

TRAFFIC RECORD



A Publication of the **Towing & Recovery Association of Kentucky**— OCT 2016 Edition

OCTOBER MEETING SPONSORED BY MATHENY MOTORS

**MONTHLY MEETING WILL BE HELD OCT 18TH AT 6:00PM EST AT:
RENO'S ROADHOUSE 1695 FLEMINGSBURG RD., MOREHEAD, KY**
Mark your Calendars!

During our September meeting, we had some great discussion about the 'Move Over' law, and it would prove to be quite ironic in perspective of the events that have happened in our industry, that hit very close to home. This edition of the newsletter is somewhat somber; as it includes stories of fellow towers that lost their life in this past month. It's always devastating to hear of news such as this, but when it's just down the road from you it really humbles your thoughts. We ask that you take the time to educate on the importance of the 'Move Over' law. Spread the word to everyone you come in contact with; your customers, your friends, anyone. Your message and word of mouth could save someone's life.

Mike Penn presented an opportunity at the last meeting, to have the 'Move Over' law added to the Kentucky Driver's manual, which would be of great impact and a huge forward step for not only our industry but any responders, road workers, etc. Let's help get that carried through Legislation any way we can!

We will be travelling to Morehead, KY this month for our meeting, hope to see everyone out! Please be safe everyone.

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Tow Driver Killed in Powell County, KY

STANTON, Ky. (WKYT) - A tow truck driver was killed in a crash while on the job.

The crash happened around 10:15 Monday night in the westbound lanes the Bert T. Combs Mountain Parkway near the 19 mile marker in Powell County.

Clark County Coroner Robert Gayheart said Mark Banks, 48, of Banks Towing, was loading a vehicle onto a tow truck when another car hit him. Banks died at Clark Regional Medical Center, said Gayheart

The driver of the car involved was taken to the hospital, according to Gayheart. That person's name and condition were not released.

Banks' stepfather, Logan Banks, said Mark Banks was a careful worker.

"He wore his vest after dark. He done everything by the book. All his lights worked," Logan Banks said.

He said Banks had a wife and two daughters.

"He was always talking about his girls, how proud he was of them," he said.

The Powell County Sheriff's Office and Kentucky State Police are handling the investigation.

Tow Driver Killed Near West Point, KY

Family members say tow truck driver Steve Simpson Jr., 42, was already at home Monday night when he chose to respond to a call.

It was just before 10 p.m. Monday when Simpson arrived at the 16600 block of Dixie Highway, near the county line.

According to investigators and eyewitnesses, Simpson had just finished loading a truck when he was struck by a van and killed. The driver of the van did stop, but it's unclear if he will face any charges.

The victim's son, Derrick Simpson, said Wednesday night it had been a difficult few days: "Life isn't the same any more. And there's not a night I go without thinking about him."

Derrick Simpson and his fiancée, Hayley Scott, said his father liked towing but really enjoyed the people. Among co-workers Simpson had developed a reputation as a go-to-guy.

"Basically every run, anything you need him for and he was on time, every time. They just started calling him Super Steve," Simpson said, with Scott adding, "It was AAA that started calling him that and it just kind of stuck."

"Super Steve" was also known as "Pap Pap.," a grandfather of five, with a sixth on the way. Scott only recently learned she was pregnant and is devastated their child will never know Simpson.

Family members say he was a good guy, who filled his spare time working on Mustangs and volunteering as a Special Olympics coach. And Hayley Scott says he welcomed her into the family with open arms.

"It was amazing. He was the dad I've never had. He's been there since I met him."

Derrick Simpson said his father had been there his whole life, not only as a dad but a best friend.

"I have to keep my head up high and take it day by day," Simpson said, of learning to cope with the loss of his father.

The family, which calls Meade County home, tells WLKY they have been overwhelmed by the support from their community and by Simpson's boss and co-workers at Scalf's Towing.

In fact, tow truck drivers are planning on meeting Saturday at 10 a.m. at the Ohio Valley Raceway to form a procession. All drivers are invited to be a part of the procession.

Simpson's funeral will be at 2 p.m. that day at Hager Funeral Home in Brandenburg.

Anyone wishing to help the family cover expenses can donate on their [GoFundMe](#) page


*In
Loving
Memory*

TRAK Monthly Meetings

~~March 15th — Cave City/Glasgow~~

~~April 19th — Louisville, Tony's Wrecker Svc.~~

~~May 17th — Lexington, Robert's Towing~~

~~June 21st — Elizabethtown, Texas Outlaw~~

~~July 19th — Florence~~

~~August — TBA~~

~~September 20th — Leitchfield~~

~~October 18th — Morehead~~

~~November 15th — Bardstown~~

~~December — Christmas party~~

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