Mother of sex assault victim reacts to attacker's murder

wzzm13.com Sarah Sell, WZZM

2013 Cop pedophile Theodore Dyer

MUSKEGON, Mich. (WZZM) -- The mother of a young girl who was sexually assaulted by their neighbor is reacting to the news that the man was murdered in prison.

Theodore Dyer



(Photo: Dept. of Corrections)

Ted Dyer, 67, was allegedly killed by his cellmate at a prison in Saginaw County. Dyer was serving 25 to 50 years for molesting a 9year-old girl.

"I never had any reason to worry about him," the victim's mother, Mary, said of Dyer before he molested her daughter. WZZM 13 News is not revealing Mary's identity.

Mary remembers the day she and her 9-yearold daughter moved in to a Grand Haven

apartment next-door to Ted Dyer in April 2012.

"Ever since that day, we talked on a daily basis," Mary said of Dyer. "He and his girlfriend never had children, so they had adopted my kids, I guess."

In June 2013, Mary's daughter was at Ted's apartment. It was late, so Mary went over there to tell the girl to come home.

"But, something told me, 'Don't knock," Mary said. "It was just something in my head -- 'just walk in.'"

So, Mary went to Ted's bedroom.

"The door was cracked, so I peeked in."

Mary says she saw Ted sexually assaulting her little girl.

"I slammed the door open, grabbed her, and went back up to our apartment. I asked her if what I saw, he was really doing. She said yes."

Mary called 911. Dyer was later arrested and convicted of one count of first-degree criminal sexual conduct.

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Dyer was about 10 months into his 25-to-50-year sentence when he was strangled in his cell last week at the Saginaw Correctional Facility.

"I cried and I laughed," Mary said. "It was a bunch of mixed emotions."

Mary says she never wants to see anyone die, but in this case, she was happy for her daughter.

"So, I think it was a relief for her, knowing that this wasn't going to happen again."

Dyer's cellmate is accused of killing him, but so far no charges have been issued. Michigan State Police are investigating the case, and the cellmate has been moved to another prison.

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