

## The Jeffrey MacDonald Case

Jeffrey MacDonald is an American convicted in 1979 for the murders of his pregnant wife and two daughters in February 1970. At the time of the murders, MacDonald was a U.S. Army officer (Special Forces Green Beret), medical doctor, and practicing physician. MacDonald maintains that a group of hippies committed the crimes and has filed several unsuccessful appeals attempting to overturn his convictions.

In June 1979, MacDonald hired author Joe McGinniss to write a book about the case. MacDonald expected that the book would be about his innocence in the murders of his family, but the book, *Fatal Vision*, first published in the spring of 1983, portrayed MacDonald as a sociopath who was guilty of killing his family. McGinniss's book was adapted into a made-for-TV film of the same title, and the case became notorious. Jeffrey MacDonald is currently serving three life sentences and will be eligible for parole in 2020.

One of the authors of this book, James W. Osterburg, testified in the 1979 trial. See the transcript here:

### **Transcript of Osterburg Testimony at Trial**

<http://www.thejeffreymacdonaldcase.com/html/tt-1979-08-13-14-osterburg.html>

In late 2012, MacDonald asked for a federal hearing to consider new DNA evidence and witness testimony that MacDonald and his supporters say will finally clear him of the crime. See more at these articles:

### **“MacDonald Could Wait Months to Learn if He'll Get New Trial”**

<http://www.wral.com/news/local/story/11588843/>

### **“Jeffrey MacDonald DNA:**

### **Army Doctor Convicted of Killing Pregnant Wife, Kids Could Clear Name”**

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/09/15/jeffrey-macdonald-dna\\_n\\_1886547.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/09/15/jeffrey-macdonald-dna_n_1886547.html)