

SEDALIA DEMOCRAT
18 Aug 1968 1/1 to 3

Third Fatality Of Year Recorded Near Fair Gate

The death of Charles Lewis Meyer, 24, Route 2, Otterville, about 10:50 p.m. Friday was the third traffic death for Sedalia this year. Meyer was killed when struck by a car driven by Donnie Keith Knipmeyer, 17, Sweet Springs, on Clarendon Road a short distance south of Gate Three to the Missouri State Fair Grounds.

It was a coincidence that the tragic death of Meyer came almost a year to the day that his first cousin, James Stotts, 21, was killed while riding a motorcycle on South U.S. Highway 65 about 10 miles south of Sedalia. Stotts was killed August 19.

Meyer and a friend, Lloyd Stevens, 49, also of Route 2, Otterville, had been at the Missouri State Fair, and left through a new gate, number seven, near the swine building and were walking north on the blacktop road when the

accident occurred. Stevens said he was walking in the grass and Meyer on the edge of the pavement when he was struck.

It was reported Knipmeyer was driving a 1967 Chevrolet sedan and drove out the same gate, driving north on Clarendon Road. The right front fender struck Meyer knocking him up into the air and he struck the windshield on the right edge shattering it. He then fell into the ditch on the east side of the roadway.

Knipmeyer stopped and, learning the man was badly hurt, drove on to the KDRQ radio station where he asked Hank Marshall, Jr., who was operating the broadcasting board, to call the police. Mayhall notified the police and in turn called on their two-way radio to Don Harms, who was just leaving the fair grounds and notified him of the accident. Harms stopped and notified a State Highway Patrolman, and then went to the radio station and contacted Knipmeyer and his passenger Ricky E. Pond, 17, 300 North Locust, Sweet Springs. Harms and the two boys then drove back to the scene of the accident, leaving the Knipmeyer car parked at the radio station.

The young driver reported he did not see the man he struck until it was too late to avoid the accident.

Dr. C. Gordon Stauffacher, coroner, was notified, went to the scene and pronounced Meyer dead. The man had suffered a fractured skull, possible broken neck, and a fractured left leg. The Sedalia Ambulance Service removed the body to the Ewing Funeral Home.

The City limits is in the center of Clarendon Road, and

the fact the accident occurred on the east half of the pavement put the accident inside Sedalia. Police, the Sheriff's department and State Highway Patrolmen went to the scene to conduct the investigation.

Knipmeyer was issued a police summons for careless and imprudent driving and resealed on a \$100 bond to appear in police court Monday morning Aug. 19.

Meyer was born in Sedalia, Jan. 30, 1944, the son of Otto Meyer and Mildred Pettis Meyer.

He lived all of his life in Sedalia and the Otterville community, attending the Otterville school.

He is survived by his father and step-mother, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Myer, Route 2, Otterville; his mother, Mrs. Mildred Hargrove, Beale Air Force Base, California; two brothers, Lee Meyer, Great Falls, Mont.; Larry Meyer, Smithton; two half-brothers, Johnny Ray Meyer, and Ronnie Meyer; three half-sisters, Shirley Meyer, Donna Meyer and Linda Meyer, all of the home, Route

2, Otterville; his paternal grandfather and step-grandmother, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Meyer, Route 1; and his paternal grandmother, Mrs. Lorean Meyer, Route 2, Sedalia.

The body is at the Ewing Funeral Home. Funeral arrangements have not been completed pending the arrival of his father, Otto Meyer, who is en route to Sedalia from Great Falls, Mont., where he was on vacation.