BEATRICE COLEMAN, South Carolina
Sister of Andy Smith, executed in South Carolina in 1998

Beatrice Coleman’s brother, Andy Lavern Smith, was executed in South Carolina in 1998 after being convicted of the murders of Christy and Corrie Johnson.

Beatrice has spoken about her experiences at an Amnesty International event, and she participates in a group of family members of people on death row.

“One of the hardest things for me was having to prepare my brother’s obituary and memorial service while he was still alive. There’s something so strange about planning a funeral for someone who is still alive and not even terminally ill. I think a lot of people just don’t think about the families of people who are executed. A co-worker of mine told me that she used to be in favor of the death penalty, but seeing what my family and I went through really changed her perspective.”

Links to more information:
http://www.cuadp.org/Polkonline500th%20execution12-20-98.html

This is a page from the Gallery of Victims’ Stories
Murder Victims’ Families for Human Rights
www.mvfhr.org