

Jones County Traffic Deaths Up in 1969 as State Death Toll Takes Drop

Unfortunately Jones County did not share in the overall drop in highway deaths experienced in the state in 1969. For Jones County the death toll on the highways climbed from eight in 1968 to 10 last year.

The first fatal accident of '69 in Jones County was a twin-tragedy that came on January 25th three miles north of Maysville on US 17, when two Camp Lejeune Marines were killed when their car went out of control and ended in the woods. They were Leonard Fernands, a native of Atlanta and Frederick Morris of Baltimore.

The second fatal accident was also one in which two persons were killed and it was much a repetition of the first when William Lee Meadows of Pollocksville lost control of his car on the James City road seven miles east of Pollocksville and rammmed a tree, killing him and Earl Esmond Bell, also of Pollocksville.

On April 13th the first of the county's two pedestrian deaths claimed the life of 17 year-old Alton Ward of Trenton just north of Trenton on Rural Paved Road 1001.

On June 18th Bicycle Rider Alphonso Canady of Maysville was instantly killed just south of Pollocksville on US 17 when he swerved his bike into the path of a passing car.

On July 25th the only two-car fatality of the year came at Friendship Church crossing when Eddie Lee Kornegay of Trenton, a passenger in one of the two cars, was killed.

The second pedestrian death came on September 1st on Rural Paved road 1309 claiming the life of David Chadwick of Kinston route 6 who was either drunk or unconscious from other causes on the highway and was hit by a passing car.

The final fatality of the year came on September 13th three miles east of Trenton on NC 58 when Tallman Whitfield Taylor of Maysville route 1 lost control of his car at high speed and was instantly killed.

Reflections on the 1969 traffic toll in Jones County:
—All of the 10 victims were male.

—Only one accident involved two cars.
—High speed was the prime element in seven of the 10 deaths.

—Six of the 10 victims were Jones Countians.

—The average age of the victims was 31.3 years.

Lenoir County Deaths

The Pattern of death on the highways improved in 1969 in North Carolina, falling below the previous year's figures for the first time in many years. Lenoir County's traffic toll followed this statewide trend, dropping from 19 in 1968 to 16 in 1969.

But the New Year didn't start off in that fashion with January '69 recording three of the 16 deaths for the year. May, September and November were the only months of '69 that death took a holiday on the highways of Lenoir County, and as is true too often December proved to be the worst month of the year with four traffic fatalities through 10 a.m. on December 31st as this is being written.

The first victim of the year in Lenoir County was Kenneth Ray Scott of Lucama route 1 who was killed in a single car accident 10 miles south of Kinston on US 258 on January 5th.

The county had two twin fatalities during the year and the first of these came at 12:12 a.m. January 19th one mile south of Kinston on US 258,

claiming the lives of Henry Allen Martin and Carlie Ray Garris, when their car went out of control and hit a utility pole.

February's only casualty was Kelly Bryan Morris, who also died in a one-car accident at Vine Swamp south of Kinston on the Trenton highway early on the morning of February 8th.

March had a single casualty in Lenoir County and it was another one-car accident just east of Pink Hill that killed former Kinstonian Gary Paul Batt, who was living in Raleigh at the time of his death.

In April another one-car accident a mile south of LaGrange claimed the life of Quincy Lee Sutton of LaGrange route 3.

In June the story was about the same with Brenda Faye Hill of Snow Hill route 2 being killed in a single-car accident three miles north of Kinston on Rural Paved Road 1700.

July's only fatal accident on the 18th was also a lone-car type .9 east of LaGrange and it claimed the life of Jesse Cornelius Jones of LaGrange route 3.

In August the first death from a two-car accident claimed life of Allen James Rhoe of Kinston route 1 in an accident on the 13th one mile north of Kinston. Rhoe died on August 21st from the injuries he suffered in this crash.

October was a deadly month or Lenoir County, claiming three lives. The first came on October 12th four miles north of Kinston when Grover Isler Jr. of 1512 Liberty Heights was killed instantly as he drove into another car while driving in the wrong lane of traffic.

On October 20th 3.9 miles west of Kinston on US 70 Robert Dennis Walker of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania lost control of his car and ran into the fence around the yard of Reuben Da-

THE JONES COUNTY JOURNAL

NUMBER 42 TRENTON, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 1970 VOLUME XVII

vis' home.
On October 29th Richard Mitchell White of Greenville lost control of his car in the curve just north of Kinston on the Snow Hill Road and died shortly after from the injuries he suffered in this crash.

The second double death accident came on December 6th just north of Kinston when James Lee Simmons of Kinston lost control of his car and crashed into the Brightleaf drive-in theater, killing him instantly and inflicting injuries on Loretta Koonce from which she died several hours later.

On December 20th Fred Lee Garner of Kinston suffered injuries from which he died a few hours later when Cato Mills of Dover route 2 lost control of his car on US 70 east of Kinston near the Shrine Club.

The next day, December 21st, seven year-old Fred Lee Kornegay of Grifton route 2 ran into the path of a car driven by Mrs. Ruby Blount of Faison and suffered head injuries from which he died a few hours later.

The final traffic death of the year was a single vehicle crash north of Kinston at 8:30 Christmas Eve night that killed 17 year-old Frederick Allen Becton, who lost control of a pickup truck and crashed into a ditch near his home.

Reflections on these 16 traffic deaths include:
—Only two involved more than one vehicle.
—14 of the victims were male.
—13 of the victims were Lenoir Countians.
—9 of the accidents took place after dark.
—12 of the victims were drivers.

Felonious Assault Charge Heads List Of Holiday Arrests

Jones County Sheriff Brown Yates reports that holiday period arrests in the county were headed by a felony charge against Douglas Campbell of Trenton route 2, who is charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill.

Campbell is charged with shooting Cleveland Roberts who is still under treatment in the University Hospital at Chapel Hill.

Walter Roy of Pollocksville was charged with assault on a female, Aley Roberts of Trenton route 2 was charged with drunken driving, Eugene Strayhorn of Pollocksville was charged with public drunkenness and disorderly conduct, and James Franklin Strayhorn, also of Pollocksville, was charged with public drunkenness.

Jenkins Gas Co. Files 10 Law Suits For Past Due Bills

Jones County Court Clerk Rogers Pollock reports that Jenkins Gas Company of Pollocksville has filed 10 civil suits in his office, seeking to collect past due bills and interest on those debts from the date of the action.

The list and amount of debt alleged in each includes Cornell Waters \$551.43, Edward Rich \$585.98, Robert Moore \$2,243.68, J. R. Barber \$333.80,

Jones Countian Nominated for Morehead Award

Twenty-three high school male seniors from 13 counties in this area will be interviewed in Kinston Tuesday, January 6, by the District II Morehead Selection Committee.

The interviews will be held at the Kinstonian Motel and Restaurant.

Some of the District II nominees include William Cyrus Pruitt of Maysville, and Michael Lynn Bishop and Courtney Mitchell III, both of Kinston.

Six finalists will be chosen from District II to appear in Chapel Hill Feb. 27-March 2, for interviews with the Central Morehead Selection Committee.

Each of the State's 10 Morehead Awards district committees will select six finalists to be interviewed in Chapel Hill, along with 52 nominees from 26 private preparatory schools.

Morehead Awards provide all-expense paid undergraduate educations at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. They are valued at \$8,400 each for North Carolina students for four years of study.

The Awards were established in 1951 by John Motley Morehead, a UNC graduate and native North Carolinian who resided in Rye, N. Y., until his death in 1965.

Monroe Powell \$427.80, Mack Sims \$694.66, Ralph Noble \$311, Zeke Morton \$242.77, David Collins \$166.54 and John S. Rouse \$219.25.

Jones County Highway Casualty List for 1969 Worse Than 1968

Date	Victim	Age	Home	Place of Accident
January 25	Lenoard E. Fernands	22	Camp Lejeune	3 Miles North of Maysville on 17
January 25	Frederick D. Morris	22	Camp Lejeune	3 Miles North of Maysville on 17
February 28	William Lee Meadows	36	Pollocksville	7 Miles East of Pollocksville
February 28	Earl Esmond Bell	49	Pollocksville	7 Miles East of Pollocksville
April 13	Alton Ward	17	Trenton	pedestrian .5 Mile N. of Trenton
May 9	Franklin Bryant	27	Decatur, Illinois	6.5 Miles East of Trenton
June 18	Alphonso Canady	17	Maysville	bicycle .3 Mile S. of Pollocksville
July 25	Eddie Lee Kornegay	48		2 Miles North of Trenton
September 1	David Chadwick	42	Kinston	pedestrian on RP 1309
September 13	Tallman W. Taylor	33	Route 1, Maysville	3 Miles East of Trenton on NC 58

Lenoir County's Traffic Death Toll Tabulation for 1969

Date	Time	Victim	Age	Home	Place of Accident
January 5	10:40 p.m.	Kenneth Ray Scott	38	Lucama RFD 1	10 Miles South on US 258
January 19	12:12 a.m.	Henry Allen Martin	21	18-A Simon Bright Homes	1 Mile South on US 258
January 19	12:12 a.m.	Carlie Ray Garris	28	29-A Simon Bright Homes	1 Mile South on US 258
February 8	12:30 a.m.	Kelly Bryan Morris	20	2604 Hodges Road	7 Miles South on NC 58
March 19	10:10 a.m.	Quincy Lee Sutton	53	LaGrange RFD 3	1 Mile South of LaGrange
April 19	7:10 p.m.	Gary Paul Batt	26	Raleigh	.8 Mile East of Pink Hill
June 14	6:00 p.m.	Brenda Faye Hill	3 mos.	Snow Hill	3 Miles North of Kinston
July 18	11:25 a.m.	Jesse C. Jones	47	LaGrange	1.9 Miles East of LaGrange
August 13	1:00 p.m.	Allen James Rhoe	56	Kinston RFD 1	1 Mile North of Kinston
October 12	5:25 p.m.	Grover Isler Jr.	29	1512 Liberty Heights	4 Miles North of Kinston
October 20	6:05 p.m.	Robert Dennis Walker	20	Pittsburgh	3.9 Miles West of Kinston
October 29	10:10 a.m.	Richard M. White	56	Greenville	.3 Miles North of Kinston
December 6	11:15 p.m.	James Lee Simmons	22	617 Oak Street	.4 Mile North of Kinston
December 6	11:15 p.m.	Loretta Koonce	20	211 East South Street	.4 Mile North of Kinston
December 20	12:20 p.m.	Fred Lee Garner	20	1100 Sasser Street	4 Miles East of Kinston
December 21	3:30 p.m.	Fred Thomas Kornegay	7	Grifton RFD 2	5 Miles North of Kinston
December 24	3:15 p.m.	Frederick A. Becton	17	Kinston RFD 6	3 Miles North of Kinston