

# Collin County Going the Extra Mile (GEM) Recognition Form

Honoree's Name: Bill Giles

Honoree's Job Title: Equipment Operator

Department: Public Works Road & Bridge

Years of Service with the County: 18

Why the Honoree is receiving a GEM Award including dates:

---

In addition to discharging their routine duties professionally, Public Works employees pride themselves on being vigilant stewards of rural Collin County meaning they are observant of unusual activity and abnormal circumstances. One such event occurred on County Road 599 on October 30. Bill Giles was mowing the road when he noticed significant damage to a crossroad culvert. Upon climbing down to inspect further, he discovered a car upside down mostly submerged in a branch of Tom Bean Creek. Bill notified PW staff who contacted the Sheriff's Office.

PW learned from Deputies that the car belonged to a teen that had been reported missing a week earlier. The teen perished in the overturned car but the alert and conscientious actions of Bill Giles allowed a worried and anxious family to experience some closure to their loved one's disappearance. For Bill's selfless compassion and the reasons listed above, I nominate Bill Giles for the GEM award.

Approved by elected official or department head on the 31 day of Oct., 2014



Signature of Elected Official  
or Department Head



Printed Name

## Jon Kleinheksel

---

**Subject:** FW: Employee Commendation: Bill Giles, Collin County Public Works  
**Attachments:** GEM Bill Giles.docx

-----Original Message-----

From: Lee Howe  
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2014 8:42 PM  
To: Parrish Cundiff; Gary Enna; Ronald Anderson  
Cc: Charles Sibley  
Subject: Employee Commendation: Bill Giles, Collin County Public Works

Sirs,

On 10-3-14, Collin County Public Works employee, Bill Giles, observed a damaged culvert on County Road 599, across a deep creek. Noting the damage was new, Bill exited his vehicle for closer inspection. He notified his supervisor to meet him at the location for photos and follow up. Together they began an in depth inspection where in they also discovered a vehicle at the bottom of the creek, on its top. The vehicle could not be seen from the roadway but obviously damaged the culvert before coming to rest in the creek. The Collin County Sheriff's Office was notified and deputies and investigators arrived at the scene. A check of the vehicles' license plate revealed it was owned by a individual reported missing by his family on 10-23-14, last seen in that vehicle. Subsequently, a deceased person was located in the vehicle who was identified as the missing person.

Due to Bill's dedication and attention to detail a missing person was located and closure was brought to a worried, grieving family. One can not speculate how long the car and individual would have remained at the bottom of the creek, unseen by passing motorists. Bill is to be commended for going the extra mile.

Respectfully,

Lee Howe  
Deputy Sheriff  
Collin County Sheriff's Office  
Patrol Section