

**CHARLES STROBEL, Tennessee
Son of Mary Catherine Strobel,
murdered in Tennessee in 1986**

Charlie Strobel's mother Mary Catherine Strobel was abducted and killed by a man who had escaped from a prison mental ward. He was sentenced to three consecutive life terms and died in prison of natural causes in 2006.

Charlie, a Catholic priest and longtime social justice activist, served as the Murder Victims' Families for Human Rights representative on Tennessee's death penalty study committee. He frequently speaks publicly against the death penalty as part of the Tennesseans for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, and he has participated in MVFHR's Prevention, Not Execution project, which aims to end the death penalty for people with severe mental illness.

"The death penalty would not be in keeping with the spirit of my mother or with my family's own wishes. I testified against the death penalty before the Tennessee legislature in the 1970s, a decade before my mother was murdered. Now that the issue has touched me personally, perhaps it falls to me to speak out even more."

Links to more information:

<http://mvfhr.blogspot.com/2009/02/serving-on-study-committee.html>

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