

## Elderly rancher killed in tragic tractor accident

by Cheryl McDermott

CROOK COUNTY, Ore. — A 78-year old rancher from Brothers, Oregon, was killed Friday afternoon when he became pinned between his tractor and an attachment he was attempting to hook up, deputies reported.

Verl Hammack was found by a neighbor on his ranch at 49120 SE Van Lake Road in rural Crook County about 4:20 p.m., May 16, Crook County Sheriff's Sgt. James C. Savage wrote in a news release.

Deputies, Crook County fire and rescue, and Rager Emergency Services personnel responded to the scene. An AirLife helicopter ambulance was dispatched, but Hammack was deceased by the time it arrived, Savage stated.

—There was no foul play and the incident was determined to be a tragic accident, the sergeant said.

Hammack is survived by his wife, Sybil.

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