Banks man dies in motorcycle vs. SUV crash in Yamhill County

by Cheryl McDermott

A 75-year old Banks, Oregon man died Sunday evening from injuries he sustained earlier in the day when his motorcycle collided with an SUV he attempted to pass as the driver was making a left turn, Oregon State Police (OSP) reported.

A 75-year old Banks man riding a Harley Davidson motorcycle (inset) died Sunday following an accident when he crashed into an SUV he attempted to pass while the driver turned left - OSP photo Preliminary investigation indicates that Cornelius resident Ryan Spang, 34, was traveling south on Highway 47 near milepost 31 in a GMC Denali towing a 25-foot travel trailer when the accident occurred about 1 p.m., July 8. Spang, followed by an unidentified witness in a passenger car, activated his turn signal and began to make a left turn.

The witness told troopers that Delmar Lawrence Jepson, 75, started to pass both the witnessâ€™ car and the GMC when he crashed into the Deanliâ€™s left side. Jepson, riding a Harley Davidson motorcycle, was wearing a helmet, troopers said.

Jepson was ejected from the bike and landed in the yard of a home about 75 feet from the crash. He was treated on scene by emergency responders and flown by LifeFlight helicopter to Oregon Health Sciences University where he later died about 6 p.m.

The four occupants of the SUV were transported to Providence Hospital in Newberg with reportedly minor injuries. Spang, his 29-year old wife Miashawnte Spang, and two children aged six and nine, were treated and released.

The investigation is continuing, troopers said.

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