As many of you sadly know, we lost a Brother last week in a tragic work truck accident. Keith Whited, 40, of Castlewood, Va., was killed Sept. 25 following a traffic collision involving his Norfolk Southern fuel truck.

Brother Keith had been employed with N.S. for 10 years and was a member of Affiliated System Federation Local Lodge 571.

Amongst his friends and Brothers on the railroad, Keith will be remembered fondly for his genuine kindness and friendly demeanor. A big sports fan, like many in the area, Brother Keith loved Virginia Tech football. He also enjoyed the outdoors, hunting and fishing, kayaking and his jeep.

But most of all, Brother Keith loved his family. He was a proud husband, stepfather and he could not have been more pleased to brag about the newest addition to his life, his baby granddaughter, Penny, who he bragged and gushed about daily.

Our Brotherhood will greatly miss Keith Edward Whited, and our deepest and most sincere condolences go out to his wife, Stephanie, and his stepsons, Codey and Justin, and all of his friends on the railroad.

The Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office identified two drivers who were involved in a fatal crash on Jennelle Road Wednesday.
Keith Whited, 40, of Castlewood, Virginia, died in the crash. Alexander Zuchowicz, of Blacksburg, was injured in the crash and transported to LewisGale Hospital Montgomery, according to sheriff’s office Capt. Brian Wright. Zuchowicz’ age was not released.

Just before 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office responded to a crash between a Norfolk Southern work truck and a Ford SUV near the road’s intersection with Cedar Run Road, according to Wright.

An investigation showed that the Norfolk Southern truck over-corrected while trying to maintain control on the windy road and the truck crossed the center line and struck the SUV, according to Wright.

Firefighters from Blacksburg, Christiansburg and Roanoke Valley Regional Hazardous Materials team battled the diesel fuel fire. Black smoke could be seen billowing from the crash Wednesday morning.


Authorities identify Norfolk Southern worker who died in Montgomery County crash
By Jeff Williamson - Digital Content Manager - Posted: 2:32 PM, September 25, 2019
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MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Va. - The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office released the name of the 40-year-old man who died in Wednesday morning’s crash on Jennelle Road.

Keith Whited, of Castlewood, Virginia, was driving a Norfolk Southern truck when he left the right side of the road, overcorrected and crossed the center line into oncoming traffic, according to the Sheriff’s Office.

Whited's truck hit an SUV being driven by Alexander Zuchowicz, of Blacksburg, which caused both cars to overturn.

Diesel fuel that spilled from the tank of the truck resulted in the truck catching fire, according to the sheriff's office.

Zuchowicz was taken to Montgomery Regional Hospital with what the Sheriff's Office says are non-life-threatening injuries.

ORIGINAL STORY
One person is dead and another person is in the hospital after a crash in Montgomery County on Wednesday morning.

At about 8:26 a.m., the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office responded to the crash involving a Norfolk Southern work truck and a Ford SUV in the 900 block of Jennelle Road near its intersection with Cedar Run Road.

Upon arrival, Blacksburg Rescue Squad transported the SUV's driver to the hospital. The seriousness of the driver's injuries are not known at this time.
The driver of the work truck was pronounced dead at the scene, according to the Sheriff's Office.

Members of the Blacksburg Fire Department, Christiansburg Fire Department and the Roanoke Valley Regional Hazardous Materials team were on the scene due to the Norfolk Southern vehicle fire and an associated diesel fuel spill from a tank on the truck.

Once both the initial investigation and family notifications have been completed, we will provide an update.

Traffic along Jennelle Road is currently being detoured due to the incident.

Members of the Blacksburg Police Department also responded to the scene.