



# OFFICE OF SHERIFF

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## O'BRIEN COUNTY

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August 12, 2020

The O'Brien County Sheriff's Office is investigating an accident that took the life of a 67-year-old man from Underwood, Iowa.

The O'Brien County Communication Center received a call on Tuesday August 11, 2020 at 11:10 p.m. The caller reported that a vehicle had driven through the "Road Closed" signs east bound on highway 18 into the bridge construction and had started on fire. The location of the bridge construction is approximately 1 mile west of Hartley on Highway #18.

Officers responded to the scene and discovered a grey 2003 Buick Century, registered to **ROBERT ELWOOD CROTSLEY**. Crotsley had driven through the "Road Closed" sign and fencing used to block the 6400 mile of Highway #18 due to bridge construction. He continued eastbound where the vehicle struck a flatbed trailer registered to Christensen Bros Inc. of Cherokee, Iowa. The vehicles continued 108 feet after impact and came to rest in the middle of Highway #18.

The driver of the vehicle Robert Elwood Crotsley was pronounced dead at the scene by the O'Brien County Medical Examiner. The O'Brien County Sheriff's Office was assisted by the Iowa State Patrol, Hartley Police Department, Hartley Fire Department, Hartley Ambulance, and the Sutherland Police Department.