

## Meet Paul O'toole



Paul O'toole has been an EMT-I for Crystal Quick Response for 18 years. He and his wife Sherry were married in 1997 and they have five children, Cassandra, Kayla, James, Bethany and Christine. They farm west of Crystal.

Paul was a volunteer on the Crystal Fire Department, liked it, so he thought about giving EMS a try. "I'm glad I did."

Paul's responsibilities between calls are: stacking and servicing the ambulance, training to meet state certifications and recruiting new member for the squad. "When a call comes in, we respond as quickly and safely as we can. On the scene we start treatment that will help stabilize the patient. When the ambulance arrives we work together to provide care until it is time to load the patient and transport to the hospital."

Paul enjoys the adrenaline rush when the pagers go off. But the best part of EMS is when the care you provide helps someone. One reward is seeing your patients getting well and back to normal. "It is a way I can help my friends and neighbors!"

"The Crystal Quick Response has responded to several bad car accidents where the passengers are in critical condition. Seeing those patients recover and get back to normal lives makes quite an impact."

A message from Paul to others members of the community, "It is always hard to see your friends and neighbors as your patients, but if you are not there for them when they are hurting, who will be?"