

Perpetrator

General

- Crooks was 20-years-old, born on September 20, 2003.
- Crooks does not have a criminal record in Pennsylvania, nor has he been sued there, according to state court records. There is no record of him in federal court databases, either.
- Crooks lived about an hour away from where the shooting took place in Butler.
- Crooks is registered to vote as a Republican in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, according to county voter records. His voter registration status has been active since 2021.
- Federal Election Commission records show that in January 2021, Crooks made a \$15 donation to the Progressive Turnout Project, a group working to increase voter turnout for Democrats.
- A spokesperson for the social media platform Discord said in a statement that it had identified an account that appears to be linked to Crooks. The account “was rarely utilized and we have found no evidence that it was used to plan this incident or discuss his political views,” the spokesperson wrote.

Family

- Crooks' home address is listed in Bethel Park, a suburb in the Pittsburgh metropolitan area, voter records show. That three-bedroom brick house has been owned since 1998 by Matthew and Mary Crooks, who appear to be his parents.
- Both of Crooks' parents worked as social workers, according to state license records. His father is registered to vote as a Libertarian and his mother is registered as a Democrat, state voter records show.

Schooling

- Crooks graduated from Bethel Park High School two years ago, the Bethel Park School District confirmed. He was included in a 2022 [local news article](#) about recipients of a National Math & Science Initiative Star Award at the public high school, which enrolls about 1,300 students.
- Crooks had “no facial expression” when he walked through the school hallways, a classmate said. “He wasn’t, like, with the clique, so he always had, I guess, a target on his back.”
- Crooks was very smart, took honors classes, and was shy.
- He had a small group of fairly conservative friends, some of whom would wear Trump hats.
- Crooks did not seem to have many friends. One classmate didn't recall Crooks playing sports, being involved in clubs or student groups, or attending popular campus events. He often wore hunting clothes.
- A classmate at Bethel Park High School with Crooks said he remembers the 20-year-old sat alone at lunch and was “bullied every day.” Kids picked on Crooks for wearing camouflage to class and his quiet demeanor, Kohler, 21, said.
- Another former classmate of his said that he was “always getting good grades on tests” and was “very passionate about history.” “Anything on government and history he seemed to know about,” she said. “But it was nothing out of the ordinary....he was always nice.”

- "According to our records, Mr. Crooks excelled academically, regularly attended school, and had no disciplinary incidents, including those related to bullying or threats," the school said. "Mr. Crooks was known as a quiet, bright young man who generally got along with his teachers and classmates."

Work History

- Crooks worked as a dietary aid, a job that generally involves food preparation, at Bethel Park Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation, less than a mile from his home.
- The facility is owned by Kennett Square, Pennsylvania-based Genesis Healthcare. A job posting from the company for a dietary aid in the Pittsburgh area puts the pay at \$16 an hour.
- Crooks performed his job without concern, and his background check was clean, according to the facility's administrator.
- A colleague who worked with Crooks at the nursing home and who asked not to be named described him in an interview as "the sweetest guy." Just this week, the colleague said, the two of them worked together to find an easier way for nursing home residents to open ranch dressing packets, an act the colleague said was indicative of how caring Crooks was.

Weapons

- A former member of the Bethel Park High School varsity rifle team who graduated alongside Crooks in 2022, told CBS that he did not make the team. "He did not even make the junior varsity team after trying out. He never returned to try-outs for the remainder of high school."
- The Clairton Sportsmen's Club, a wooded facility in the southern hills of Pittsburgh that features a 200-yard rifle range, confirmed that Crooks had been a member. Investigators have said that they were trying to determine where he may have trained.
- Investigators believe the suspect's father purchased the gun used at the rally six months ago, according to a person familiar with the investigation who was not allowed to speak publicly.
- The gun Crooks used was a legally purchased AR-style weapon, Rojek confirmed. According to law enforcement officials, the gun was traced to Crooks' father, which helped to determine the gunman's identity because he was not carrying identification.

Attack Preparation

- Crooks searched for the dates of Trump's rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, and for those of the Democratic National Convention in Chicago. His search history also included "major depressive disorder."
- The Trump rally shooter searched online for information on the arrest of a Michigan mass shooter and his parents, who were prosecuted in a 2021 high school shooting. He visited websites for how to build explosives.
- According to multiple law enforcement sources, a post on the gaming platform Steam is credited to the suspected gunman. The post reads "July 13 will be my premiere, watch as it unfolds." Investigators are working to determine whether the post is legitimate.

- He signed up online to attend the Butler, Pennsylvania, Trump rally on July 6, a week before the shooting.
- According to law enforcement sources, the shooter flew a drone over a field adjacent to the grounds where the rally was held on July 13, three law enforcement sources familiar with the federal investigation into the shooting,
- Crooks came to the rally site in Butler, Pennsylvania, on the morning of the shooting, stayed there for an hour, left, and then came back sometime in the early 5 p.m. ET hour.
- Investigators have found data showing that Crooks had visited the location of the rally a week before it was to be held. And on the morning of the rally, he visited the farm where the rally was to be held for over an hour. He then went home, and investigators believe he retrieved an AR-15 rifle owned by his father. Crooks' father told investigators that he saw his son leave the home with the rifle and believed he was going to a shooting range that the two had frequented.
- On the day of the rally, Crooks made several internet searches, including for photos of the location of Trump's speech and for a local gun store not far from his home, where he purchased bullets that day.
- In the minutes before he fired shots in an attempted assassination of Donald Trump, he screenshotted a picture from a livestream of the Butler, Pennsylvania, rally.
- At the family home, investigators recovered 14 firearms and additional explosives, along with a second cellphone, a laptop and hard drive.

Attack

- He was first seen at the site by other attendees when they spotted him with a range finder and duffel bag.
- Six minutes into Trump's speech, someone in the crowd is heard saying, "He's got a gun." As the video captures someone in the crowd repeating, "On the roof. He's got a gun," three shots ring out. A pause and five more shots in rapid succession are heard.
- A video posted to social media and geolocated by the AP shows the body of a man wearing gray camouflage lying motionless on the roof of a manufacturing plant just north of the Butler Farm Show grounds, where Trump's rally was held.
- While the gunman was positioned outside the rally venue, the distance between him and where Trump was speaking was only approximately 400 to 500 feet.
- FBI special agent Kevin Rojek said on a call with media Sunday afternoon that authorities found "a suspicious device" when they searched the shooter's vehicle. Bomb technicians inspected the device and rendered it safe.