

---

[http://www.theadvocate.com/new\\_orleans/news/crime\\_police/article\\_e2684fd6-d6bb-11e6-9d24-0726d49e968c.html](http://www.theadvocate.com/new_orleans/news/crime_police/article_e2684fd6-d6bb-11e6-9d24-0726d49e968c.html)

# 'This was anguish for my family': Relatives await definite word on whether Kerry Keating's body has been found

Sister of long missing Metairie man fears the worst because of a distinctive tattoo found on the body

BY RAMON ANTONIO VARGAS | RVARGAS@THEADVOCATE.COM JAN 9, 2017 - 4:35 PM



Kerry Keating

---

Ramon Antonio Vargas

Authorities were still working Monday to establish whether a body discovered under Interstate 55 in LaPlace over the weekend belonged to Kerry Keating, a Metairie man whose abandoned truck was found nearby soon after he went missing in late November.

Keating's sister, Jessica, said she fears the worst because her brother had a distinctive tattoo that sounds identical to one on the body recovered Saturday.

She said the right shoulder tattoo shows a fleur-de-lis and the digits "504," the area code for New Orleans.

*Story Continued Below*

Nonetheless, Jessica Keating said her family is awaiting the results of a DNA test.

**RELATED**



**WWL-TV: Body found near LaPlace, under I-55 believed to be missing Metairie man**

St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff Mike Tregre said Monday there was no new information to release about Saturday's discovery or the ongoing investigation into Keating's disappearance. He said he may be able to release an update Wednesday.

Tregre said a severed human arm discovered in swampy waters in Reserve last month was unrelated to the body found Saturday.

Meanwhile, the Orleans Parish Coroner's Office – which is handling the forensic work related to Saturday's discovery – said it had no information about the cause or manner of death.

According to information first reported by WWL-TV, Keating, 21, was last seen Nov. 28. His apartment door was left open, and even though nothing was stolen, it appeared that someone had rummaged through the apartment, family members have said.

Jessica Keating said her nephew received a call from Kerry Keating that day. The nephew described Kerry Keating as having "terror in his voice that he was being chased and someone wanted to kill him."

Keating's pickup truck was then found on a desolate stretch of southbound I-55 between Ruddock and LaPlace. The truck's rear axle was broken, and authorities began a search for Keating.

Armed with cadaver dogs, drones, and sonar technology, the organizations Southeast Louisiana Underwater Search and Recovery, the Help Search & Rescue Dog Team and Tarpon ROV LLC on Saturday spotted a corpse trapped below an underwater tree branch near where Keating's truck had been found.

Among the volunteers looking for Keating was Mark Michaud. Michaud is the diver who in 2013 used a sonar device to find the body and car of teacher Terrilynn Monette in Bayou St. John after she had been missing for more than three months.

"They're angels and heroes in my book," Jessica Keating said of Saturday's volunteers. "They saved my family (time) waiting for answers. This was anguish for my family. They brought us closer to closure, and we are eternally grateful and indebted to them."

---

FOLLOW RAMON ANTONIO VARGAS ON TWITTER, @RVARGASADVOCATE.

## You May Like

Sponsored Links by Taboola

### Motley Fool Founders Issue New Stock "Buy" Alert

The Motley Fool

### Dan Blocker Kept This Hidden Throughout The Filming Of 'Bonanza'

Definition

### The amazing VA benefits not enough vets are claiming

LendingTree Mortgage Quotes

### Iconic 'Pretty Woman' Scene Has One Ridiculous Flaw

Two Red Dots

### In 1961 This Little Girl Was Found Adrift At Sea. Decades Later She Revealed The Horrifying Truth

Scribol

### 18 Makeup Tips All Older Women Should Know (Photos)

Buzz Variety

### Only 1 Out Of 10 People Can Pass This Cat Quiz

Topix Pawsome

### Tiger Woods' Daughter Was Adorable As Child, But What She Looks Like Today Is Insane

LikeShareTweet

---

#### MORE FROM THE ADVOCATE

- Charity Hospital clean-out begins Tuesday, a big step in putting building back to use, official says
- One killed, another injured in Gentilly shooting Monday night, police say
- Report: Louisiana tourism official who posted live nude video placed on paid leave
- Southern men fall short at Jackson State, blow late lead
- Henry Trapani, architect of Jefferson Parish's Carnival celebration, dies at 97

#### MORE FROM OUR PARTNERS

- Homeowners Urged To Claim Their \$4264 In Early 2017. (Smart Tips)
- Must-have Brow Gel tested by CBS' The Doctor (WunderBrow on Health & Style magazine)
- The World's Most Incredible Volcanic Eruptions Caught on Camera (Destination Tips)
- Best-Kept Secrets of Professional Painters (The Family Handyman)
- Hairstyle Ideas for Women Over 60 (www.choicetip.com)

Recommended by