

Health problem possible cause of fatal crash

by Cheryl McDermott

Deputies say it is possible that a 77-year old driver who died Saturday when his car ran off the road near Sisters, Oregon, and hit a tree may have suffered a medical-related issue prior to the crash.

Deschutes County Sheriff's Sgt. Ronny Dozier and Deputy Alan Borland said that Robert Ray Currie, 77, of Lafayette, Oregon, was wearing a seat belt and the airbag of his 1998 Ford Escort wagon deployed when he crashed near milepost 99 on Highway 20W shortly after noon, February 23.

Paramedics from Sisters tried and failed to revive Currie, who was pronounced deceased at the scene of the crash.

Alcohol doesn't appear to be involved, Sgt. Dozier said, and the investigation is continuing.

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