

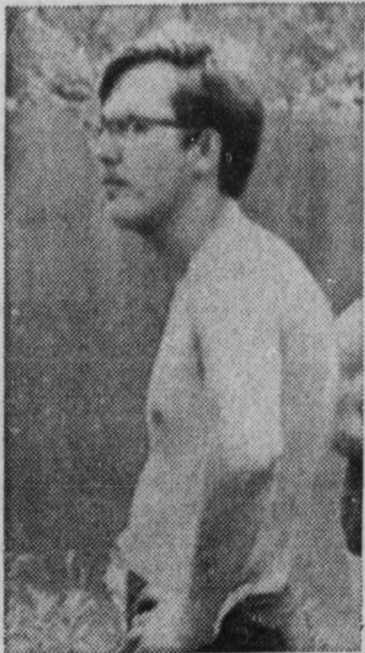
Youth Drowns in Quarry; Companions' Efforts Fail

By **JOSEPH E. DOUGHERTY**

Mercury Staff Writer

The cold, still waters of Dyer's Quarry claimed another youthful victim Friday with the drowning of a 19-year-old Reading resident.

And a huge peace symbol painted on a cliff by earlier visitors to abandoned Kulpstown quarry directly aided in rapid recovery of his body.



GREGORY YOUNG

Dead on arrival to Reading Hospital at 2 p.m. was James J. Stefanik, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Stefanik.

The 15-minute trip to the hospital, made in the Kulpstown Junior Fire Company ambulance, began immediately after his lifeless body was pulled from the frigid waters.

State Police from the Reading Barracks were told the victim had gone swimming shortly before noon with two companions, Gregory Young, 20, and Brook Grubb, 18, both Reading residents.

DISAPPEARED

They said they were swimming toward the peace symbol, when Stefanik suddenly disappeared from the surface "...without making a sound."

The two other youths went to his aid but said Stefanik panicked and resisted their efforts to save him.

At this point he slipped from their grasp and sank to the bottom.

The youths then left the water and ran to a nearby home to summon aid.

Responding to the scene were members of the Friendship Fire

Co. rescue unit, Birdsboro, and the rescue unit of the Reading Fire Department.

As Young and Grubb watched solemnly, two scuba divers from the Reading unit put on rubber suits to protect them from the chill of the water and air tanks.

As they entered the water they were advised "He went

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BROOK GRUBB

1970 Jul 19 year old drowns in quarry PA

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DROWNING SCENE — A huge white peace symbol on a cliff at Dyer's Quarry, Kulps-town, overlooks the spot where 19-year-old James J. Stefanik, Reading, drowned at noon Friday while swimming in 65 feet of

water. The peace symbol, applied with white paint by some previous visitor to the quarry, was used as a reference point for divers and aided in finding the body in less than 10 minutes. (Mercury Staff Photo)

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