

## Austin resident dies in Seymour area crash on U.S. Highway 31 Thursday afternoon

Written by Administrator

Wednesday, 04 June 2014 00:00 -

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An Austin woman died from injuries received in a two-vehicle crash south of Seymour on Thursday, May 29.

Debra Kaye Coomer, 55, was pronounced dead at the scene of the mishap, which occurred shortly after 5 p.m. at the intersection of U.S. Highway 31 and County Road 50N.

The woman's husband, Thomas "Tommy" Coomer, 58, had been attempting to turn north onto U.S. 31 from the county road, but traffic was backed up because of a bridge failure in the construction zone on Interstate 65. Because of that issue, southbound vehicles were being temporarily detoured onto U.S. 31 South at Seymour.

According to information received by Sgt. Mark Helms of the Indiana State Police, Versailles Post, traffic in the southbound lane on U.S. 31 had stopped.

A semi-tractor trailer driver was reported to have motioned Thomas Coomer to pull out. Coomer pulled out in front of the semi, and, as he continued on into the northbound lane, the couple's 2008 Toyota Corolla was hit broadside by a 2005 Chevy Uplander van driven by Timothy Brock, 60, Seymour.

Debra Coomer had been riding in the car's front passenger seat. She received massive injuries.

Thomas Coomer and Brock suffered what was described as minor injuries. Each was transported to Schneck Medical Center in Seymour by ambulance for treatment. The men were later released.

Officers with the Jackson County Sheriff's Department and firemen with the Vernon Township Volunteer Fire Department in Crothersville assisted at the scene.

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Debra "Debbie" Coomer was born in Salem to Wilma C. Pruett-Munden and the late Richard L. Pruett. She was a former teacher's aide at Austin Elementary School and a current employee of Aisin Manufacturing Inc. in Seymour.

Survivors include a son, Jason Coomer, and his wife Jennifer of Edwardsville, Il.

Additional information may be found in this edition.

Her funeral was conducted on Monday morning, June 2, at the Buchanan Funeral Home in Austin. The Rev. Gary Satterly officiated.

Burial was in Scottsburg Cemetery.

Memorial gifts may be arranged through the staff of the funeral home to benefit [VictoryJunction.org](http://VictoryJunction.org).