ABA GAYLE, Oregon Mother of Catherine Blount, murdered in California in 1980

Aba Gayle's 19-year-old daughter Catherine was shot and killed in California in 1980. Douglas Mickey was convicted of the murder and sentenced to death. He is currently on death row in California.

In addition to traveling every year with The Journey of Hope, Aba Gayle has spoken against the death penalty throughout California and Oregon and has been a guest speaker of anti-death penalty organizations in France and Italy. She works with several organizations, including Oregonians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, Oregon Fellowship of Reconciliation, the Alternatives to Violence project, and the Catherine Blount Foundation, which she founded after her daughter's murder.

"Before Catherine's murder, I had never thought one way or the other about the death penalty. The district attorney assured me that the execution of the man responsible for Catherine's murder would help me heal, and for many years I believed him. But now I know that having someone murdered by the government will not give me what I need. I beg our government not to murder in my name and, more important, not to tarnish the memory of my daughter with another senseless killing."

For more information: www.catherineblountfdn.org



Aba Gayle



Catherine Blount

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