

Jeffrey Weise: Timeline

Compiled by Peter Langman, Ph.D.

I have not found a source that chronicles the history of Jeffrey and his family. In order to fill this gap, this document was compiled from a variety of sources to provide a general chronology of the family's life. In many cases, exact dates of events are not known, so approximate years and months are indicated.

There is a lack of agreement among the sources as to why Jeffrey was not attending school at the time of the attack. Multiple sources are listed with the discrepant testimonies provided.

- 8 August 1988 Jeffrey James Weise was born in Minneapolis to Joanne Elizabeth Weise and Daryl Allen Lussier, Jr. (parents never married). Mother lived in Minneapolis, father on Red Lake reservation. Jeffrey lived mostly with his father for first three years.¹
- November 1988 Mother gave Jeffrey to father to raise when he was 3 months old. ²
- 1991 Jeffrey lived with his father and father's parents until he was three years old. Then mother took him to live with her in Twin Cities.³
- June 1993 Mother booked into Ramsey County jail for driving while intoxicated.⁴
- 17 July 1993 Father married Roma Jean Ryan at Red Lake.⁵
- Fall 1996 Jeffrey moved with mother to Shakopee, Minnesota, and entered third grade at Pearson Elementary School. Joanne Weise was living with Timothy Troy Desjarlait.⁶ Jeffrey attended Pearson until 1998.⁷
- 1996 Daphne Desjarlait born to Joanne Weise and Timothy Desjarlait.⁸
- 1997 Sebastian Desjarlait born to Joanne Weise and Timothy Desjarlait.⁹
- 21 July 1997 Jeffrey's father killed himself by shooting himself in the chest during armed standoff with tribal police on Red Lake reservation.¹⁰ The standoff with police occurred at the father's home and lasted for "days."¹¹
- September 1997 Jeffrey started fourth grade in Shakopee, but that month the family moved to Chaska, Minnesota.¹²
- 27 June 1998 Joanne Weise married Timothy Desjarlait on Red Lake reservation (reportedly had moved to reservation shortly after move to Chaska).¹³
- Late September 1998 Jeffrey attended fifth grade at Bluff Creek Elementary School. He lived with his mother in Chaska's Riverview Terrace Mobile Home Park most of the time until April 1999.¹⁴
- 5 March 1999 Jeffrey's mother was in a car crash and suffered brain damage. The car was driven by her cousin, Elizabeth May Jourdain, who was killed. Joanne Weise was placed in an assisted-living home where according to Jeffrey she had to relearn to tie her shoes.¹⁵ Joanne and Elizabeth had been drinking in the middle of the day.¹⁶

- 2000 Joanne and Timothy separated. Jeffrey lived with his grandmother, Shelda Lussier.¹⁷
- 2002 Jeffrey flunked eighth grade.¹⁹
- September 2003 Jeffrey began high school (9th grade).²⁰
- 2003 Two years before attack, maternal grandmother died.²¹
- May 2004 Joanne and Timothy filed for divorce. They addressed custody for the two children they had together, but not Jeffrey.¹⁸
- June 2004 Jeffrey was hospitalized in Thief River Falls due to suicidal thoughts.²² He was hospitalized for 72 hours.²³
- 2004–2005 At the time of the attack, Jeffrey was not attending school. He received homebound instruction. Many different explanations for this have been given:
- Superintendent Stuart Desjarlait reportedly ordered Jeffrey “to stay at home for tutoring” six months prior to the attack.²⁴
 - The principal reported this was to offer Jeffrey extra help because of his “issues.”²⁵
 - Neighbors reported he had to study at home due to disciplinary problems.²⁶
 - In-home tutoring was result of being expelled for violating school rules.²⁷
 - Teachers recommended that he be home-schooled.²⁸
 - “He apparently left school last year for unspecified medical reasons.”²⁹
 - He was banned from high school five weeks before the shooting because of conflict with a teacher.³⁰
 - Twice in past year he had stopped attending school because he was depressed and unable to handle teasing, according to grandmother.³¹
 - Jeffrey reportedly said he couldn’t be in school because kids picked on him.³²
 - Counselor at reservation recommended he be home-schooled. ³³
- 5 August 2004 Signed up on a website. Refers to being on homebound schooling, but not clear if that was as of 5 August or a comment added later.³⁴
- 21 February 2005 Jeffrey met with mental health professional at Red Lake Hospital. Had prescription for Prozac refilled that day. Had been taking Prozac since previous summer.³⁵
- 5 March 2005 Watched *Elephant* (a movie about a school shooting) with friends.³⁶
- 21 March 2005 Prior to attack at school, Jeffrey shot his grandfather, Daryl Lussier, Sr., (age 58) as many as ten times in the head and chest as he slept. Then he shot Michelle Sigana (grandfather’s girlfriend, age 32) twice in the head as she was carrying a basket of laundry up the stairs. At the time, Jeffrey had been living with his grandmother, Shelda Lussier, Daryl’s ex-wife. Daryl and Michelle had a son, Devon, who was born in 1992.³⁷

NOTES

- 1 Hanners, David. "Web postings show many sides to Weise," 26 March, *Duluth News-Tribune*, p. 1A; also, *Red Lake Net News*, www.rlnn.com/assets/JefferyWeise.html.
- 2 Rave, Jodi. "Family still struggling to understand teenager's rampage in Minnesota," 10 July 2005, *The Missoulian*.
- 3 Rave, Jodi. "Family still struggling to understand teenager's rampage in Minnesota," 10 July 2005, *The Missoulian*.
- 4 Hanners, David. "Web postings show many sides to Weise," 26 March, *Duluth News-Tribune*, p. 1A.
- 5 Obituary for Daryl Lussier, Jr., *The Pioneer*, Bemidji, Minnesota, Tuesday, 22 July 1997, p. 2, Columns 3 and 4.
- 6 Hanners, David. "Web postings show many sides to Weise," 26 March, *Duluth News-Tribune*, p. 1A.
- 7 Jansen, David, and Minelli, Pat. "Red Lake suspect had Chan ties," 30 March 2005, *Chanhassen Villager*.
- 8 Hanners, David. "Web postings show many sides to Weise," 26 March, *Duluth News-Tribune*, p. 1A.
- 9 Hanners, David. "Web postings show many sides to Weise," 26 March, *Duluth News-Tribune*, p. 1A.
- 10 Hanners, David. "Web postings show many sides to Weise," 26 March, *Duluth News-Tribune*, p. 1A.
- 11 Davey, Monica. "Tribe Buries 3 on a Long Road to Healing," 26 March 2005, *The New York Times*, Section 1, Column 4, National Desk, p. 16.
- 12 Hanners, David. "Web postings show many sides to Weise," 26 March, *Duluth News-Tribune*, p. 1A.
- 13 Hanners, David. "Web postings show many sides to Weise," 26 March, *Duluth News-Tribune*, p. 1A.
- 14 Jansen, David, and Minelli, Pat. "Red Lake suspect had Chan ties," 30 March 2005, *Chanhassen Villager*.
- 15 Hanners, David. "Web postings show many sides to Weise," 26 March, *Duluth News-Tribune*, p. 1A.
- 16 wampum.wabanaki.net/archives/001858.html.
- 17 Hanners, David. "Web postings show many sides to Weise," 26 March, *Duluth News-Tribune*, p. 1A.
- 18 Hanners, David. "Web postings show many sides to Weise," 26 March, *Duluth News-Tribune*, p. 1A.
- 19 Connolly, Ceci and Hedgpeth, Dana. "Shooter Described as Deeply Disturbed," 24 March 2005, p. A12. washingtonpost.com
- 20 Haga, Chuck, and Collins, Terry. "Did friendship spiral into conspiracy?" 19 November 2005, *Star Tribune*.
- 21 Connolly, Ceci and Hedgpeth, Dana. "Shooter Described as Deeply Disturbed," 24 March 2005, p. A12. washingtonpost.com
- 22 Connolly, Ceci and Hedgpeth, Dana. "Shooter Described as Deeply Disturbed," 24 March 2005, p. A12. washingtonpost.com
- 23 Hanners, David. "Web postings show many sides to Weise," 26 March, *Duluth News-Tribune*, p. 1A.
- 24 Connolly, Ceci and Hedgpeth, Dana. "Shooter Described as Deeply Disturbed," 24 March 2005, p. A12. washingtonpost.com.
- 25 Davey, Monica, and Wilgoren, Jodi. "'Clues all there' of killing to come," 24 March 2005, *New York Times News Service*.
- 26 Davey, Monica. "Behind the Why of a Rampage, Loner With a Taste for Nazism," 23 March 2005, nytimes.com.
- 27 Gunderson, Dan. "Who was Jeff Weise?" 23 March 2005, Minnesota Public Radio.
- 28 Haga, Chuck, and Collins, Terry. "Did friendship spiral into conspiracy?" 19 November 2005, *Star Tribune*.
- 29 Haga, Chuck, Padilla, Howie, and Meryhew, Richard. "Teen was a mystery in a life full of hardship," 23 March 2005, *Star Tribune*, p. 1A.
- 30 Hanners, David. "Weise's kin cite reasons for rage," *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, p. A1.
- 31 Harden, Blaine, and Hedgpeth. "Red Lake shooter's bleak portrait of reservation life was accurate," 25 March 2005, *The Washington Post*.
- 32 Rave, Jodi. "Family still struggling to understand teenager's rampage in Minnesota," 10 July 2005, *The Missoulian*.
- 33 Walker, Dalton. "For shooter's family, it began as a typical day," 26 March 2005, *Duluth News-Tribune*, p. 01A.
- 34 <http://www.newgrounds.com/gold/profile/template.php3?id=943058>.

- 35 Haga, Chuck. "Did meds play a role?" 25 March 2005, *Star Tribune*.
- 36 Haga, Chuck, and Collins, Terry. "Did friendship spiral into conspiracy?" 19 November 2005, *Star Tribune*.
- 37 Hanners, David. "Second victim known as more than footnote," 21 March 2006, *St. Paul Pioneer Press*.