

"Iowa City Truck Driver, Doyle O'Rear, Given State Recognition For Heroism," *Iowa City Press-Citizen*, 25 Oct 1948, p. 11, cols. 2-3.

Iowa City Truck Driver, Doyle O'Rear, Given State Recognition for Heroism

Heroism performed six months ago, and credited with saving the lives of four persons, was given recognition today in the October "Driver of the Month" award of the Iowa Motor Truck association.

Selection of Doyle O'Rear of Iowa City, a truck driver for the Watson Brothers Transportation Co., Omaha, Nebr., by the safety campaign committee of the association, was announced by Executive Secretary John H. Gillespie at Des Moines.

Explaining the delay in making the award, Gillespie said that O'Rear's heroism was not called to the committee's attention until several months after it occurred.

"We have made the selection at this late date," the secretary added, "in order to qualify Mr. O'Rear as an entry in the national 'Driver of the Year' contest of the American Trucking associations. He certainly deserves our Iowa award, and we want him to be in the running for national honors."

The incident on which the award is based occurred on Highway 6, four miles west of Grinnell, last April.

Mr. O'Rear was en route from Rock Island, Ill., to Des Moines when he came upon the scene of a midnight collision between two cars. He stopped at once and set out warning flares.

One car was burning. From the wreckage, O'Rear pulled a Newtonman and two women who were trapped inside. Then he dragged a 19-year-old boy from beneath the second car, where he had been pinned.

Rushing back to his truck, O'Rear grabbed a fire extinguisher and put out the car fire. For several minutes he took care of the injured, giving first aid. When another driver arrived, O'Rear sent him to Grinnell for ambulances and medical aid.

All of the injured were taken to Grinnell and Newton hospitals, and all recovered, according to the award announcement.

O'Rear, an employe of Watson Brothers for nearly seven years, has a record of more than 500,000 miles of driving without an accident. He is married and has two children, Nelson, 11, and Lyda, 10. The family lives at 534 South Dodge street.



DOYLE O'REAR