Dare I Call It Murder?
A Memoir of Violent Loss

Larry Edwards unmasks the emotional trauma of violent loss as he ferrets out new facts to get at the truth of how and why his parents were killed.

In 1977, Loren and Joanne Edwards left Puget Sound aboard their 53-foot sailboat Spellbound, destined for French Polynesia. Six months later they lay dead aboard their boat in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. Larry’s younger brother became the prime suspect in the FBI’s murder investigation. But federal prosecutors never indicted him, leaving the case unresolved and splitting the Edwards family into feuding factions.

Three decades later, a dispute over how to respond to a true-crime book by Ann Rule—which contained an inaccurate account of the case—ripped the tattered family even farther apart.

In Dare I Call It Murder?, Larry Edwards sets the record straight, revealing previously undisclosed facts from the investigation as he lays out the case never presented in court.

Larry’s memoir, however, goes beyond simply telling the untold story of his parents’ deaths and refuting the errors in previously published material. His broader goal is to see the book generate greater awareness of and conversations about violent loss, its impact on the survivors and their families, and the troubling effects of post-traumatic stress (PTSD).

About the Author

Larry M. Edwards is an award-winning investigative journalist and author. His most recent book, Dare I Call It Murder? — A Memoir of Violent Loss, won first place in the 2012 San Diego Book Awards (unpublished memoir). As a journalist, he has won four Best of Show awards from the San Diego Press Club in addition to many other awards during his 25 years in journalism.

He has served as business editor at San Diego Magazine as well as editor of The Log Newspapers, Maritime Quarterly and The T Sector. He contributed regularly to Sailing World and Grand Prix Sailor, and worked as a stringer for the Associated Press while covering the America’s Cup and other sailing competitions. Edwards currently works as a freelance writer, book editor, and publishing consultant in San Diego, Calif., where he lives with his birding-enthusiast wife, Janis Cadwallader.

Born in Seattle, he grew up in Kirkland, graduating from Lake Washington High School and the University of Washington. After graduation, he taught school in Tacoma, Wash.