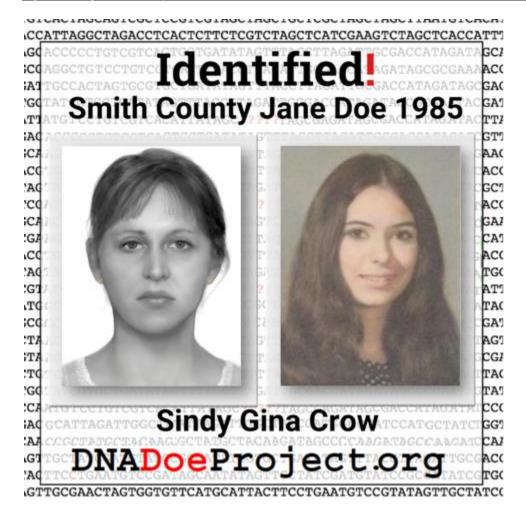
NEWS

Texas Jane Doe identified after 39 years, as Sindy Gina Crow

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SMITH COUNTY, Texas (KMID/KPEJ)- The identity of a long-standing mystery surrounding a Smith County Jane Doe in 1985, has been resolved with the help of the DNA Doe Project.

Reports from the DNA Doe project showed that in October of 1985, a highway crew found human skeletal remains in a brush-covered gully area on the south side of I-20 in Smith County, Texas.

The case went cold quickly because officials could not identify her, until 2021, when investigators with the Smith County Sheriff's Department brought the case to the DNA Doe Project.

The DNA Doe Project wrote that a forensic study done by the Crime Forensics Laboratory in Dallas reported that the remains belonged to a Caucasian woman, between 20 and 25 years old, and showed that she had reddish-brown hair that was tied in a ponytail. The investigators also reported that her body had been purposely hidden in the location where she was found.

The DNA Doe Project, a national nonprofit organization, worked with special labs to get a DNA profile that was uploaded to a database to find possible matches. When this was completed a team of 15 volunteer investigative genetic genealogists worked together to find a branch, which led to a Sindy Gina Crow.

"We had one great match that pointed us in the right direction," said team leader Rhonda Kevorkian. "All other matches were distant relatives. Without that great match, this would have taken much longer."

Team member Emily Bill who had traveled from California to Texas to work on this case said "Ultimately, we returned to the same conclusion again and again, and we all went to bed that night knowing Gina was our Smith County Jane Doe."

To learn more about the DNA Doe Project visit this website.