



Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office

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Human Skull Recovered in 2018 Has Been Identified

Clear Creek County, Colorado - On May 11, 2018, the Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office responded to a call reporting the discovery of a human skull near Silver Lakes Drive in the Lawson area. Local children had found the skull – along with a nearby tooth fragment – lying by a power pole. The skull was missing its mandible, but otherwise appeared undamaged.

On May 23, 2018, a forensic anthropologist examined the skull and determined it belonged to a male of European ancestry. The examination found no evidence of trauma and the individual had been deceased for at least four months, though more likely for one or more years. The skull was subsequently sent to the University of North Texas for DNA extraction in hopes of making an identification. The DNA was successfully entered into the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System at that time.

In 2023, the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) began working on this case using advanced genealogy techniques and successfully found a DNA match for the skull. Investigators learned the decedent's family had lost contact with a sibling several years prior. A family member agreed to submit a DNA sample and in early May 2024, CBI confirmed the identity with a 99.99% accuracy match. The decedent has been identified as David Michael Crady, DOB 10/4/55.

At this time, the death investigation remains open. There are no leads regarding the circumstances of Mr. Crady's death or how the skull ended up at the discovery site. Anyone with information on this case is asked to contact the Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office at (303) 679-2393.

Sheriff Matthew D. Harris expressed gratitude to all agencies involved, stating, "We deeply appreciate the efforts and collaboration of the University of North Texas, CBI, and our forensic experts. This identification will hopefully provide some closure for Mr. Crady's family."



David "Michael" Crady, Senior Year Photo

SHERIFF
Matthew D Harris

UNDERSHERIFF
Matt Brown