



**Richard Ploch**  
**LaSalle County Coroner**

**LA SALLE COUNTY FORENSIC CENTER**

520 W. Walnut St.  
Oglesby, Illinois 613548  
Phone 815-434-8268 · Fax 815-434-8306



**\*\*\* NEWS RELEASE \*\*\***

**DATE:** September 13, 2024

**FROM:** LaSalle County Coroner's Office & LaSalle County Sheriff Office

**SUBJECT:** Female "Jane Doe" from 1991 has been identified

On September 13, 1991, a farmer found an unidentified deceased female in a cornfield in Mission Township, (near Norway) in LaSalle County. She was found underneath a curtain with hooks, and was clothed in a men's style dress shirt with stripes, and black spandex pants. There were no shoes or personal effects. She had a significant amount of dental work, breast implants, and two tattoos on her body. Her medical cause of death was determined to be probable cocaine intoxication, but her manner of death was undetermined. She was later interned in the Oakwood Memorial Park. Her headstone reads: "Somebody's Daughter, Somebody's Friend." This case has spanned the timeline of three Sheriffs, Anthony Condie, Tom Templeton, and Adam Diss, and four Coroner's, Marion Osborne, Jody Bernard, William Wujek, and Rich Ploch. All have worked tirelessly on this case for over three decades. As well as their many staff members. Hundreds of leads had been vetted out, flyers and communications were sent across the U.S. and Canada hoping to identify the unknown "Jane Doe." But as time went on the case drew cold. In 2013 she was exhumed from her grave in order to obtain DNA, and re-examine the case findings. Many new investigative techniques were used in hopes of identifying her. Facial reconstruction modeling, age regression, radiocarbon dating, and isotopic diet studies were conducted on her skeletal remains. Although many of these techniques were helpful in providing new information on "Jane Doe," we were still unsuccessful in identifying her and again the case went cold. In 2019, Dr. Matthew Johll, a professor at Illinois Valley Community College, offered to help work on the case. The new technique of Investigative Genetic Genealogy was used by the College in hopes of finding a living relative. Amazingly this produced a list of possible matches. This information was turned over to the Coroner's Office

for further review. This list was long, and required many more long hours of investigative work to narrow the list to more probable matches. Many new leads were developed from this research. In February, 2024, the Sheriff and Coroner's office were informed that the FBI had agreed to provide investigative assistance to our agencies with the "Jane Doe" case. In July, a possible living relative was identified and subsequently confirmed. We announce today that "Jane Doe" has been identified as PAULA ANN LUNDGREN. She was born in 1962, lived primarily in the Chicagoland area, and was 29 at the time of her death discovery. Now that she has been identified, the Sheriff's Office is hopeful that new leads can be developed as to how she came to be in the cornfield on September 13, 1991, and by who was responsible for placing her there. Coroner Rich Ploch and Sheriff Adam Diss want to personally thank all the agencies, investigators, family, friends, past sheriff's and coroner's and the general public that have helped solve this case. "Jane Doe" finally has a name after thirty-three years, PAULA ANN LUNDGREN.

Rich Ploch

LaSalle County Coroner

Adam Diss

LaSalle County Sheriff