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### Local Bakery Owner Shot, Killed in Her Home

Francie Franklin, the owner of Francie's Bakersfield Fancies, has been found murdered at age 68 inside her home-based storefront.

Franklin, who had owned and operated her bakery from her home for 20 years, was known for keeping a clean and neat environment within her business. When her customer Judy Notasmythe arrived on the scene and saw her home in dismay, with the front door open and a display case smashed, she immediately notified the police.

Notasmythe had ordered a cake for her daughter's wedding but grew worried when Franklin had not delivered the cake as previously agreed upon, causing her to go check in on Franklin.

According to Bakersfield Police Chief Barry Cooper, via a phone interview, Franklin's body was found by police with a single gunshot wound and was taken to Smythe's Funeral Parlor, where an autopsy was conducted.

Franklin had been shot once in the chest by a .22 caliber bullet. Police say there is no proof of fingerprints at the scene but are investigating other pieces of potential evidence.

"It was crazy how they messed up the place. She was always so proud of it. She loved everyone, and everyone loved her." County Coroner Marlena Smythe revealed. It was known that Francie's Bakersfield Fancies was a place for everyone. Franklin had recently expanded by building a small service area at the front of her house where customers loved stopping by on the way to work early every morning.

Police are still investigating this death as a murder. As of now, no arrangements have been set for Francie Franklin, but anyone with information is urged to call Bakersfield Police to help solve this case.

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