

# OFFICER ERIN RALEIGH



The Lifesaving Award is given to department personnel who, by their immediate actions, have saved a human life under unusual and/or extraordinary circumstances.



On October 29, 2003, Officer Erin Raleigh responded to a call of a man passed out in his vehicle in the middle of the roadway at Maxwell and Howard. A School District 81 security officer, Brian Best (a former Police Reserve Officer) had been first on the scene. Both officers quickly determined the man was having medical difficulties and removed him from his vehicle. He was not breathing and there was no pulse. After calling for medical units, the officers performed CPR on the man for several minutes until the Fire Department and ambulance arrived.

At the hospital, Sergeant Evans was told that the man had suffered a severe heart attack; and had Officer Raleigh and Officer Best not started CPR so quickly, the man certainly would have died. The first few minutes following a heart attack are critical and the victim was very fortunate that these officers knew what to do. A note was received from the victim's only child, in which she stated, "I am so grateful for your quick actions that saved his life."

There is no doubt that Officer Raleigh's actions saved the life of this citizen. His quick thinking and calm, clear-headed response are admirable and a positive reflection on him and this department.

Along with this document, Officer Raleigh was issued the Lifesaving Bar, to be worn on his uniform. He was also awarded the Lifesaving Medal at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony, on February 11, 2004.

