



## Employee Recognition Deputy Silver Star Medal



### Deputy Mike Trygg Receives the Deputy Silver Star Medal October 23, 2007

On Tuesday, October 23, 2007 at the Clay County Board Meeting Deputy Trygg received the Deputy Silver Star for his actions as stated in the following nomination made by Patrol Division Commander, Lt. Steve Todd.

#### Nomination Letter

In accordance with the Clay County Sheriff's Office policy Article 30 concerning Awards, I am privileged to nominate Deputy Mike Trygg as eligible to receive the *Deputy Sheriff's Silver Star* award.



**Deputy Mike Trygg and Patrick D. Hancock**

On October 2, 2006, Deputy Mike Trygg responded to the scene of an injury accident at Clay County Road 10 and 290<sup>th</sup> Street. A vehicle had driven off the road and into a body of water near that intersection. A Minnesota State Trooper arrived on scene first and reported that the vehicle was beginning to submerge under the water. Deputy Trygg arrived on scene and quickly entered the water where he attempted to help the trapped driver. Deputy Trygg held the trapped driver's head above the water, allowing the driver to breathe until extrication could be completed by the Hawley Fire

Department. Once extricated, the driver was flown to Meritcare by Lifelight. The driver survived this incident due to Deputy Trygg's actions.

I found that Deputy Trygg arrived on scene 11 minutes prior to Hawley HERT's arrival and likely several minutes longer before the Hawley Fire Department. Deputy Trygg was reportedly in the water immediately upon arrival and remained in the water helping the driver until extrication was completed.

The surviving driver's name is Patrick D. Hancock from Fargo, ND. I spoke to him while researching this incident. Mr. Hancock is extremely grateful to Deputy Trygg for the actions he took. Mr. Hancock stated he spoke to the wrecker driver that removed his vehicle from the water. Mr. Hancock stated that according to the wrecker driver, only a small portion of his vehicle's roof was visible above the water. Mr. Hancock stated he does not remember the accident or the efforts of Deputy Trygg, but stated he is alive today because of what Deputy Trygg did.

