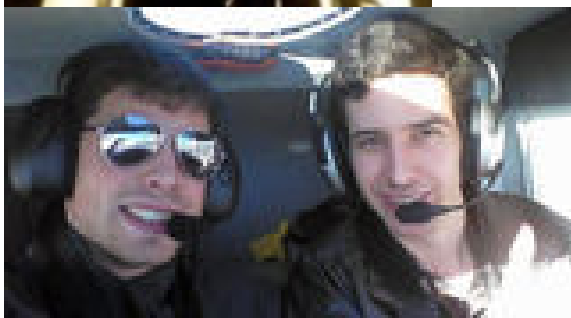


Four Die Traveling To Teen Mania Event

Written by {ga=patrick}

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By Patrick Butler | ResonateNews.com

Four people connected with Teen Mania Ministries died Friday when their plane crashed in rural Kansas. Three people died immediately. Two survivors, Austin Anderson, 27, and Hannah Luce, 22, daughter of Teen Mania founder Ron Luce, were airlifted to hospitals in Kansas City, Kan., and Wichita, Kan., respectively.

Anderson died of his injuries at 5:30 a.m. Saturday, said Cindy Mallette, Teen Mania's director of communications.

Five people were aboard the twin-engine Cessna 401 when it went down around 4:30 p.m. northwest of Chanute, Kan. about 90 miles southwest of Joplin, Mo., said spokesman Peter Knudson with the National Transportation Safety Board. The plane was en route from Riverside, Kan., to Council Bluffs, Iowa. The pilot, Luke Sheets, 23, of Ephraim, Wis., lost contact with air traffic control shortly after getting permission to descend to a lower altitude and crashed. Knudson said investigators were unaware of any distress call. The FAA is also investigating the crash.

Hannah Luce and Austin Anderson survived the crash and were able to walk to a nearby roadway and obtain help, Mallette said. Luce, of Garden Valley, Texas, suffered severe injuries including burns on 20 percent of her body and is in serious but stable condition.

Garrett Coble, 29, thought to be from Tulsa, Okla., and Stephen Luth, 22, of Muscatine, Iowa, died at the scene along with Sheets.

