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Kevorkian was convicted of 2nd degree murder on March 26, 1999 for assisting in the suicide of Thomas Youk. Prosecutors charged "Dr. Death" following the November 22 airing of the taped suicide on CBS's 60 Minutes.

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Youk, 52, was unable to control his movements or even swallow suffering from Lou Gehrig's disease. He first contacted Kevorkian in September 1996. Kevorkian videotaped Youk's injection death on Sept. 17, brought the tape to the network 10 days later. He used injection instead of the machine used in up to 130 previous deaths after a Michigan law banned assisted suicide went into effect on Sept. 1.

Kevorkian's previous brushes with prosecution included these events:

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• In Jan 1997, Oakland County, Mich, dropped a 20-count criminal complaint stemming from Kevorkian's role in 10 suicides.
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• Kevorkian was convicted on November 5, 1998, of two misdemeanor charges for a confrontation with police outside a hospital where he was dropping off a body (AP). Fined \$700 plus \$200 in court costs. "You think I'm going to obey the law?" AP quoted him as saying, "You're crazy."

Details of some other people who died with Kevorkian's help:

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• Karen Allerellie, 34, died in 1997. Her body was found in a Holiday Inn with a note detailing Kevorkian's assistance. She'd suffered from multiple sclerosis.
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• Janet Adkins, 54, on June 4, 1990. This first publicized assisted suicide was conducted using Kevorkian's suicide machine in his 1968 VW van. Adkins, of Portland, Oreg, was suffering from Alzheimer's disease at the time of her death.

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A year later, Michigan's State Board of Medicine suspended Kevorkian's license because of his assisted suicide campaign.

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• June 1998: Kevorkian removed the kidneys of a man he helped die hoping the organs would be used for transplant.
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• Kevorkian brought the body of 67-year-old Dixie Colleen Wilson to a Pontiac, Mich, hospital on April 14, 1998. She'd lived in St. Charles, Mo., where assisted suicide is illegal. She'd apparently been injected with poison. But the time of death wasn't available. She'd been suffering from Lou Gehrig's disease, couldn't walk, couldn't talk.
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• Just a few days earlier, Kevorkian delivered the body of Shal Semonie of Phoenix to Huron Valley Hospital west of Detroit. The preliminary cause of death was an intravenous drug dose. The 47-year-old also had suffered from Lou Gehrig's disease.
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• Lois Hawes of Warren, Mich., died in 1992. At 52, she was suffering from lung cancer. Hawes died at the home of a Kevorkian supporter after inhaling carbon monoxide. Five family members, including two sons, were present at time of death. Sept. 26, 1992. 14

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- Medical doctor Ali Khalili died on 11/22/93 by inhaling carbon monoxide through a gas mask. From Oak Brook, Ill. Khalili was suffering from bone cancer, but was not reported to be in a terminal stage. Multiple myeloma.. Age at death was 61. Kevorkian was charged and later acquitted. Happened at apartment in Royal Oak, Michigan.
- Nicholas Loving died with his mother there. Inhaled carbon monoxide. He was from Arizona (Phoenix). Died on 5/25/95. Died at age 27. Had Lou Gehrig's disease but was not close to death. Happened in Pontiac, Michigan.
- Medical malpractice attorney Lisa Lansing was from Florham Park, New Jersey. Died 2/3/97. Age 42. She suffered from a digestive disorder. Considered non-fatal. Accompanied by a close friend. Happened in Michigan. Mother and sister were upset and said they should have been consulted. Used up her assets in a pre-death spending spree.
- Nancy Rush died 1/8/98. Was from Michigan. Was 81 at time of death. Initial report of lung cancer and emphysema. She had a lethal injection. Was brought to emergency room when already dead. Unknown location in Detroit Area.