

Lexington Herald - January 18, 1968



FIRST FATALITY HERE — This is the wreckage in which Mrs. Elizabeth Rose Jones, 44, died yesterday. Her automobile, police said, struck a slick spot on the Versailles Road, crossed the traffic median and slammed broadside into the front of an oncoming car driven by Joseph D. Clayborne, 47, of Falmouth. He and his wife, Mrs. Anetta Clayborne, 47, were injured, not seriously. (Staff Photo).

Local Woman Killed On Versailles Pike

A Lexington woman was killed instantly yesterday afternoon when she lost control of her car, which crossed the Versailles Road median and slammed into an oncoming auto.

Dead is Mrs. Elizabeth Rose Jones, 44, of 2044 Alexandria Drive.

Injured are Joseph David Clayborne, 47, and his wife, Mrs. Anetta Clayborne, 47, both of Falmouth.

The fatal smash-up happened at about 4:40 p.m. in rush-hour traffic west of the Ft. Spring.

Traveling east, Mrs. Jones' auto apparently hit a slick spot while rounding a curve.

The vehicle went into a prolonged slide sideways, crossed the median and buckled broadside around a westbound car operated by Clayborne. Both cars were demolished.

Mrs. Jones was thrown from the wreckage out the driver's door.

Coroner Chester Hager attributed death to a skull fracture and brain damage. He said the woman's head struck the pavement when she was thrown out.

Mrs. Clayborne was pinned in

the wreckage for about 10 minutes.

County Police Sgt. James Mathias and other officers used crowbar to free the injured woman. Mathias received cuts of the hands but wasn't injured seriously.

Both of the Claybornes were in good condition last night at the St. Joseph Hospital, attendants said.

Clayborne suffered a chest injury and his wife sustained a fracture of the left upper arm and multiple lacerations, a spokesman said.

Mrs. Jones was en route home after dropping off one of her husband's employes in Versailles.

Her husband, George D. Jones, operates the Airport Motel Restaurant on the Versailles Road and the Windmill Restaurant on the Nicholasville Road.

He also is owner of Jones Restaurant, 315 West Short Street.

The accident created a traffic jam that extended east almost to the city limits, six miles away.

After the wreckage was par- (See Col. 1, Back Page, This Section)

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tially cleared, one lane on each side of the highway was opened. Traffic was confined to the single arteries for more than an hour.

The death was the first traffic fatality recorded on Fayette County highways this year. At this time last year the toll also stood at one.

A native of Bourbon County, Mrs. Jones was a daughter of the Ira and Clara Elliott Rose, Lexington. She attended Bourbon County schools and was a Baptist.

Besides her husband and parents, Mrs. Jones' survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Barry Marshall, Virginia Beach, Va.; three sons, David Lee Jones, Nicholasville, Pvt. Jerry Shelton Jones, Ft. Gordon, Ga., and George Richard Jones, Lexington; two sisters, Mrs. Morris Tankersley and Mrs. Harold Tester, both of Lexington, and a granddaughter, Lisa Kay Jones, Nicholasville.

The body was taken to the Kerr Brothers Funeral Home.