

Bend Man Dies after SW Oregon Single-vehicle Crash

by Richard Burton

A 75-year old Bend man died late Sunday morning from injuries he sustained when his pickup crossed a southern Oregon highway and crashed into a 50-foot pine tree, said Oregon State Police.

Leroy McCaw succumbed to his injuries at Rogue Valley Medical Center in Medford about 10:42 a.m. November 19, approximately 11 hours after the midnight crash.

According to a news release issued by Oregon State Police (OSP), McCaw was driving a 1997 Dodge pickup east on Highway 62 by milepost 53 in southwest Oregon near Prospect, when, "for unknown reasons" it crossed the highway and struck a pine tree. The 50-foot tree, estimated at 30 inches in diameter, snapped at ground level and fell along the highway shoulder where 15 feet of the treetop crashed on top of the pickup cab.

Shady Cove Fire District personnel worked for 20 minutes to extricate McCaw from the vehicle. He was transported by Mercy Flights air ambulance to the Medford hospital, where he later died from his injuries.

OSP troopers from the Central Point Area Command office are continuing to investigate the cause of the accident.

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