

Dayton woman, 32, dies in I-65 crash

By Tom Demeropolis
Post staff reporter

A Dayton woman driving home from vacation died Monday when her SUV ran off Interstate 65 south of Louisville and overturned.

Brandy Jo Strange, 32, was driving her Suzuki SUV back from Florida with her son, 13-year-old Michael Powell III, fiancé Shawn H. Eastin, 36, of Dayton, and his son, 16-year-old Shawn M. Eastin when the crash occurred about 3:30 a.m. 6 miles north of Elizabethtown.

The two teens and Eastin were injured.

Strange might have fallen asleep, according to a Kentucky State Police report, before her vehicle veered off the right shoulder.

Strange's brother, Jim Griggs, of Florence, said his nephew told him the vehicle rolled six times.

Strange and her fiancé were not wearing seatbelts and were ejected from the vehicle.

Strange was pronounced dead at the scene. Shawn H. Eastin was taken to the University of Louisville Hospital, where he is in serious but stable condition.

The boys, who were wearing seatbelts, were taken to Hardin Memorial Hospital and released on Monday.

A memorial fund has been set up in Strange's name at the Fifth Third Bank in Bellevue to cover funeral expenses, with any leftover money going into a trust fund for her son.

Funeral arrangements are pending.

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