

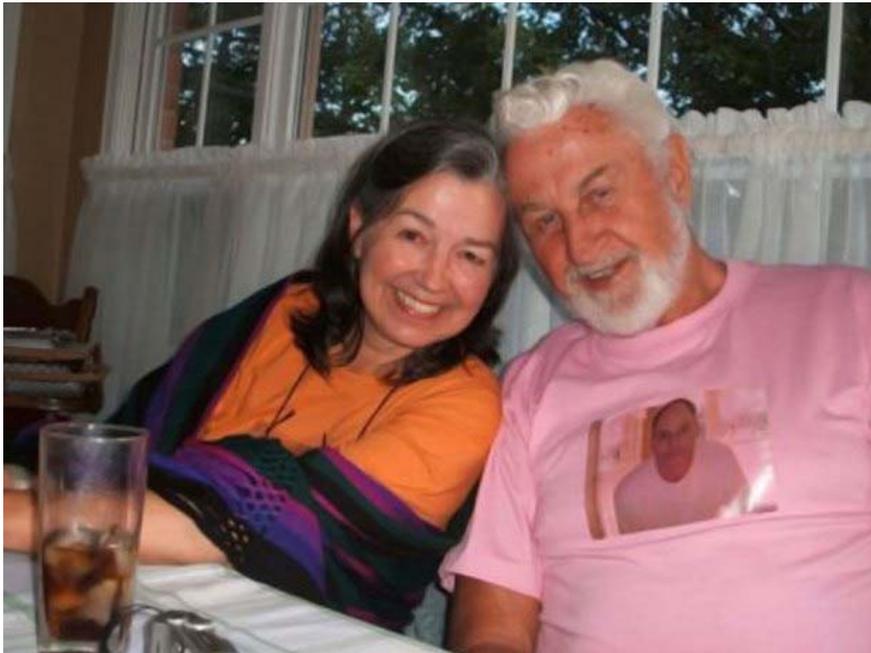
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## Canadian couple slain during robbery at their home in popular Mexico retirement community



CANADIAN PRESS | February 11, 2014 7:27 AM ET  
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Edward Kular's daughter-in-law confirmed Monday the 84-year-old Toronto man and 72-year-old Nina Discombe have died in Mexico.

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MEXICO CITY — A relative of an Ontario couple killed at a popular retirement spot in Mexico says the family is devastated by the loss.

Edward Kular's daughter-in-law confirmed Monday the 84-year-old Toronto man and 72-year-old Nina Discombe of Ottawa have died in Mexico. Discombe published a book, *The Leprous Veil of Love*, last year.

The couple's names have not been released by police.

Mexican authorities said the couple was found by their gardener in a pool of blood in the living room of the house where they'd lived for at least six months.

Police said the man was beaten on the head with a small statue and the woman was stabbed in the stomach with a kitchen knife.

Chapala city spokesman Roberto Arroyo said robbery is the main motive behind the Sunday attack on the pair. Some belongings were stolen, including a TV and an SUV.



72-year-old Nina Discombe was killed in Mexico.

Facebook photo

It's like a nightmare, a bad nightmare

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“We’re all pretty much still in shock, can’t believe that it happened. It’s like a nightmare, a bad nightmare,” said the daughter-in-law, who identified herself only as Christine.

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The area is popular among snowbirds and several who knew the couple said they were in shock.

“My friend is dead. She was very respected in the community and was an extraordinary author. She had just bought a house here to live in full-time,” said Barbara Wills.

The local Canadian club said the couple would often join in on organized activities.

Betty McCleod has lived two doors down from Kular for about 60 years. Their families have lived in a small Scarborough subdivision, near Birchmount Road and Lawrence Avenue, since 1955. Her son and one of Kular’s children were best friends while growing up.

McCleod said that Kular and his late wife bought a house in Mexico after their children had grown up and would often go down for a visit after Christmas. After his wife died, he later met Discombe in Mexico, she says.

“He was a really nice man, a really pleasant man. He was just a real gentleman,” McCleod said. “[The family] is just devastated. They can’t understand how this could happen to their dad.”

The pair had lived in Mexico for at least six months, but had been visiting for years.

Discombe, a longtime Ottawa resident, enjoyed the weather, as well as writing books and plays and spending time with Kular. Discombe’s friends in Ottawa learned of her death Monday.

“She’s a very reflective and thoughtful person,” said Tom Shoebridge, a screenwriting teacher and longtime friend.

Shoebridge said he got to know Discombe decades ago. The two stayed in touch, with Discombe even enrolling in a course taught by Shoebridge two summers ago.

“The writings she did were not Hollywood style, they were thoughtful, perceptive,” he said.

On Discombe’s website, she described being part of a Mexican book club and spending days writing there. In the summer she sometimes returned to Quebec.

Lynn Tarzwell met her at the Ottawa screenwriting camp a few years ago.



Forensic workers work outside a house in Ajjic, near Guadalajara February 9, 2014. Police found the bodies of two Canadians after they were discovered by a gardener inside their house, after an apparent robbery, according to local media. Alejandro Acosta/Reuters

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