

16 years later, police still don't know who killed Paavo Henttonen

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To this day, police have few details about who killed Paavo Henttonen.

It was the cleaning staff that found the 54-year-old man stabbed to death in the entrance of his Georgetown apartment on the morning of May 17, 2002.

Police say he took a taxi to his apartment, a converted space inside an old industrial building on Rosetta Street, after spending the evening at the Barber Towne Pub.

There were no signs of forced entry or robbery inside the apartment, which they found smeared and splattered with blood. Detectives believe he was stabbed repeatedly with a kitchen knife from the apartment and believe that in the process, the assailant was also injured.

The site was rich with fingerprints, blood and evidence, however, nothing matches with the forensic database.

Two days after the murder, Henttonen's 1997 green Chevrolet pickup truck was found at

Mountainview Road and Dominion Gardens Drive, its interior also stained with blood.

"Investigators have continued to pursue avenues related to previously identified person (s) of interest," said Halton police Det. Kevin Britton. He added that the investigation led police to probe other individuals linked to the Halton area, however, they cannot specify whether they think the killer acted alone or with others.

"There are several individuals designated as person(s) of interest in the case, however none of these have been elevated to the status of suspect," he said.

Police believe Henttonen had a significant amount of cash on him at the time, and believe that the individual, or people involved in the murder knew that.

"He lived a fast life, owned businesses, made lots of money," said his brother, Pentti Henttonen, who came down from his home in Fort Francis to arrange the funeral when Paavo was killed.

He remembers his brother as



Alexandra Heck/Metroland

Above, Brent Henttonen was waiting to be picked up by his father on May 17, 2002 to visit with him for the weekend when he found out his dad had been murdered. Right, Paavo (Paul) Henttonen.

a kind man, and says he always carried large sums of cash as a result of his line of work.

Henttonen was in the business of purchasing and flipping industrial food processing machinery. He would purchase equipment from closing facto-

ries and facilities, resell what he could, repair vending machines and sell the rest as scrap metal.

After the murder, Pentti says Henttonen's business partner cleaned out his warehouse, which was attached to the



Halton Police photo

apartment inside the industrial building. He says it was full of equipment and metal.

"I don't know who it was, but he came in there and cleaned everything out," said Pentti. "I don't know what kind of relationship they had."

Henttonen was estranged from his wife and had a young son at the time.

Brent Henttonen, now 28, is still hoping for answers about his father's murder.

The builder from Innisfil remembers the day when he learned his dad had been murdered.

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