

### Hiawatha Man Hailed As Hero

A local high school custodian is being recognized as a hero for saving the life of a Hiawatha man, who was trapped inside a flaming car, last weekend(Play Audio :06 seconds)

That's Denny Gray, who works at the Hiawatha High School, and who is credited with saving the life of Gerald Alkire last Saturday.

It was around 7:45 that evening that Gray, and his wife, were traveling from Hiawatha to their home, that the events unfolded(Play Audio :08 seconds)

What they saw, on North 6th street, just outside the city limits, were flames(Play Audio :24 seconds)

It was at that moment, without hesitation, that Gray rushed to the rescue(Play Audio :24 seconds)

Alkire was transported to the Hiawatha Community Hospital, where he was apparently kept overnight for treatment of what authorities identify as minor injuries.

Brown County Sheriff John Merchant says if it hadn't been for the efforts of Gray, the situation could have taken a turn for the worse, maybe even tragic(Play Audio :17 seconds)

Although there has been no formal recognition of Gray's heroics, that could change, with plans in the works to publicly thank the Hiawatha resident for what can only be called a life saving decision.