

Family DNA helps identify man whose body was found years ago near Interstate 75

Myron Thompson, Knoxville News Sentinel

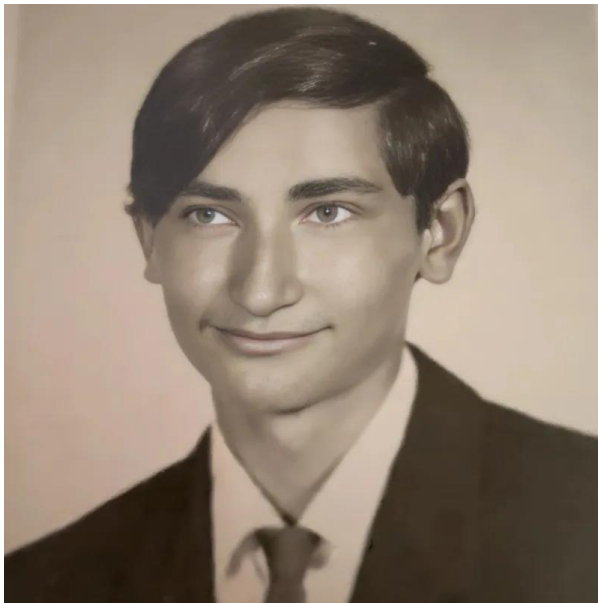
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A Pennsylvania man who went missing in the 1980s and whose body was found in 2019 along Interstate 75 has been identified, though police are still working to determine what happened so long ago.

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation said DNA evidence and family assistance helped them determine it was **John Arthur Troutman**, from Herndon, Pennsylvania, whose body was found by grass mowing crews in Loudon County.

The Knox County Regional Forensic Center determined the person was an adult man between the ages of 45 and 55, but couldn't say how he died.



John Arthur Troutman

After unsuccessful attempts to identify the victim and figure out what happened to him, he was labeled as a John Doe, according to the TBI release.

Knox County Regional Forensic Center leaders asked for help from the TBI Cold Case and Unidentified Human Remains Initiative, and DNA tests this year identified potential relatives. TBI experts found potential family members in North Carolina and Pennsylvania, who told them they had not seen Troutman since the 1980s.

Their DNA samples helped to identify Troutman.

"Investigators are hoping the public can help provide additional information about John Troutman and what he was doing in Loudon County leading up to his death," the release says.

Anyone with information can call the Loudon County Sheriff's Office at 865-986-4823 or the TBI at 800-TBI-FIND.

This article originally appeared on Knoxville News Sentinel: [DNA helps identify man whose body was found in 2019 near Interstate 75](#)