



New York Post: Marc Vodofsky

**Cops stand guard yesterday outside the Staten Island funeral home where mourners, many of them strangers, said farewell to 12-year-old Jennifer Schweiger.**

# A SAD FAREWELL FOR JENNY

By SAM ROSENTOHN  
MORE than 100 grief-stricken New Yorkers poured out their hearts in a Staten Island chapel yesterday at the final wake of Jennifer Schweiger.

Not everyone who entered the cement-and-pink-granite Harmon Funeral Home knew the handicapped 12-year-old girl, who was last seen alive 40 days ago walking hand-in-hand with a stranger.

But all shared the sorrow and devastation felt by the Schweiger family.

"There isn't a mother in the five boroughs who doesn't understand this family loss," said Nancy Hall, who drove all the way from Bayside, Queens, with her hus-



**JENNIFER SCHWEIGER**  
band to offer sympathy to the Schweigers.  
"The family should know that many New Yorkers are behind

them," said the tearful mother of three.

"We suffered with that family."

Family and relatives, led by John Cardinal O'Connor, will bury Jennifer today after a service at the Holy Family Catholic Church on Staten Island.

As the loss of one life was being mourned, police continued their grim search for more bodies in the 380 acres of woods surrounding the former Willowbrook mental hospital.

Jennifer, who disappeared last month, was found in a shallow grave

behind a building of the abandoned facility, near the makeshift hovel of suspect Andre Rand.

Rand, 43, a former Willowbrook attendant, remains in police custody at Kings County Hospital.

Police yesterday said they had uncovered no further evidence linking Jennifer's death to Rand, who was seen walking with her on the day she vanished.

"It's so sad to know we live in a world with such evil," said Staten Island resident Edith Carey, 35, "That little girl wasn't a threat to dust."