

Passenger dies in rollover crash near Junction City

by Cheryl McDermott

The passenger in a sport utility vehicle driven by his wife was killed Wednesday morning when she lost control on a patch of ice west of Junction City, drove into a ditch and rolled the vehicle several times, police reported.

Clifford Guse of Noti died in this rollover crash on Territorial Road west of Junction City on Wednesday - OSP photo
58-year old Clifford Dale Guse of Noti, Oregon was pronounced dead at the scene about 7:45 a.m., February 6, Oregon State Police (OSP) Sgt. Ron Martin said.

Rebecca Ruth Halland, Guse's 29-year old wife and driver of the vehicle, was not injured.

According to Sgt. Martin, preliminary investigation suggests that Halland hit a patch of ice as she traveled north on Territorial Highway near Berg Road in a 2005 Subaru SUV. The vehicle came to a stop upside down in a field after it left the road, drove into a ditch and rolled "multiple times".

Troopers believe Guse was wearing a seat belt, and an investigation led by OSP Springfield Area Command is continuing.

OSP was assisted on scene by Monroe Fire paramedics and Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) personnel. The road was closed for over three hours for accident clean up and investigation before ODOT reopened it to traffic.

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