

Tragic Death Today in Indianapolis Reminds Us That Pedestrian Accidents Can Kill

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It's Christmas week, and we'll never know what plans were in the thoughts of <u>Miriam</u> <u>Macdonald</u>, 80, this morning, as she strolled along the northbound side of Georgetown Road at <u>around 8:30 am</u>. Mrs. Macdonald was walking along, near the intersection of Georgetown Road and 71st Street, when she was hit by a vehicle driven by Fred Johnson, 71, another Indianapolis resident.

Mrs. Macdonald was no match for the Sports Utility Vehicle; she passed away today at St. Vincent Hospital. The loss of a loved one is always hard but to have this happen during the holidays is especially grievous: our sincerest condolences to her family and friends.

We don't know yet if weather conditions were a factor here (was snow forcing Mrs. Macdonald to trudge in the roadway?) or if alcohol played a role (though reports are the driver has been tested, no results have been released at the time of this post).

Last January, another <u>Indianapolis woman was walking along the road and was struck and killed</u> <u>by a pickup truck</u>. **Angela K. Lewis**, 34, may have been in the roadway according to media reports: it was 7 o'clock in the evening, dark, and there was snow on the ground.

A year before that (January 2009), **Amber Raines**, 20, died after she was struck by a police car as she was crossing Keystone Avenue. It was around nine in the evening, and Raines was with friends as they walked to a nearby New Year's Eve party.

With today's news, please take heed: people do die while walking along Indianapolis streets — something that we never think would happen. Particularly where snow is a factor, pedestrians need to be aware of how vulnerable they are just walking along the street.

Pedestrian accidents do happen. Be careful out there, Indianapolis!