

The woman who fell in love with one of America's worst serial killers

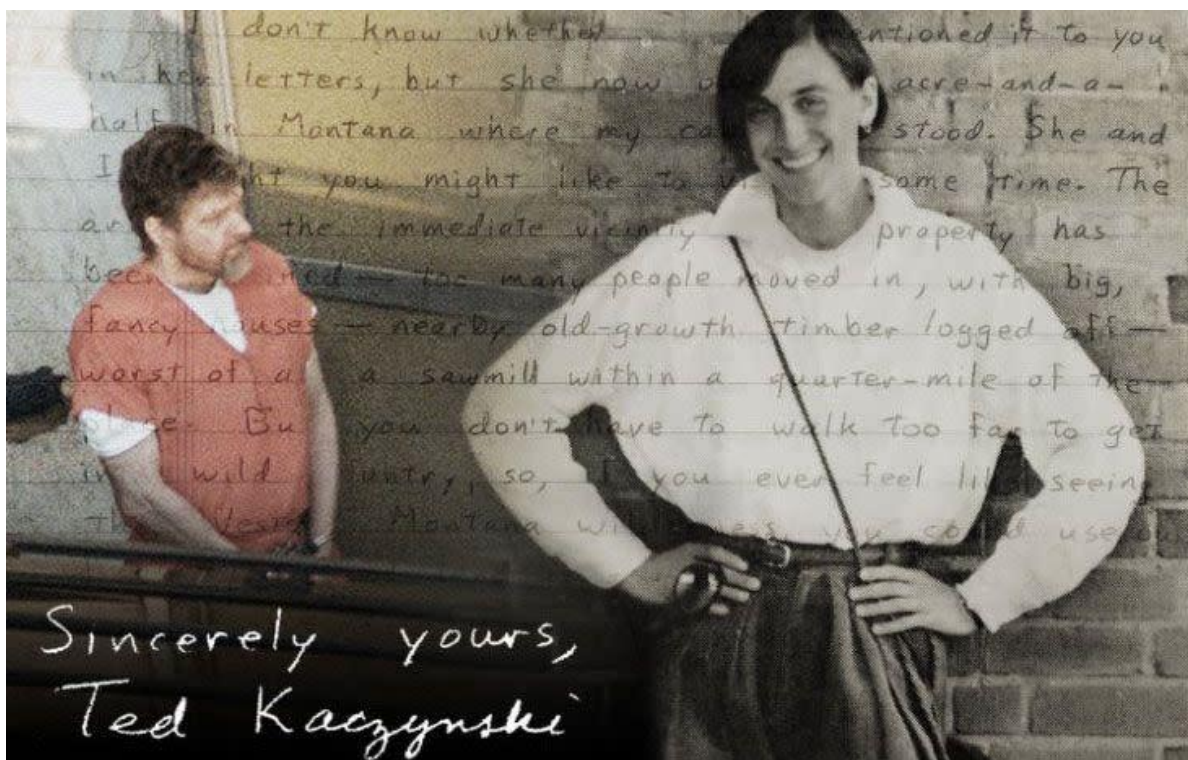
Holly Bailey and Krystal Johnson

Updated 28 January 2016

As a free man this serial killer never had a girlfriend, but as a notorious prisoner he attracted the interest of dozens of women and fell in love with one of them, this is their story.

Yahoo News have published a series of articles from a University of Michigan archive, shedding unprecedented light from the mind of the genius, madman and murderer.

Theodore John Kaczynski terrified the US in 1978 and 1995 by mailing and planting homemade bombs in a bid to spread anarchy, leading authorities on the nation's longest and costliest manhunt.



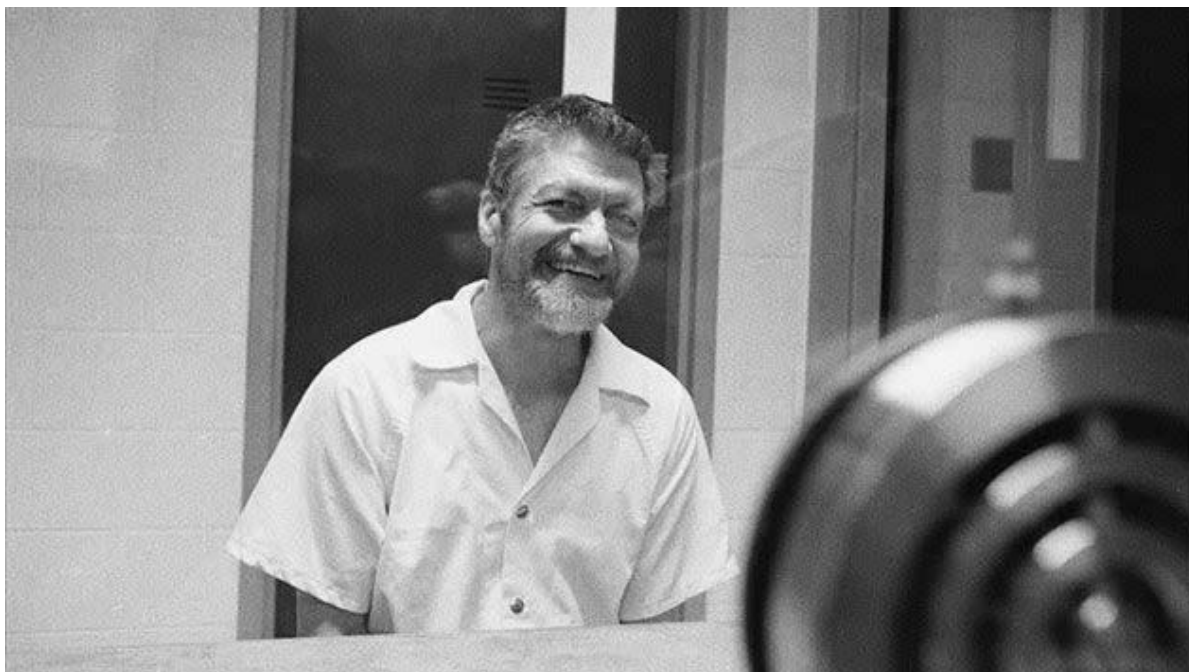
Joy Richards wrote detailed letters to Ted Kaczynski revealing her sexual desires to the serial killer. Photo: Yahoo News

The Harvard-trained mathematician lived as a recluse in a Montana cabin and was caught in 1996 when his brother recognised his idiosyncratic writings and tipped off authorities.

Kaczynski pleaded guilty in 1998 to avoid a trial where he offered an insanity defence which resulted in him avoiding the death penalty.

The madman wrote about his support for Hillary Clinton, his 9/11 theories and curiosity over al-Qaeda and his unfamiliarity with the latest advances on the internet, including YouTube.

He is now serving eight life sentences without the possibility of parole in the country's toughest and most isolated prison and has since become a popular pen pal.



Kaczynski laughs during an interview in a visiting room at the ADX Florence prison on Aug. 30, 1999. Photo: Stephen J. Dubner/Getty

He spends 23 hours a day in isolation where adoring male and female fans also confess their sexual desires for the murderer while he sits, deteriorating in a jail cell.

But one of those letters has led to the most unlikely love story.

"I'm in love with Ted Kaczynski," Joy Richards blurted out while confessing at a California church in 2006.

She had been diagnosed with terminal cancer and wanted to make things right with God and to her, that meant being honest about a secret she'd been keeping from those closest to her.

Ms Richards was living in Montana when she read the serial killer's manifesto and thought it was wonderful "brilliant."

The two began writing to each other after Kaczynski's arrest in 1996, and she first Kaczynski in prison disguised as a journalist in late 1999.

Kaczynski referred to Ms Richards in letters as his "angel" and "Lady Love," a title he sometimes accentuated with a tiny hand-drawn heart.

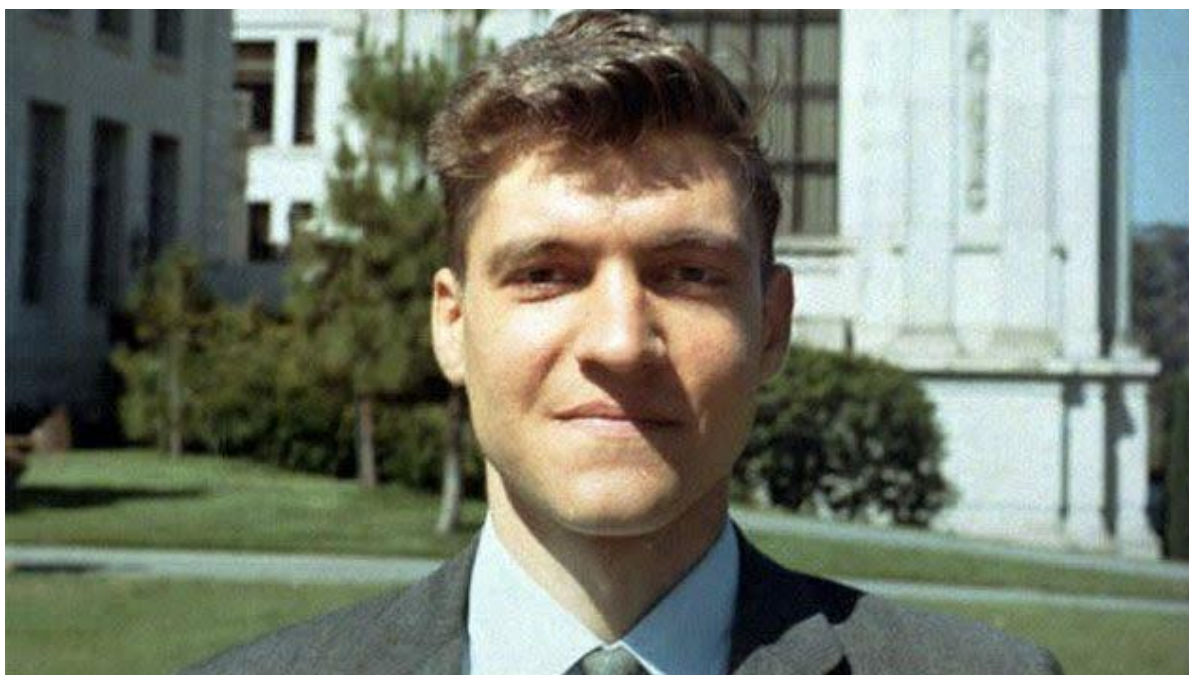
"[Joy] is an angel. I mean a real one. I'm sure she could fly if she wanted to," Kaczynski wrote to a pen pal in April 2002.

"My friend has suffered more than anyone deserves to suffer, and I can do nothing to help her."

"You don't see her halo because she's too modest to wear it. She keeps it hung up in her closet. But really she is an honest-to-goodness angel. Absolutely perfect."



Joy Richards poses with James Pike, pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, after her baptism in spring 2006. Photo: Courtesy of James Pike



Kaczynski as a young professor at University of California, Berkeley, in 1967. Photo: George M. Bergman, UC Berkeley

Dear Dad,

10-03-02

Hello friend. As always, it was great to hear from you. The mail between us seems so slow, but what can you expect for 37¢! As for your last requests, I am sorry to say that we do not carry either one. I am doing my very best to locate them through our book locator. I work in a small library in a very small town and there are some things that we just don't have. Can I help you with anything else? You mentioned your lady love. Could I be your second lady love? Dad, could you please open up to me and tell me all about yourself? I want to know the real you, the person aside and not all of this negative crap the media prints about you. Do you have a picture of yourself that I can have? If I sent you a picture of yourself, would you sign it to me, so that I could put it up in my house? Could I send you a picture of myself? Well, I must go for now. Take care sweet-heart and I hope to hear from you soon.

(OVER)

He drew her cards using colored pencils from the prison commissary and wrote her original pieces of classical music.

With help from other pen pals, he sent her books he thought she might like.

The lovebirds could never touch or kiss and were separated by a thick pane of security glass.

So under the circumstances, Kaczynski tried to be the best boyfriend he could be to the first girlfriend he'd ever had.

But it wasn't easy, in 2002, a woman who was a librarian began writing to him asking to be his second "Lady Love" in his life.

"Could I be your second lady love?" the woman asked.

"I've put that question to Lady Love #1, and she says 'no,'" he replied.

"You will not hear from me again."

He couldn't stop gushing to people about Richards and told a former member of his legal team: "She's beyond my wildest dreams!"

The following year, Kaczynski sold his half of the land he owned in Montana to Richards for \$7,500 to help fulfill her dream of having a wilderness escape, while his brother, David, owned the other half.

Richards family and friends stopped speaking to her after the purchase, leading to an estrangement that lasted until shortly before she died.

On September 11, 2001, Kaczynski sat and listened to newscasters describe the dramatic events of 9/11 play out in stunned tone from inside his tiny prison cell. Photo: AP

That Christmas, she made a three-day trip to Colorado, where she spent hours talking to him through security glass. But while there, Richards, only 50 at the time, began to cough up blood.

The diagnosis was lung cancer. Surgeons removed part of her right lung but warned her the cancer would likely return.

Breaking the news to another pen pal, Kaczynski wrote, "If she dies, it will break my heart because I love this woman."

In July 2006, doctors told Richards she had only months to live and Kaczynski had run out of money but one of the killer's pen pals sent her \$2,400 and promised more if she needed it.

But her health only worsened and Kaczynski wrote letters to the manager of her apartment complex and to members of her family. He didn't know if she was alive or dead.

Richards had to stop working as a teacher and had become increasingly religious and decided to move in with friends.

Her letters "cooled off", which created agony and despair for the murderer the convicted killer, sitting helplessly in his Colorado prison.

In one of his final letters to Joy, Kaczynski asks where to send the Christmas presents he has for her.



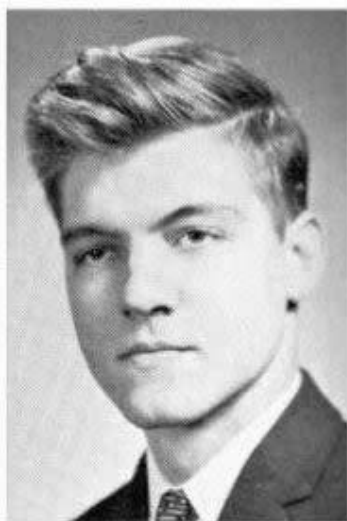
1958



1958



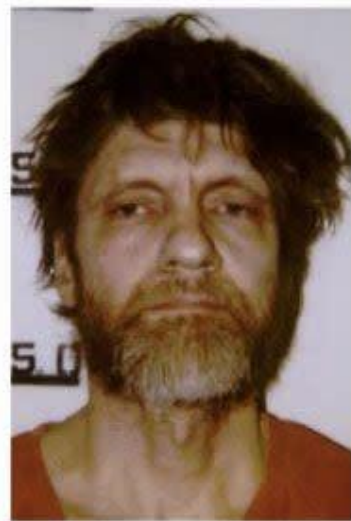
1959



1962



1994



1996

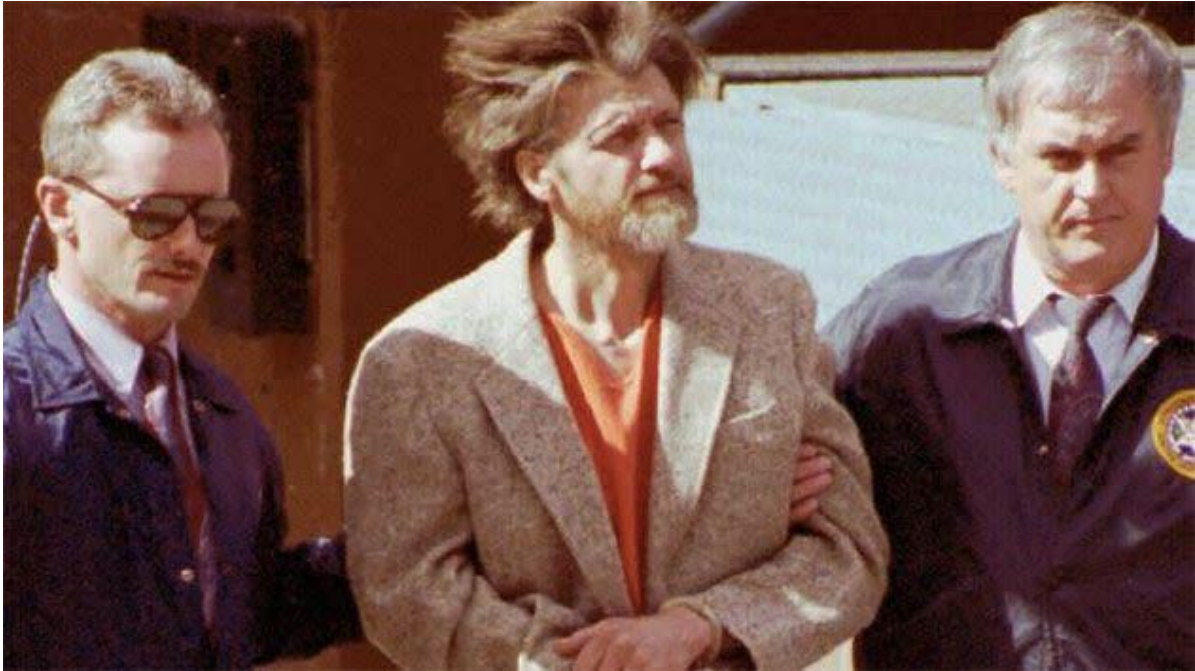
Photos of Kaczynski through the years. Photo: AP



Ted Kaczynski's has filled more than 90 boxes of archives at the Labadie Collection at the University of Michigan Library in the US. Photo: AP



Wanda, Ted, Ted Sr. and David Kaczynski outside their family home in Evergreen Park, Ill., in 1952. Photo: David Kaczynski/Duke University



“I love this woman truly, even though her love for me has cooled,” he wrote to a pen pal.

Joy was reconciled with her family in her final days but they still did not help with her funeral arrangements.

Richards died on New Year’s Eve 2006 and one of Kaczynski’s pen pals from Los Angeles drove out to visit her and had one final message from Kaczynski for his Lady Love.

The man, a musician, put headphones on Richards and played a piece of music - “a trombone duet” - that Kaczynski had written for her and the man had performed on his synthesiser.

“I wouldn’t have wanted her to die thinking I had let her down,” he said.

TED KACZYNSKI
to

October 19, 2002

Dear Ms. :

Thanks for your letter of October 3. You ask whether you can be my "second lady love." I've put that question to Lady Love #1, and she says "no". There is to be no Lady Love #2. As for pictures of myself, I don't think I have any here with me, except possibly a few that I need to save. But if you send me a picture of myself, yes, I will sign it for you. And, yes, you can send me a picture of yourself.

I have to be honest with you: My only reason for corresponding with you at present is that you are kind enough to help me by sending me copies of materials that I need. It's possible that friendship between us may develop eventually, but I have room for only one Lady Love, and she is Lady Love #1, to whom I am committed once and for all.

But I do appreciate very much your willingness to help me obtain published materials that I need.

Best regards,

Ted Kaczynski

TED KACZYNSKI
to

November 4, 2002

Dear Ms. :

I have received your two letters dated 10/26/02 and your Halloween card.

I have already signed one picture of myself for you, and I'm not going to sign any more. I am returning to you herewith, unsigned, all of the pictures that you sent me with your letters of 10/26/02, including the photo of yourself.

In both of your letters of 10/26/02 you address me as "sweetheart." I don't think that Lady Love No. 1 would be comfortable with the tone your letters are taking, and I know that I am not comfortable with it. So I am breaking off my correspondence with you. You will not hear from me again.

Sincerely yours,

Ted Kaczynski

The Ted K Archive

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Updated 28 January 2016

<au.news.yahoo.com/falling-love-madman-serial-killer-201749388.html>

www.thetedkarchive.com