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Rape survivor sees justice a generation after attack

A rapist identified by DNA a generation after he attacked a young girl was sentenced to 35 years in prison on the anniversary of the crime, prosecutors said Friday.

“Thank God she finally got justice,” Harris County District Attorney Kim Ogg said.

Gregory Montgomery, 59, raped Pamela King, 11, in the early morning hours of Halloween, 1989 after he slipped into her family’s home.

She told police that she awoke to a man holding his hand over her mouth and nose and then covering her head with a pillow after threatening to kill her if she made a sound.

A sexual assault examination was performed that day, but it was not until 2013 that the results were matched to a DNA profile in law-enforcement database, identifying Montgomery as the girl’s attacker.

Montgomery, a Texas Department of Criminal Justice prisoner, has been incarcerated since 1992 for other crimes, including the rape of two other women.

This week, on Wednesday in Harris County, he pled guilty to raping King and accepted a 35-year sentence.

King, now 40 gave a victim impact statement at Montgomery’s sentencing during which spoke directly at her attacker.

“There’s no sentence for the lifelong sentence that will forever be a part of my story. You are the reason we are here today,” she said. “For 29 years, I have waited for this day... October 31, 1989 is when this journey started and to you, Gregory Montgomery – October 31, 2018 is where it will end.”

King is an Air Force veteran and a sexual-assault victim advocate, is public about her ordeal.

“She’s advocated for so many other women,” said Marsha Lockwood, a Harris County District Attorney’s Office social worker. “It was an honor to advocate for her and walk her through this process.”

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Assistant District Attorney Caroline Dozier, who prosecuted the case, it was fitting that he was sentenced on the anniversary of his crime.

“He should always have to remember the date she changed his life, just like 29 years ago, he changed her,” she said.

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