One dead, one injured in wreck involving two motorcycles

By Micah McCartney | Published on September 13, 2020

One man was killed and another was transported to a local hospital after a fatality wreck Saturday involving two motorcycles north of Decatur.

John B. Arnold, 58, of Corinth, was pronounced dead at the scene by Wise County Precinct 4 Justice of the Peace Willie Garrett. Richard L. Pierson, 55, of Krum, was transported to Medical City Denton with undisclosed injuries.

According to Department of Public Safety spokesman Sgt. Ricky Hunter, the crash occurred about 12:36 p.m. on Farm Road 730 near County Road 2646.

Preliminary investigation results indicate Arnold, driving a 2012 Harley Davidson, was traveling north on Farm Road 730 with a group of motorcyclists. Arnold failed to observe the other drivers were slowing to make a right turn onto County Road 2646.

Arnold's motorcycle struck the rear of Pierson's 2015 Kawasaki motorcycle, causing both drivers to be thrown from their motorcycles. Hunter said Arnold was not wearing a helmet at the time of the crash, while Pierson was.

Initially, Wise County Sheriff Lane Akin said the group of motorcycle riders were in town to support bicyclists in the Eighter from Decatur bike rally. However, Chief Deputy Craig Johnson clarified Monday that the group was not involved with the event.

"It doesn't appear that the people involved in the accident were related to the bike rally," Johnson said. "There were some people that arrived at the scene that were possibly in support of the event, but folks with Raquel's Wings contacted us and said the motorcyclists were not a part of the event. There was a lot of information very quickly [and] several off-duty law enforcement motorcyclists were involved. The information just completely changed."