## **OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF**





ERIC SEVERSON, Sheriff

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Waukesha County Huber 1400 Northview Road Waukesha, WI 53188

## Immediate Release

November 17, 2021

## **Cold Case Resolution**

The Waukesha County Sheriff's Office, in collaboration with the Waukesha County Medical Examiner's Office, have been working on a cold case from 1977. In September of 1977, an unidentified male was involved in a police pursuit traveling W/B on Golf Rd West of CTH SS when he lost control of his vehicle and crashed. Deputies from the Sheriff's Office, along with the Waukesha County Coroner at the time tried to positively identify the deceased male. Unfortunately, they were unsuccessful as the vehicle was reported stolen out of Gurnee, Illinois and nothing was located in the vehicle to assist in his identification at the time of the crash.

Over the years, numerous detectives from the Waukesha County Sheriff's Office and staff with the Waukesha County Medical Examiner's Office worked on trying to identify this male who was listed as a "John Doe."

In 2015, Detectives and Medical Examiners exhumed "John Doe" in an effort to collect DNA samples. Those DNA samples were run through national databases, but unfortunately those efforts did not provide a positive match. In 2019, the Medical Examiner's office presented the case to the DNA Doe Project. A DNA profile was later uploaded to GEDmatch and Family Tree DNA, and genealogists started working on this case in mid-2020. Information was passed on to the Medical Examiner's office with potential leads on family members. In 2021, a family member was identified, and we were able to get her DNA profile to compare with the "John Doe."

We have reached out to the decedent's family and obtained permission to release his identification. The "John Doe" was positively identified through siblingship DNA comparison with his sister Jean Nunn. With a 99.998% match, he was identified as John Lindberg Scott from Bristol, Tennessee. It has been over 44 years since the accident took John's life. This is an honor as his case has affected so many lives over the decades, and it is a blessing to be able to finally give him his name back and offer his family some answers as to where he's been all these years. We kindly request you respect the family's privacy in this matter.

An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

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We would like to thank those who worked so hard on this case to include everyone at the Waukesha County Medical Examiner's Office, numerous detectives who assisted from the Waukesha County Sheriff's Office, non-profit organization Someday Known, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, Amherst County Sheriff's Office, Hardin County Coroner's Office, NCMEC, NamUs, DNA Doe Project, DNA Solutions Inc. and University of North Texas Center for Human Identification.

Sheriff Eric Severson Waukesha County

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