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## The Double Life Of Main Line Murder Suspect Craig Rabinowitz Is Linked To Prostitution, Strip Clubs.

May 08, 1997 | By Anne Barnard, Jere Downs and Ralph Vigoda, FOR THE INQUIRER Inquirer staff writer Monica Yant and correspondents John Murphy, Christian Davenport and John Murawski contributed to this article

He started inviting a woman from an escort service to his home around the time he got married.

He took his wife and baby to restaurants at night - but by day, paid a stripper \$1,000 a week to perform for him, authorities say.

Craig Rabinowitz, the Lower Merion latex salesman accused of strangling his lawyer wife to death, led two lives.

Yesterday, Rabinowitz - portrayed over and over by family and friends as almost fanatically devoted to his wife - was described in a 34-page court document as a man who paid for prostitutes and had an addiction to the company of a stripper.



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According to a petition from the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office seeking bail of \$5 million, Rabinowitz had been a frequent customer of an escort service and brothel from about 1990 to 1992, coinciding with the beginning of his marriage.

In addition, investigators say they found that for at least the last six months he spent between \$1,000 and \$3,000 a week on a 24-year-old exotic dancer named Summer, who performed at Delilah's Den in Philadelphia. Part of that money was for special dances; part was for gifts of jewelry and furniture.

According to the document, Rabinowitz's ``employment status and history contains evidence of fraud and deceit." It maintains he has ``no appreciable assets and is heavily indebted to credit cards."

This is a piece of Rabinowitz that apparently no one saw. Not his friends, who were still lining up to offer support. Not his family and in-laws, who remain willing to risk everything to help him, said one of Rabinowitz's attorneys.

``Everybody - everybody - is standing behind him," said Jeffrey Miller. ``The people who know and love him are still 100 percent behind him. I hope the family and friends stay galvanized. I have no reason to believe they won't."

The family yesterday again declined comment.

Rabinowitz was arrested Monday afternoon, five days after his wife was found dead in a bathtub in their Lower Merion home. Police initially treated the incident shortly after 12:30 a.m. April 30 as an accident, rushing Stefanie Rabinowitz to Lankenau Hospital - where she was pronounced dead - and not securing the house as a crime scene. It was later in the day when an autopsy conducted by a medical examiner showed that Stefanie Rabinowitz had been strangled by hand. On Friday, officials publicly called the death a homicide.