

Was Fuddy's Body in an Open-Casket Funeral?

I'll try to keep this as simple as possible, which means I'll leave out a lot but hopefully I won't lose anybody in intricacies or interpretations this way.

There is a news story at

http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Q7yDNyDLYGM&desktop_uri=%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DQ7yDNyDLYGM that shows images from Loretta Fuddy's funeral. It also includes a patch of video which includes this image – the implication being that this is Fuddy's body at her funeral:

#1:



Is this Loretta Fuddy? I don't think so, because there is nothing in this image that specifically connects it to Fuddy's funeral and it contradicts 2 casket images that we know ARE from Fuddy's funeral because the photos are in context with video footage specific to her funeral. For instance, this photo shows the pulpit at which the priest speaks on video:

#2:



Look closely at the embellishment on that pall, and compare it to the pall on the casket in #1 (both images are darkened to show detail):



The pall to the left has light crosses formed by corners that are darkened, alternating with dark X crosses. The pall above has a white background with gold outline of crosses formed out of circular knobs. The pall on #1 is not the pall that was on Fuddy's casket. Presumably because it is not her casket.

Now look at another photo of the casket we know WAS at Fuddy's funeral, because it is shown in context with the congregation and with Abercrombie at the far right. This image was posted on the Honolulu Diocese web page at <http://www.hawaiicatholicherald.com/2014/01/03/health-director-remembered-for-her-faith-public-service/>

#3:



Let's look closely at the casket:

#4:



It sort of looks like Fuddy's head is in the middle of the casket, with the rest of her body in the covered part. #1 had a body down to the hands showing in the open part of the casket. So again, #1 contradicts the images we know are from Fuddy's casket.

Placing a body with the head in the middle of the casket contradicts 25 years' worth of funerals that my husband and I have been involved in as pastor and organist. Every open-casket funeral we have ever conducted or attended has had the person in the pose found in #1. We have NEVER seen a body placed in the middle of the casket with only the head visible.

But would it even be possible to fit Fuddy's body within about half a casket's length?

At <http://directcasketoutlet.net/merchandise> it shows all different kinds of funeral accessories. The caskets are slanted at the left end so the body is reclining at an angle. The lid that closes is just barely under half the length of the casket. The average casket length is 84 inches. Half of that is 42 inches. So suppose that the covered part of the casket is 46 inches – just over half the length of the whole casket. If Fuddy's neck was positioned right at the open portion, with the top of her head reaching into the open area by about 12 inches, that would put the top of her head at 58 inches from the right end of the casket. Can Fuddy fit within 58 inches? How tall is she?

This image (from <http://hawaiichildrenstrustfund.blogspot.com/2013/03/loretta-fuddy-health-director-for-doh.html>) shows her to be just a little bit shorter than Neil Abercrombie:

#5:



And according to the article at <http://the.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/2008/Jul/17/il/hawaii807170326.html> Abercrombie is 5' 5" tall. So Fuddy is probably 5'2" or 5'3". That's 62 or 63" tall. So no, she wouldn't fit in 58". Maybe if she was scrunched a bit but why scrunch her when you've got 26" empty at the other end of the casket? That must not be her head.

Let's zoom in and see what IS there in the open half of the casket:

#5 (brightness and contrast adjusted):



The bigger of the 3 bumps is not connected to anything on either side of it. It looks kind of like an urn. Anything else would make no sense.

(More video and photos are at the following:

<http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/24280187/hundreds-gather-to-remember-loretta-fuddy>

http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=SqCH_JxJhA&desktop_uri=%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DSqCH_JxJhA

These all avoid showing what is in the casket. This image of a casket with the wrong pall is the only one I've seen that's been portrayed as showing Fuddy in the casket.)

But then, having an urn in a casket, closing the casket, and carrying it out (presumably for burial at a cemetery) – as shown in the video above - also makes no sense. If the ashes are already in an urn there is no need for a casket at all. Information about cremation is at <http://nfda.org/planning-a-funeral/cremation/160.html#casket> , and information about funerals involving cremation is at <http://www.triskafuneralhome.com/faq/questions-about-cremation.aspx> .

The only reason I can think of to have an open casket with no body inside is if you want it to appear that there was a casket with a body inside when there actually wasn't. Having the news media deceptively insert an image of a casket from a different funeral would further that agenda, as well as the family gathered around the open casket, closing the casket, and carrying it out as if the casket was going to be buried at the private burial just for family.

It's almost as if the family and media are working together to make it seem as if there was an open-casket funeral for Fuddy, when the most anybody saw of Fuddy's body was an urn that may or may not have contained ashes.

Conclusion: The person in the casket shown by KITV is not from Fuddy's funeral. The casket at Fuddy's funeral had a different pall and had no body inside but did have an oval bump in the middle of the casket, which I presume to be an urn. The media used at least one instance of fake footage (and maybe two) to imply that Fuddy's was an open-casket funeral, the family was photographed in positions you would expect if there was a body in the casket, and the casket was treated as if it had a body inside. The public was most likely unaware of the deception to be carried out by the media and honored what they believed was her ashes if they got close enough to see the urn in the casket.