

Borden woman dies in accident

Written by Administrator

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The woman whose actions apparently caused a disastrous double-fatality accident last December on Interstate 65 has now died in a vehicle accident in Clark County.

Jennifer Pauline Just, 35, had reportedly just agreed to a plea bargain with the Scott County Prosecutor's Office in which she would be sentenced to eight years in jail for her part in the December 13, 2009, mishap that killed an elderly Austin couple.

However, Just drowned in a pond off a sharp curve on Pixley Knob Road in Clark County late on Thursday night, October 7. She had been driving with her eight-year-old son as a passenger. The child was asleep when the accident occurred.

The boy said his mother managed to break out the rear window of the vehicle and reportedly told her son to swim to shore and ask for help. He did as his mother instructed. The neighbor called 9-1-1, and rescuers arrived but not in time to save Just. Just's funeral was conducted on Tuesday, October 12, in Jeffersonville. Additional information may be found in this newspaper's obituary column.

The original criminal charges filed against Just after the I-65 accident that claimed the lives of James and Thelma Jewell last December included two Class B felony counts of operation of a motor vehicle causing death with a controlled substance in blood; two Class B felonies of failure to stop after an accident resulting in death; two Class C felony counts of operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated causing death; two Class C felonies of reckless homicide; two Class D felonies of operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated causing serious bodily injury; and a Class B misdemeanor of false informing. Most of those counts were based on the results of blood alcohol and other chemical testing.

Just was accused of having struck the rear of the Jewells' 2003 Toyota Tacoma pickup truck around 1 p.m. on December 13 as the couple was driving north on I-65 between Scottsburg and Austin.

The Tacoma went out of control, crossed the median and hit a southbound semi-tractor-trailer, killing the Jewells.

Sentencing for Just had been scheduled for October 28 in Scott Superior Court.