

# Daily Gazette

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**EMOTIONAL MOMENT:** Joanne Arruda of Raynham breaks down as a Middlesex Superior Court jury delivers a guilty verdict against James M. Kater in the kidnap-murder of her daughter, Mary Lou. She is with her husband, Adrian, left, and her son, Antone. (UPI)

## Joanne Arruda never doubted that jury would convict Kater

By **KAREN CUBIE**  
Gazette Staff Writer

**CAMBRIDGE** — Joanne Arruda has seen a lot of James M. Kater — more than enough of him.

"Every day I look at him and realize it's the last thing my daughter saw before she died," the Raynham woman said bitterly yesterday morning, hours before a Middlesex Superior Court jury handed Judge Robert S. Prince Kater's second conviction for the

prayers have been answered."

"There are a lot of little children who don't even realize their lives will have been saved," she added.

"If he is found innocent, I, and everyone else, will be devastated."



A Bristol County Superior Court jury convicted Kater of the

two earlier cases he had served time for.

In 1965 he was found guilty of assaulting and kidnapping a New Hampshire woman, and in 1968 he was convicted of the kidnapping and attempted murder of a 13-year-old Boxford girl.

He was on parole when he committed both the 1968 and 1978 crimes.

Mrs. Arruda never doubted the jury would find him guilty in spite

management of the current visit.  
attorney general's office — sur-

At an official dinner Wednesday

# Support from family, friends helped Arrudas

(Continued from Page 1.)

"We went to Suffolk Court in Boston to discuss the hypnosis," she said. "I felt disgusted.

"I was disappointed a technicality can make the courts spend all kinds of money to bring a guilty man back (to trial)."

Mrs. Arruda, who is about to start a new job at Marshall's in Raynham, said she has had no peace since her daughter's murder.

"But it should give a lot of people peace that he's still locked up," she said.

She said support from family and friends is what has brought her through the two trials.

"My kids have been here with me through the whole thing," she said. "I want to tell people thanks

for all the support."

Mary Lou's death has not made Mrs. Arruda and her husband, Adrian, over-protective of their other three children, she noted.

"I haven't changed with the other kids," she said. "Mary Lou was doing no wrong that day."

She can offer no advice for other parents with missing children.

"I often wonder about that," she said. "But I couldn't begin to tell what it's like. Any parent (going through this) could never express it."

She knows Kater's conviction will not bring Mary Lou back.

"I'm not fighting for Mary Lou," she said. "Mary Lou's gone.

"I'm fighting for all the other children."

Daily Report