

Tulsa World
December 12, 2001
Edition: Final Home Edition
Section: NEWS
Page: 11

Crash victim had traffic record

Author: NICOLE MARSHALL; World Staff Writer

Article Text:

A teenage driver who was killed when he crashed a Camaro into a pickup truck on U.S. 75 while trying to evade police had an extensive record of traffic violations and two warrants for his arrest, police said Tuesday.

Victor Eugene Alexander, 17, was pronounced dead at the scene of the Monday night crash.

A man and a woman who were in the pickup truck, Hugh and Shirley Reeves, remained hospitalized in St. John Medical Center's surgical intensive care unit, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Officer Lucky Lamons said Hugh Reeves, 55, was in serious condition with multiple fractures in both legs and Shirley Reeves, 55, was in fair condition suffering from broken shoulders and a cracked sternum.

Karen Reeves, a 17-year-old who was also in the truck, was treated for minor injuries and released Monday night, authorities said.

Lamons said Alexander had two outstanding misdemeanor warrants for traffic offenses. Police theorized that is why he sped away when officers attempted to stop him.

"We are still investigating why he chose to evade police, but we do know that it might be because he did not have a driver's license or insurance, and he had two misdemeanor warrants," Lamons said. "He also had an extensive traffic record with the Tulsa Police Department."

Lamons said officers who were in the 2800 block of East 36th North saw the Camaro driving erratically about 9:12 p.m. Monday.

"They saw the car fishtailing down the street and activated their emergency lights to stop the car. The Camaro jumped the center median and drove northbound onto the southbound exit ramp of the highway," Lamons said.

When police saw the car headed into traffic, they broke off the pursuit but worked to warn oncoming traffic of the approaching Camaro as it continued for about two miles, Lamons said.

The Camaro clipped one car and then crashed into the Ford pickup on U.S. 75 just north of 56th Street North, reports show.

Capt. Jim Hunter said the first officers at the crash scene, Cpl. Darin Filak, Officer Cecil Piercy and Officer Richard Aschoff, pulled the victims from the burning pickup.

Chris Metcalf, a spokesman for the EMSA ambulance service, said paramedics took the Reeves family to St. John Medical Center. Nicole Marshall, World staff writer, can be reached at 581-8459 or via e-mail at nicole.marshall@tulsaworld.com.

Copyright 2001 Tulsa World. World Publishing Co.