(Continued from page 7)

was why there were corrections made on the report the police confiscated. Fieger also said Gale could have taken the mask off himself if he had wanted to.

Many of the pro-lifers were present the evening the police went into Kevorkian's residence, as were many of Dr. Death's supporters. This, in turn, brought out the media. Those supporting Kevorkian were vocal and angry that this type of attention was being focused on Kevorkian's practices.

That same day the Michigan legislature had voted overwhelmingly to make the law banning "physician-assisted suicides" effective immediately.

In signing the bill later, Gov. John Engler said, "Mr. Kevorkian has clearly crossed the line. Most of the people of Michigan are uncomfortable with the power he's assumed for himself."

The law makes assisting in a suicide a felony. It is to remain in effect for up to 21 months while a commission studies the issue and the legislature acts on the panel's recommendations.

"If Kevorkian does this again, he can be thrown in jail," said Sen. Doug Carl. "Kevorkian seems to enjoy his role as Michigan's resident Grim Reaper, but what he's doing is wrong; by killing people he's playing God."

Schwartz, one of Kevorkian's lawyers, said his client soon would follow through on his earlier vows to ignore the new law, then challenge its constitutionality.

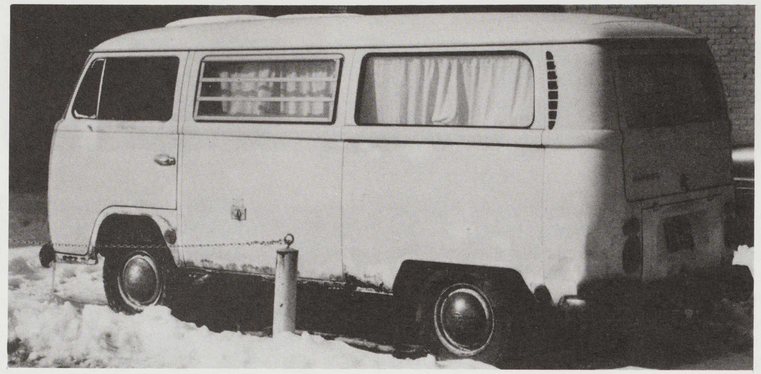
The press conference was attended by approximately 50 media representatives. Mills was especially busy doing interviews, talk shows and broadcasts dealing with why she picked up the garbage. Dawn Stover did most of the interviews dealing with AFLM coming from Oregon to launch the Stop Kevorkian Project. Pat Mahoney also spoke for Operation Rescue.

Saturday, February 27, there was a prayer vigil outside Kevorkian's residence. A sea of media was again present; as were the counter-demonstrators supporting Dr. Death.

The following Monday the ACLU filed a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the state's ban on assisted suicide. According to legal experts, there is little weight to the ACLU's claim that the new law violates privacy or due process rights.

An editorial in *The Detroit News* effectively stated their position. "Exploiting a statutory loophole, Kevorkian adopted Michigan for his unseemly crusade to facilitate suicide. Fifteen deaths have resulted, including seven quickly arranged to beat impending criminalization of the practice.

"Now comes the ACLU, arguing a 'privacy right' for assisted suicide, as well as constitutional protection by the due process clause of the 14th Amendment. This is what comes of the unfortunate run of judicial activists who have imposed upon the U.S. Constitution all manner of unstated rights for the sake of expediency. The constitution says nothing of privacy. And it is not a mistake worth repeating in this case." Andrew Burnett says, "We praise God that Jack Kevorkian has not killed since the Stop Kevorkian Project began. Lord willing, he will not 'assist' anyone else in dying." ■



Van in which Kevorkian's first victim, Oregonian Janet Adkins, was killed.

Kevorkian's Death List

Jack Kevorkian has assisted in the deaths of 15 people in Michigan since 1990.

- **Janet Adkins, 54, of Portland, Oregon.** Died June 4, 1990. Alzheimer's disease. Kevorkian charged with murder; case dismissed.
- **Sherry Miller, 43, of Roseville, Michigan.** Died October 23, 1991. Illness: Multiple Sclerosis. Miller took a lethal dose of carbon monoxide. Again, murder charges were dismissed.
- **Marjorie Wantz, 58, of Sodus, Michigan.** Died October 23, 1991. Illness: pelvic disease. Wantz took a fatal injection, alongside Sherry Miller, in a secluded cabin.
- **Susan Williams, 52, of Clawson, Michigan.** Died May 15, 1992. Illness: Multiple Sclerosis. Williams, who also suffered a skin disease, died in her home. No charges were filed against Kevorkian.
- **Lois Hawes, 52, of Warren, Michigan.** Died September 26, 1992. Illness: lung cancer. Hawes took a lethal dose of carbon monoxide.
- **Catherine Andreyev, 46, of Moon Township, Pennsylvania.** Died November 23, 1992. Illness: cancer. Andreyev died with four friends present at a home in suburban Detroit.
- **Marcella Lawrence, 67, of Clinton Township, Michigan.** Died December 15, 1992. Illness: heart disease, emphysema. Lawrence died after inhaling carbon monoxide.
- **Marguerite Tate, 70, of Auburn Hills, Michigan.** Died December 15, 1992. Illness: amyotrophic lateral aclerosis (Lou Gehrig's disease). Tate died after inhaling carbon monoxide, alongside Lawrence, at Tate's home.
- **Jack Miller, 53, of Huron Township, Michigan.** Died January 20, 1993. Illness: bone cancer, emphysema. Miller, a former tree trimmer, was the first man to commit suicide with Kevorkian's aid.
- **Stanley Ball, 82, of Leland, Michigan** Died February 4, 1993. Illness: pancreatic cancer. Kevorkian, who doesn't like to travel, drove to northern Michigan to aid Ball.
- **Mary Biernat, 73, of Crown Point, Indiana.** Died February 4, 1993. Illness: breast cancer. Biernat, whose cancer had spread to her chest, died at Stanley Ball's home.
- **Elaine Goldbaum, 47, of Southfield, Michigan.** Died February 8, 1993. Illness: Multiple Sclerosis. Goldbaum died in her apartment. Police confiscated the equipment that was used but did not arrest Kevorkian.
- **Hugh Gale, 70, of Roseville, Michigan.** Died February 15, 1993. Illness: Emphysema, heart disease. Gale died in his living room with his wife present. (It was Gale's death that brought possible new murder charges against Kevorkian. (See related story, page 5.)
- **Jonathan Grenz, 44, of Costa Mesa, California.** Died February 18, 1993. Illness: cancer of the neck, lungs and chest. Grenz, a former real-estate agent, inhaled carbon monoxide in the home of a friend of Kevorkian.
- **Martha Ruwart, 41, of Cardiff-by-the Sea, California.** Died February 18, 1993. Illness: Ovarian cancer. Ruwart, a former computer software engineer, had moved to Michigan last year to be near family. ■

Jack Kevorkian—'Angel of Mercy' or Ghoul?

by Dawn Stover

So which is it? "Angel of mercy" or ghoulish murderer? In Jack Kevorkian's case, it depends on whom you ask.

Take Janet Good, for example. Good is president of the Hemlock Society of Michigan and was present at the demonstration in Royal Oak February 27, supporting Kevorkian.

"You just don't understand," Good said to a rescue leader, "because of what you believe. You see, Dr. Kevorkian is the most trustworthy person I have ever known in my life."

"You should see how beautiful it is," Good announced as she motioned to Kevorkian's apartment. "The music he plays is very beautiful. I know. I was there and observed when someone...died." Good then remembered she was speaking to the "opposition," and would say nothing further.

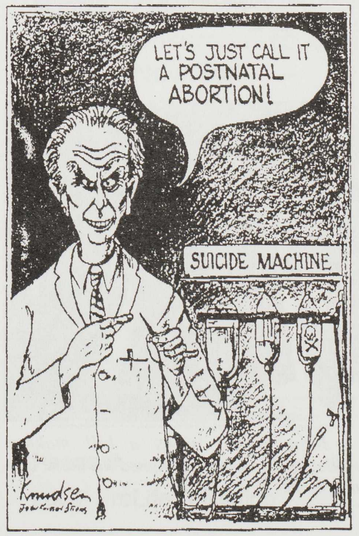
Paul Natinsky, editor of the *Health Care Weekly Review,* a medical publication in Michigan, stated, "Kevorkian is a very interesting man: a man with very strong beliefs and little tolerance for anyone challenging those beliefs."

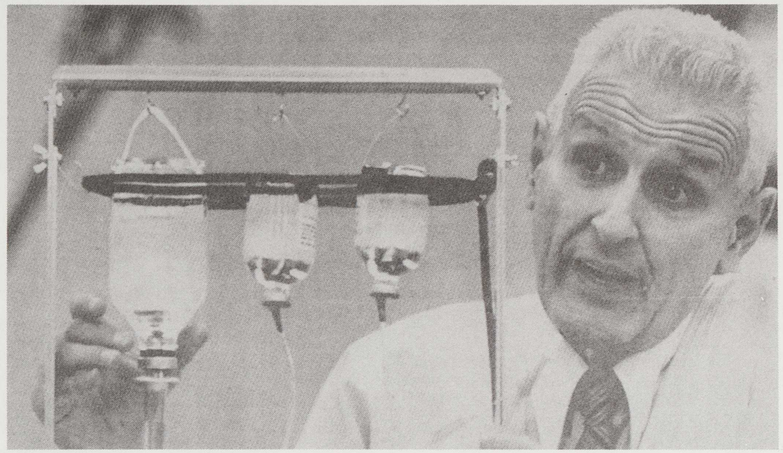
Natinsky continues, "He's not the ghoul people perceive him to be. He's not removed or out of touch. He even plays poker."

Richard Thompson, prosecuting attorney for Oakland County, Michigan, is the man responsible for trying to prosecute Kevorkian for murder in the past. Thompson likens Kevorkian to "Jeffrey Dahmer in a lab coat."

In the March 1991 issue of *Life Advocate* an article entitled, "Kevorkian, the Rube Goldberg of Death," chronicles Kevorkian's research into human experimentation.

It began while he was in the residency program at the University of Michigan, and eventually led to his removal from the program.





Jack Kevorkian is shown here with his original suicide machine, used on Janet Adkins of Portland, Oregon. Kevorkian now uses tanks of carbon monoxide and a mask.

"While I was in my residency I was researching the idea of condemned men being allowed to submit to anesthesia rather than execution. While under anesthesia we could do experiments from which they wouldn't recover, and then remove their organs. Now if you needed a liver or a heart, would you like to see a young healthy man or woman fried in the electric chair? No! But that Dark-Age school told me I would have to drop the project I was working on or leave. So I left, and spent my last two years of residency at Pontiac."

Kevorkian corresponded with Westley Allan Dodd, the Washington state child-killer who was hanged in January. Dodd, he said, wanted to donate his organs, but no doctor would perform the operation. "When Dodd died, six people died with him," Kevorkian says. "Nobody cares, do they?" (Implying, of course, that he does.)

While an associate pathologist at Pontiac General Hospital, Kevorkian ran into more trouble. As part of an experiment he transfused cadaver blood directly into several patients. Kevorkian's actions shocked the U.S. medical community but no legal action was taken against him.

In a 1988 *Medicine and Law* article Kevorkian builds on his previous ideas of human experimentation by combining them with his theories on planned death. In his article, "The Last Fearsome Taboo: Medical Aspects of Planned Death," Kevorkian explains how with the experimentation you move from "euthanasia" or "good death," into an area called "eutatosthanasia" or "best death."

"Planned death is the purposeful ending of human life by direct human action. The concept is broader than euthanasia or 'mercy killing,' which are the ways it is usually interpreted. It includes capital punishment, both involuntary and voluntary; obligatory suicide mandated by rigid theistic or philosophical principles; quasi-optional suicide for the relief of suffering resulting from illness, disability, or old age; strictly optional suicide for reasons not known to others; justifiable infanticide or pedicide; and feticide, both intra-and extrauterine."

Kevorkian also has aspirations for harvesting and selling body parts, as he stated in a 1989 issue of *Medicine and Law.*

"Surprisingly, sales to the rich could indirectly save more lives of the poor: because quality often erroneously is equated with price, wealthy donees might prefer to buy very expensive, 'high-quality' kidneys from donors in the upper strata of society and leave most or all of the freely donated or very low-priced, "low-quality" organs from 'skid row' donors to the poor—thereby actually enhancing equity."

On April 22, 1992 Kevorkian wrote an exclusive for the *Health Care Weekly Review* entitled "A Final Statement from Jack Kevorkian, Great Minds Rule from the Grave: Dr. Kevorkian is Right." Using the words of Albert Einstein, Kevorkian launches into his personal position on having his killing spree challenged.

He concludes: "Therefore, I will obey no injunction with regard to my humanitarian intent and actions, especially one that was maliciously inflicted by means of character-assassinating."

"Furthermore, I will not cooperate in any trial, be it before a legitimate petit jury or a sham mostrosity orchestrated by a no less morally outraged prosecutor who calls it a grand jury."

The March 8 issue of *Newsweek* aptly titled their article, "Dr. Kevorkian's Death Wish." "Angle of mercy" or ghoul? Definitely, ghoul! ■