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Shawhan Man Sixth Fatality

On Harrison H'ways In A Rash Of Deaths

Harrison County's highway death toll for March climbed to six last week with the death of a Shawhan man.

Funeral services for Veachie Lee Mullen, 45, were conducted Friday, March 27, 1959, at the grave in Jacksonville Cemetery, Russell Cave Pike.

Mullen is survived by his wife, Louise; four daughters, Addie Louise, Dorothy, Sarah and Marquita; his mother, Mrs. Addie Lee Prows, all of Shawhan; and two sisters, Mrs. Oscar Jones, Bourbon County and Mrs. Bertha Hutchison, Cynthiana.

Mullen, a laborer, was born Aug. 12, 1913, in Harrison County. He was a son of the late Charles Mullen and Mrs. Addie Lee Prows of Shawhan.

Graveside rites were conducted by Rev. Floyd D. Rose, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Paris. Burial followed in the Jacksonville Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Grover Criswell, Leroy and Larry Overley, Woodford Clark, Leon Florence and Everett Lail.

Mullen died of injuries received when his car crashed into the Townsend Bridge abutment on U. S. 27, six miles south of Cynthiana, Wednesday, 7 p. m. He was pronounced dead at Harrison Memorial Hospital at 7:30 p. m., 30 minutes after the crash.

Deputy coroner Donald B. Stephens said Mullen died of a crushed chest.

State Trooper Pat Hickey, who investigated the mishap with Trooper Bill Dixon, Bourbon County, said Mullen was alone when his car, headed south, struck the bridge. He said the vehicle struck the left side of the concrete bridge and rolled about 50 feet, halting crosswise in the road.

A reason for the fatal crash could not be determined. Hickey said drivers of two semi-tractor-trailer trucks, told him Mullen had passed them earlier driving at least 90 miles an hour. They reported Mullen narrowly escaped colliding with another vehicle, headed north, when he passed the trucks.

"That's the hardest I've ever seen a car ram any fixed object," Trooper Hickey told a reporter. He said the fender, left front wheel assembly and door were left "welded" to the concrete bridge and had to be pried loose.

The auto, a 1947 Chevrolet, had to be chained to keep it from falling apart while being towed to a Cynthiana garage.

Hickey said there were no skid marks near the mishap scene.

