

## Boy Drowns At Little River Dam; Mother Traces Tot's Footsteps

WATERBURY — Richard John Guthridge Jr., 4, drowned yesterday afternoon near the east end of the Little River dam where he was picnicking with his parents. M. J. Nichols of Danvers, Mass., recovered the boy's body from 10 feet of water about 15 feet from shore. The Waterbury Fire Dept. rescue squad was called at 4 p.m. and used the resuscitator to no avail. Dr. C. E. Harwood, regional examiner, pronounced the tot dead.

Mrs. Guthridge became alarmed when she noticed a life jacket, which her son also wore on outings, lying on the shore. She traced his footprints down a steep bank. She waded waist deep into the water, where it has receded from the original shoreline. Help was summoned and Nichols and two other men who were picnicking close by, dove below the surface

where the body was found. The child was in the water about a half hour.

The son of Richard J. and Martha (Stern) Guthridge was born March 28, 1956 in Montpelier.

Besides his parents, he leaves three sisters, Norma, 11; Karin, 9, and Lisa, 7; paternal grandmother, Mrs. James Turner, of Bristol, Pa.; and maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Stern of Fort Pierce, Fla.

The Guthridges have lived in Waterbury for 12 years and are proprietors of a ski hostel at Waterbury Center. He is also an engineer at the State Highway Dept.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday at 2 p.m. at the Perkins Funeral Chapel where friends may call tonight from 7 to 9. The Rev. C. Arthur Hazen will officiate. Burial will be in the Waterbury Center Cemetery.