

FOUR PERSONS KILLED IN ACCIDENTS SATURDAY

Three Die in Broadside Crash at Pleasant Mills Late Saturday

Three persons were killed and five were injured Saturday evening, as the result of a grinding broadside crash of two cars in the town of Pleasant Mills at approximately 10:30 p.m. on U.S. highway 33. One law enforcement officer called the wreck "the worst I've ever seen."

Dead are Mrs. Janet M. (Jenny) Sautbine, 24 of Rt. 4, her 4-year-old daughter, Brenda Sautbine and Mrs. Cecilia Sautbine, 55, of Bemidji, Minn. Mrs. Cecilia Sautbine and Brenda Sautbine were killed instantly, while Janet M. Sautbine died moments later.

Adams County Coroner Richard Linn said Janet M. Sautbine died as the result of a fractured neck and internal injuries; Mrs. Cecilia Sautbine sustained a fractured neck, multiple fractures to both legs, a crushed chest and a fracture to the left arm, while Brenda had a fractured skull, internal injuries, fractured neck and fractured collarbone.

The three were passengers in a car operated by Janet Sautbine's husband, Roy, 25, and the trio were in the backseat when the accident occurred. Roy was listed in 'poor condition' at the Parkview Memorial Hospital, Fort Wayne, and is being treated for internal injuries and shock. His father, Louis Sautbine, of Bemidji, Minn., was listed in 'satisfactory condition' at the Adams county memorial hospital. He received head injuries. Roy's two-year-old son, Kurt Allen, was listed in 'fair condition' this morning at Parkview.

OTHER DRIVER'S FAIR

The driver of the other car, Steven R. Hurst, 18, of Rt. 6, was listed in 'fairly good' condition at Parkview this morning, suffering from facial injuries, and a passenger in his car, Donald Affolder, 17, of Rt. 3, was listed in 'good contion' at the Adams county memorial hospital. He received a laceration to his lower lip and abrasions to the forehead.

VISITING HERE

The elder Sautbines were in Adams county for the weekend, visiting with their son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren.

The tragedy took place when a 1967 model car driven by Roy Sautbine, pulling from a side street in Pleasant Mills, near Williamson's gas station, drove directly into the path of an eastbound car on U.S. highway 33 driven by Hurst. The Hurst car, a 1969 model, struck the Sautbine auto on the driver's side, just back of the left front door, splitting the car in half. All six passengers in the Sautbine auto were thrown out.

The two-car accident is still under investigation by the Adams county sheriff's department and Indiana state police.

Both cars were considered total losses.

DOUBLE FUNERAL RITES

Double funeral services will be held at 10 a.m Wednesday at St. Mary's Catholic Church for Mrs. Janet Marie Sautbine, 24, and her four-year-old daughter, Brenda Sue.

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Simeon Schmitt will officiate at the services and burial will be in the Catholic cemetery. Friends may call at the Gillig-Doan & Sefton funeral home, after 7 p.m. today until time of the services. The rosary will be recited at 8 p.m. Tuesday.

Mrs. Sautbine was born in Adams County, November 28, 1944, to Anthony P. and J. Edna Miller-Gase. She was married to Roy D. Sautbine January 9, 1965.

Mr. Sautbine was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and the Rosary society. A former employee of the General Electric Co., she was active in bowling associations.

Surviving in addition to her husband, are one son, Kurt Allen, at home; her father, Anthony P. Gase of Fort Wayne; five sisters, Mrs. James (Barbara) Meyer of Fort Wayne, Mrs. Marjorie Stetler of Decatur, Mrs. Franklin (Marilyn) Spieth of Fair Oaks, Calif., Mrs. Herman (Jackqueline) Kelsey of Monroe, Rt. 1 and Mrs. R. E. (Sandra) Butcher of Decatur; four brothers, Patrick and Robert Gase of Decatur, Maurice Gase of Bluffton and Vincent Gase of Folsom, Calif. Her mother preceded her in death in 1961.

Brenda Sue Sautbine was born in Decatur, June 14, 1965. She was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church.

Surviving are her father; the brother, Kurt Allen; the paternal grandfather, Louis Sautbine of Bemidji, Minn., the maternal grandfather, Anthony P. Gase of Fort Wayne, and the paternal great-grandfather, William Sautbine, of Berne.

RITES IN MINNESOTA

The body of Mrs. Cecilia H. Sautbine, 55, has been sent from the Winteregg-Linn funeral home to the Olsen funeral home at Bemidji, Minn., with funeral services set tentatively for Friday.

She was born in Bemidji, October 27, 1913, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Hansen, and was married to Louis Sautbine in 1934.

Surviving are her husband; two sons, Jack Sautbine, of Pleasant Mills, and Roy Sautbine of Decatur, route 4; one sister, Mrs. Maria Jaycos of Long Beach, Calif.; two brothers, James Hansen of Bemidji and Tillman Hanson of Pontiac, Mich.; and one grandchild.

DEATH TOLL 12

Adams County now has recorded 12 traffic fatalities during 1969 after four people were killed Saturday evening in two separate accidents.

It was also the fourth Saturday in a row that Adams county has recorded a traffic fatality. Eight persons have died as the result of the last four Saturday accidents.

Contributed by Karin King