-end credits-*