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## Officials identify North Dakota man killed in Roosevelt County wreck

- [By JORDON NIEDERMEIER \[jniedermeier@billingsgazette.com\]\(mailto:jniedermeier@billingsgazette.com\)](#)
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Officials identified 54-year-old Robert Walter Vann IV, of Minot, N.D., as the man killed in a head-on collision near Brockton on Tuesday.

Roosevelt County Undersheriff John Summers said Vann worked for BNSF railroad. He was in a company vehicle at the time of the wreck.

Roosevelt County Sheriff's deputies responded to the scene at about 9 a.m. Vann was trapped in an SUV and was extricated by Poplar Fire Department. He was pronounced dead on scene.

Montana Highway Patrol took over the crash investigation. According to MHP, Vann was one of two occupants of the SUV driving west on U.S. Highway 2. The driver attempted to pass a snowplow that was kicking up snow and the SUV struck an eastbound pickup head-on.

The SUV came to rest on the south side of the road and the pickup on the north. In addition to Vann, three other people were injured. Vann was wearing a seat belt.

<https://smart-union.org/news/north-dakota-member-dies-bnsf-crew-van-accident/>

## North Dakota member dies in BNSF crew van accident

Robert W. Vann IV, 54, was killed Tuesday, Jan. 10 when the BNSF crew van that he was riding in was involved in a head-on collision with a pick-up truck near Wolf Point, Mont.

Vann served his country in the U.S. Air Force before hiring out as a conductor with BNSF in Minot, N.D. He had more than 13 years of service with the railroad at the time of his death and was very active in Local 1059. Vann served as local legislative representative from 2011 to 2013; legislative vice chairperson from 2012 to 2016; and vice local chairperson from 2015 to 2017. During his free time, he enjoyed volunteering in his community.

Vann is survived by his wife Terra Vann; children Cassie (Joe) Faiai, Bobby (Virginia) Vann, Chase (Cassie) Vann, Tiffany (Mike) St. Lawrence, Cody Vann and Camie Vann; grandchildren Kierna, Kyric, Sefa, Alyssa, Samson, Aisi, Teia and Brooklyn; sister Susan (David) Vann-Spruill; brother Andrew (Sandy) Vann; and a few nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents Robert III and Mary (Flowers) Vann; and grandparents Thelma and Robert Vann II, and Luther and Mae Flowers.

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, Jan. 14, 2017, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 2025 9<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Minot, ND 58701. Click [here](#) to leave condolences for the family.