On July 16, 1990, Pasco County Detective Rodney Bishop was conducting an area search for a victim of an unrelated murder. At 12:07 p.m. he discovered the skeletal remains of an adult male, approximately 0.25 mile south of SR 54 on the east side of Smith Road in Wesley Chapel (now the north exit of Meadow Point Neighborhood).

The Pinellas-Pasco Medical Examiner’s Office and the Forensic Anthropology Laboratory at USF examined the unidentified skeletal remains. They determined the victim was a white male, 40-60 years old at the time of death, approximately between 5 feet 7 inches tall and 5 feet 9 inches tall, with an unknown weight and hair color. The Pasco-Pinellas Medical Examiner’s Office declared the death as homicidal violence. The victim’s skull exhibited one large skull fracture in the right cranial area. The osteological exam suggested the time of death was a year prior to the discovery of the body, and no more than five years. The victim was missing several teeth, and the remaining teeth were severely worn suggesting he chewed tobacco. The victim’s remains revealed healed fractures of the right hand, right arm, right leg, three right ribs and nose, indicating prior injuries.

Chemical isotope testing shows the following: Lead (Pb) isotopes show this individual has an American origin, and was likely born and lived in USA until time of death. Lower oxygen (O) isotopes in the teeth suggest that the decedent was born and spend childhood to the North, likely NW of FL, possibly in the Western states including inland areas of the West Coast states due to lower strontium (Sr) isotopes (such as Central Washington, Oregon, or NW California). Other geographical areas that are consistent with these results include possible places of birth such as Northwestern Arizona or New Mexico or Eastern Colorado. Higher oxygen (O) isotopes in the bone suggest that the victim spent significant time (i.e., several years) in Florida before his death.

Clothing found among the victim’s remains included:
- Dark blue “American Eagle” pants measured approximately 36 inches wide and 32 inches long.
- Remnants of “Britannia” pants that appear to be brown corduroy.
- Black suspenders with red stripes that have four metal clips and were attached to the corduroy pants.
- Remnants of a light t-shirt, the neck liner of a jacket or sweatshirt, and numerous buttons.
- Black leather, size 8.5 EE men’s shoes.
- Remnants of a red stocking cap with a white stripe.
- The victim’s remains were found partially concealed by a sleeping bag.
- A metal ring with a turquoise inlay in the shape of a peace sign was found near the victim’s remains.

Prior facial approximations were created by Betty Gatiff of SKULLpture Lab in 1991 and again by the USF Anthropology Lab in 2012, but an identification was not successful. Dental and DNA results are on file.

If anyone has any information, please contact:

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