

Georgetown man who 'loved life', killed in Hwy 401 crash

By **LISA TALLYN**
Staff Writer

A Georgetown man was killed in a collision on Hwy. 401 west of Hwy. 6 in Puslinch Township Wednesday morning.

Cambridge OPP say about 8:40 a.m. a 1994 Ford Tempo driven by Nicholas Hamilton, 25, of Georgetown struck the centre median and then crossed into the path of a westbound tractor-trailer.

The Ford was struck by the tractor-trailer and then entered the right side ditch of Hwy. 401.

The driver of the truck wasn't injured.

Hamilton suffered life-threatening injuries and was taken by air ambulance to Hamilton General Hospital where he was pronounced dead about 9:45 a.m.

Sherri Ayres, Hamilton's mother, said her son, was on his way to Cambridge to attend a HVAC course, when the collision occurred.

"He had turned his life around," said Ayres.

She said her son was "late for everything," and she's



NICK HAMILTON

"pretty sure he was speeding."

Cambridge OPP are still investigating the accident.

"He didn't have his seatbelt on. I just want to get the message out there to all of his friends, 'Slow down, wear your seatbelts, please,'" said Ayres.

She said if her son had have been wearing his seatbelt, it may have saved his life.

Hamilton attended Glen Williams, Centennial and Stewarttown Public Schools. He also attended Georgetown High School.

As a youth he played hockey and baseball, said his

mother.

"Skateboarding was his life," said Ayres. He also loved snowboarding and animals, she said.

"He had his moments, but he was getting his act together. Nick pushed the boundaries. Nick loved life, he did live it to the best of his abilities."

She said her son, who had many friends, always had a "smile on his face and always had a ball cap on his head."

Friends of Hamilton posted several messages on his Facebook page.

"I'm so happy that I had the chance to know you, to connect with you, to laugh with you. I'll never forget the time we spent with each other. I couldn't even if I tried. I'll always love you Nick," wrote his ex-girlfriend Leah Penttila.

Friend Danny Gilbert wrote, "Words don't exist to explain how much you will be missed. Know that you forever changed countless lives just by being there. You were the most honest and thoughtful friend I had."

"To anyone who knew you, you were the greatest person," wrote friend Morgan Evans.

Hamilton is survived by his parents Sherri Ayres and John Hamilton, sister Jemma and girlfriend Laura Czerwinski. He is also survived by his grandparents Jack and Jan Ayres and Nancy Hamilton.

Visitation was on Sunday at the J.S. Jones and Son Funeral Home, 11582 Trafalgar Road, Georgetown. The funeral was held yesterday, Monday, July 5.

Thief steals guitar while resident watches TV

Police are looking for a man in connection with the theft of a guitar from an Elizabeth St., Georgetown home sometime between 9:40 and 9:50 p.m. Saturday.

Police say a resident of the home was watching television on the main floor of the home when he heard someone come in, then leave the home. He believed it was his brother.

However, it was not, and a red imitation Fender Stratocaster valued at \$250, had been stolen.

A witness saw a vehicle parked in the driveway at the time and a man enter the home through an unlocked door.

The man is described as white, 5'7", with a skinny build, balding on top with scraggly hair in the back. He was wearing a black jacket, white shirt and dark pants. The vehicle was last seen northbound on Elizabeth St.

Windshields smashed

Rear windshields in five vehicles at Georgetown Chrysler on Guelph St. were smashed

sometime between 9 p.m. Wednesday and 9 a.m. Friday.

Fire extinguisher warning

Halton Hills Fire Department has issued a warning about a fire extinguisher that doesn't meet installation requirements. Tundra Fire Extinguishing Spray is packaged in a 414 ml aerosol-like container and is marketed in Canada by Dicon Global. The Tundra product is neither listed by a recognized testing authority, nor rated to the tests of CAN/ULC - S508.



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