Remains of missing Birmingham man Darryl Moneyham identified 25 years after disappearance

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BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (WIAT) — Police have identified human remains that were found in Birmingham in 2002.

On Wednesday, the Jefferson County Coroner's Office confirmed that the remains of Darryl Moneyham have been identified. Moneyham, who was 38 at the time, was reported missing on July 27, 1999.

On March 20, 2002, skeletal remains were found wrapped in bed linens in the woods near the former Carraway Hospital. For years, there were no leads in the case. The only identifying marks were blue jeans containing pocket change stamped from 1999.

"The condition of the fabrics and the presences of numerous roots intertwined within the clothing and bed linen suggested that multiple growing seasons had occurred since the time the remains had been deposited at the location," the JCCO reported in a statement.

According to the JCCO, the cause of death was from a gunshot wound to the head.

According to The Birmingham News, Moneyham was last seen alive on July 6 visiting family in the Wenonah community. He had been visiting from Toledo, Ohio, where he had been living for several years.

"He left out to go tot he store for a minute and he never came back," Moneyham's niece, Tiala, told The Birmingham News in July 2005. "We've never heard from him. There was always speculation about what happened, but we've never known for sure."

Court records indicate that Moneyham, who had graduated from Shades Valley High School in 1980, had pleaded guilty to trafficking cocaine less than two months before he went missing and was sentenced to one year of probation. Having not met with his probation officer or paid any court fees, a warrant was issued for his arrest on August 21, 1999, less than a month after he disappeared.

The case remains under investigation.

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