



**DNA**hawkshaw  
Genetic Genealogy

## Pinal County Arizona Jane Doe 1987 Identity Confirmed

May 26th, 2025

DNAhawkshaw Genetic Genealogy, in collaboration with multiple agency partners, announces the confirmation of the identity of Pinal County Arizona Jane Doe 1987 as **Catherine Neely**.



On January 7th, 1987, Ms. Neely's remains were discovered in a roadside desert area near Stanfield, Arizona. Although a facial sketch was created and her DNA was entered into CODIS, her identity remained unknown for almost 40 years.

In June 2024, DNAhawkshaw Genetic Genealogy, in collaboration with the agency partners listed below, raised funds to conduct laboratory testing on available biological samples. These samples were sent to Intermountain Forensics for the development of a SNP DNA profile. The completed profile was then uploaded to [GEDmatch Pro](#) and [DNA Justice](#), where a dedicated team of skilled analysts from the partner agencies identified Ms. Neely as a potential candidate. Her identity was recently confirmed.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to Ms. Neely's family and friends. We hope that this identification brings them much-needed answers and some measure of comfort during this challenging time.

We are grateful to the Pima County (Arizona) Office of the Medical Examiner and the Pinal County (Arizona) Sheriff's Office for entrusting us with this case.

We also extend our gratitude to [Intermountain Forensics](#), for their exceptional services and for providing a fundraising platform that covered the necessary lab costs.

Finally, DNAhawkshaw Genetic Genealogy expresses sincere appreciation to the agency partners who not only raised the funds from generous donors but also performed the genetic genealogy that returned Ms. Neely's identity to her and her loved ones.