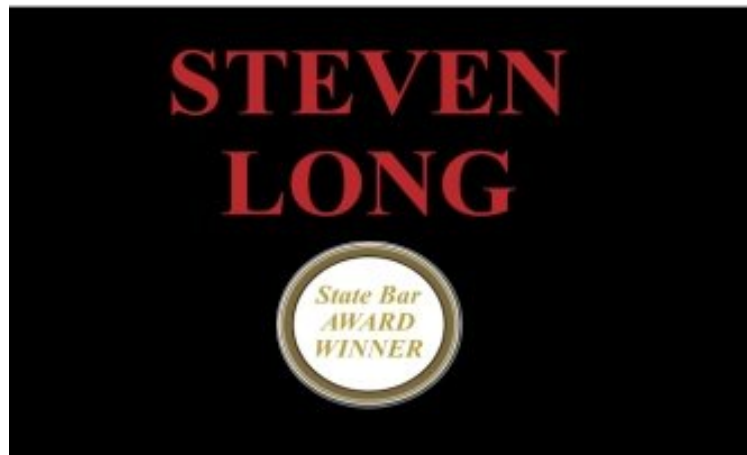


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Death Without Dignity: America's Longest and Most Expensive Criminal Trial

Steven Long

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Steven Long : Death Without Dignity: America's Longest and Most Expensive Criminal Trial before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Death Without Dignity: America's Longest and Most Expensive Criminal Trial:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. THE FIVE DEFENDANTS IN THIS CASE NEED TO LEARN THAT THERE ARE LAWS AGAINST FRAUD, ELDERLY ABUSE, AND MOST ESPECIALLY MURDER!!!By

SETH WALTON This case is an example of fatal elderly abuse, corporate greed, politics, and most especially Medicaid Fraud!!! I felt like I wanted to cry for Ella Mae Witt, Elnora Breed, and the other victims of Robert Gay, Mattie Locke, Virginia Wilson, Sandra Canales, and Ron Pulmyer. All of these people had a responsibility to ensure that the Autumn Hills residents received all of the proper care that they needed! Instead, they each practiced a pattern of intentional neglect of the rights of all of their facility's residents. They also engaged in repeated acts of fraud and misuse of Medicaid federal government funds! Medicaid funds are not to be used to pay for luxurious getaways to Tihiti and other places!!! Medicaid funds are not to be used to pay for luxurious homes in The Woodlands, Texas!!! Medicaid funds are not to be used to pay for Cadillacs and other luxury cars!!! These pieces of crap lived the high life on the backs of these poor residents!!! Their greed caused the deaths of probably over 60 Autumn Hills residents!!! HOW COULD THAT SAN ANTONIO JURY NOT FIND THEM GUILTY OF NEGLIGENCE RESULTING IN MURDER? I DON'T THINK THAT I WILL EVER UNDERSTAND!!! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Will It Ever Change? By Judy My review is based on the hardcover 1987 edition. I became aware of this book while writing my own book on the neglect and abuse my father encountered in two nursing homes (Before the Door Closes: A Daughter's Journey with Her Alcoholic Father). But it was not until a year after that publication that I built up enough emotional reserve to read *Death Without Dignity*. This is a hard book to digest, especially if you have ever had a loved one go through similar mistreatment in a nursing facility. Although there was a thirty-year lapse between the victims involved in the court case and my father, the neglect and abuse were eerily the same. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. *Death Without Dignity* By Ben Walters This book was a difficult read, The abuse and cases of neglect touched my heart. I had to read it chapter by chapter. Too hard to read three or four chapters in a day. It's a shame this book is not on the New York best sellers list. Maybe some hot shot politician could make some changes in our healthcare system.

The case of *State of Texas vs. Autumn Hills Nursing Homes, Inc.* went to trial in a borrowed San Antonio courtroom 25 years ago. It matched a Texas dream team for the defense including Roy Minton, Tom Sartwelle, Mike Ramsey, and Roy Barrera Sr. against a determined (some would say obsessed) young assistant attorney general, David Marks, and his backup team from the state. The jury heard six months of horrifying testimony about catastrophic medical failure when corporate greed trumps medical care. *Death Without Dignity* is their story, told by a journalist who was allowed the exceedingly rare experience of being not only in the courtroom, but was allowed by the judge to be in chambers when lawyers wrangled out of earshot of the jury something that had never been allowed any journalist before or since, according to the lead defense lawyer. The case remains today as the longest and most expensive criminal prosecution in Texas history and *Death Without Dignity* is now a courtroom classic.

From Publishers Weekly The six-month, nationally publicized trial in 1985 of five executives of a corporate chain of Texas nursing homes for the murder of an 87-year-old woman and deaths caused to other inmates through abuse and neglect, serves as a warning of the dangers of a system not equipped to care for an increasingly aging population, stresses Long, a Texas journalist. In this exposition of a major social problem inadequately funded by Social Security, the author credits a Galveston assistant district attorney for uncovering patient abuses, described here in harrowing detail, and doggedly pursuing the case despite political pressure from the powerful nursing home lobby and his own superiors. The courtroom drama and its participants—patients, their families, medical staff, corporate and legal figures—are vividly portrayed. Considered the most expensive criminal trial in Texas history, the case was ended by the granting of a defense motion for a mistrial. Photos not seen by PW. Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc. About the Author Steven Long boasts more than 2,000 hours in the courtroom, more time there than most practicing lawyers acquire in a career. He has covered some of the most important trials of the last two decades, from murder cases, to the white collar madness called Enron. Few can capture the drama of a courtroom quite like him. He has now put his classic *Death Without Dignity* back in print. The book was honored with a State Bar of Texas Gavel Award. Readers devoured his *Out of Control* (St. Martin's Press), the story of the Clara Harris murder case. *Every Woman's Nightmare* (St. Martin's Press), tells the story of the fairytale marriage and cold-blooded murder of Utah's Lori Hacking whose body was left by her husband in a Salt Lake City dump. He recently turned to fiction with *Rubys Passing*, a breathtaking saga of crime, demonic possession, and the grandeur of Texas Big Bend country. Steven and his wife Vicki live in Houston and own *Horseback Magazine*.