

# Traffic Death Toll Soars To 9

## Roger Swain, 18, Brooklyn, Killed Friday As Pickup Rams Into Bike

A Brooklyn youth Friday evening became Poweshiek county's ninth traffic fatality of 1964 when his bicycle was struck by a pickup truck on a highway at Brooklyn.

### Killed Instantly

Killed instantly was Roger Howard Swain, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Swain of Brooklyn.

Accident occurred a few minutes before 7 p.m. on old Highway 6 south of the railroad overpass. According to Poweshiek County Sheriff Wiley Taylor, young Swain was riding his bike north on the highway when it was struck from behind by a

pickup truck operated by John Joseph Curran, 45, also of Brooklyn.

Assisting Sheriff Taylor with the investigation of the accident were Highway Patrolman John Flannery and Brooklyn Marshal Roy Sisco.

### Dark At Time

It was dark at the time of the fatal crash and Curran told investigating officers he did not observe the bicycle in front of his vehicle. The truck struck the bike from behind, throwing Swain back toward the truck. His head struck the right-hand-side windshield and a large outside mirror and the boy was then thrown down a steep embankment.

A Brooklyn doctor who arrived at the scene just a few minutes later said Swain was killed almost instantly. Curran was not injured.

Sheriff Taylor said the bicycle was equipped with a rear reflector and tail light, but that it could not be immediately ascertained if the equipment was in operating condition.

### No Charges

No charges have been filed. Investigation of the fatal crash is continuing, the Sheriff said.

Traffic death toll in Poweshiek county for the year now stands just one shy of the all-time record of 10 established last year.

Previous 1964 traffic fatalities in the county were:

February 23—John R. Shay, Des Moines, in a two-car crash at the intersection of Highway 6 and Highway 21 in the eastern part of the county.

May 9—Michael Palmer, Grinnell, in a pickup truck - semi-

truck collision on Highway 146 just south of Grinnell.

June 13—Albert Grattan, Grinnell, of injuries received in a one-car accident on Highway 146 in Grinnell on February 18.

June 26—Edward Kester, Grinnell, in a bicycle-auto accident on a Grinnell residential street.

August 9—John Tomlin, Newton, in a two-car accident 1½ miles west of Grinnell on Highway 6.

August 28—Sister Mary Martina of Victor, Calvin C. Toms of Arvada, Colo., and Vernon L. Arnold of Oregon, Ill., in a two-car crash on Highway 6 just north of Brooklyn.

### Not Included

Death of Darrell Rautio of Hopkins, Minn., in a pickup truck crash August 12 on the uncompleted portion of Interstate 80 in the county apparently does not count in the highway death toll as the road was not open to traffic at the time.

Still another area resident died Thursday night at an Iowa City hospital of injuries received in a highway collision. He was Henry John Kuesel, 56, of Victor.

Kuesel was involved in the crash of a car and semi-truck at the intersection of Highway 6 and Highway 212 on Oct. 8. The crash scene is not in Poweshiek county.

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# 9

**Have Died In  
Poweshiek County  
Traffic Accidents  
In 1964**