

Fatality from accident on Hwy. 6

6-23-
2014
GH-R

A two-vehicle accident east of Grinnell last Thursday afternoon took the life of one of the drivers. Two others were injured in the accident which is still under investigation by the Iowa State Patrol.

Larry Miller, 78, of Belle Plaine, was driving a 2006 Saturn Ion eastbound on Hwy. 6 about 4.5 miles east of Grinnell at about 4:20 p.m. last Thursday, June 19. Dorothy Miller, 70, of Belle Plaine, was a passenger in the Ion.

At the same time Gregory Mason, 54, of Blue Springs, Mo., was driving a Ford F 150 pick-up westbound on Hwy. 6 in the same area. According to Iowa State Trooper Matt Schwenn, the Mason truck crossed the center line of the highway and struck the Miller vehicle head-on.

The Miller car came to rest in the south ditch. The Mason truck also ended up in the south ditch, striking and snapping an electric pole.

Both the Grinnell and Malcom Fire Departments were dispatched to the accident scene to assist with removing

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victims from vehicles. The Malcom department extracted one of the victims by using a mechanical extraction tool.

According to Schwenn, Larry Miller was pronounced dead at the accident scene. Both Dorothy Miller and

Larry 'Gene' Miller

Larry 'Gene' Miller, 78, of Belle Plaine and formerly of Grinnell died June 19, 2014, in an automobile accident east of town.

A celebration of his life will be held Saturday, July 5, at the V.F.W. in Newton from 4 to 8 p.m.

He was born in Grinnell on May 25, 1936, the son of Vernon and Ida Grovenberg Miller. He married Dorothy Mouchka on May 25, 1995.

He served in the U.S. Air Force as a jet mechanic from 1954 to 1958. He attended Des Moines Area Community College; worked at Axtell Ford as a mechanic for 30 years; and was a stock car driver at the old Newton Speedway dirt track.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Miller, of Belle Plaine; his children Tonya Miller of Grinnell, Candy See of Newton and Danny Miller of Newton; one sister, Audrey Tyer of Polk City; and four grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, nine brothers and one sister.

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Gregory Mason were transported to Grinnell Regional Medical Center by Midwest Ambulance. Dorothy Miller was treated and released, and Mason's condition was not available.

Assisting Schwenn at the accident scene were other members of the Iowa State Patrol, including Sgt. Greg Obink and Troopers Tyler Bird, Dave Hughes and Korey Reule.