

Redmond driver involved in fatal crash near Madras

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

MADRAS, Ore. — Police say the pickup driven by a 45-year old Redmond man collided with a van on Highway 26 near Madras, Oregon on Sunday night in a crash that killed the other driver, injured two passengers, and closed the highway for more than five hours.

Oregon State Police (OSP) Sgt. Chris Seber reported that Todd A. Rhoden, 45, was driving east on Highway 26 near NW Boise Drive in a 2001 Ford F150 pickup about 10 p.m., August 17, when his vehicle struck a westbound van on its left-front corner and side.

The van, a 1995 Toyota Previa driven by 38-year old Elizabeth Jean Duke of Clackamas, came to rest on the westbound shoulder after impact, and the pickup stopped in the westbound lane of traffic, an OSP news release stated.

Duke was pronounced dead at the scene. Her husband, Paul, 39, and seven-year-old son, Jacob, were transported to Mountain View Hospital (MVH) in Madras, Sgt. Seber said. Paul Duke reportedly sustained minor injuries, while Jacob Duke was seriously injured.

Rhoden was treated and released from MVH, and his three passengers declined to be transported for medical evaluation, OSP said. The passengers were identified as Redmond residents Michelle Hale, 36; Tamara Hale, 17; and Taryn Gibson, 17.

The investigation is continuing, troopers said.

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