

# Highway Crash Fatal To Three

Three Marion County teenage boys were buried here last weekend, the victims of a tragic highway crash that ended their young lives at 11 o'clock last Wednesday night on the St. Rose Pike.

Pat Gorley, 18, his cousin, Steve, 19, and their friend, David Helm, were fatally injured in a one-car accident that state police called one of the worst in history in Marion County.

The auto, a 1968 Pontiac GTO with a 389 cubic-inch engine, was torn apart when it struck several trees at a high rate of speed.

A fourth passenger in the car, Donnie Dever, 21, Gravel Switch, was not seriously injured. He miraculously escaped when he was apparently thrown from the back seat through the top that had been ripped open in the crash.

Patrick Arnold Gorley, Lebanon, was listed as the driver. He was dead on arrival at Mary Immaculate Hospital. Pat was thrown from the car and his body was found in a ditch nearby.

His cousin, Steven D. Gorley, Route 1, Bradfordsville, died on the way to a Lexington hospital. Steve also was thrown from the car. His body was found 2 feet from the point of impact.

David Murrell Helm, Lebanon, who was riding in the back seat, was dead when ambulances arrived at the scene.

The accident occurred only about a mile from the Lebanon city limits. The four boys were returning to Lebanon.

After topping a slight rise the auto apparently became airborne. It smacked back onto the highway then crashed into a tree. State police indicated that, after he left front fender of the auto hit the first tree, the car apparently spun around, causing the vehicle to crash broadside into two other trees. This impact, believed to have been registered on the driver's side of the car, caused the most damage. The car tore apart. The engine was ripped loose, the hood flew off the ash and right door wrapped around a tree and young Dever and Steve Gorley were apparently thrown out at that time.

After smacking the two trees roadside, state police theorized that the back end of the vehicle spun around and hit another tree, smashing the rear of the auto. The car came to rest after being torn in four pieces. The seats and rear portion of the car were found near the point where the auto hit the trees. The motor, which evidently went crashing through the trees, was found 75 feet from the point of impact.



STEVE GORLEY

The funeral for Steve Dean Gorley was held in a joint service with his cousin, Pat, at 2 p.m. Saturday at Marion County High School gymnasium by the Rev. Forrest Morris and the Rev. Kelly Ellis. Burial was in Elder Cemetery in Casey County.

Serving as pallbearers were Tommy Parrott, Walter McKay, Tommy Smith Jr., Mike Short, Terry Mattingly and Gerle Abell.

Steve, the 19-year-old son of James Harlan and Winifred Grace Cornish Gorley of Bradfordsville, was graduated in 1970 from Lebanon High School and had completed one year at Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green. He was a native of Boyle County, born March 13, 1952.

Surviving besides his parents are a sister, Deborah Lynn, at home; two brothers, James H. Jr. and Kerry Moss, Bradfordsville; and his paternal grandfather, James Bailey Gorley, Gravel Switch.



PAT GORLEY

The funeral for Patrick Arnold Gorley was held in a joint service with his cousin, Steve, at 2 p.m. Saturday at Marion County High School gymnasium, with the Rev. Forrest Morris and the Rev. Kelly Ellis officiating. Burial was in Elder Cemetery in Casey County.

Serving as pallbearers were Bruce Chapman, Bobby Clark, Joe Evans, Mike Ferrell, Joe Logsdon and Emmitt McKay.

Pat, the 18-year-old son of Cecil L. and Bonnie Mae Arnold Gorley, Lebanon, was graduated in 1970 from Lebanon High School and had completed one year at St. Catharine Junior College. He was a native of Boyle County, born November 24, 1952. He was preceded in death by a younger brother.

Besides his parents, he is survived by his paternal grandfather, James Bailey Gorley, Gravel Switch, his maternal grandfather, Walden Arnold of Russell Springs, and his maternal grandmother, Mary Arnold of Harrodsburg.



DAVID HELM

Funeral services for David Murrell Helm were conducted at 3 p.m. Friday at Bosley Funeral Home by the Rev. Michael Adkins, and burial was in Old Liberty Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Bobby Clark, Isaac Tatum, Bill Garrett, Terry Smith, Bruce Chapman and James Lee Shepherd.

David, 18, was born September 26, 1952, in Marion County, a son of George D. and Anna Spalding Helm, Lebanon.

David was graduated in 1970 from Lebanon High School and attended St. Catharine College in Springfield last fall.

Surviving besides his parents are three brothers, Jerry of Lake City, N.J., Mike and Johnny Helm, at home; three sisters, Mrs. Joe Bernard Raley Jr., Lebanon; Mrs. Edward Crady, Owensboro, and Mrs. Georgiana Bryan of Lebanon.

## Youth Corps Employs 91 From Marion

The Neighborhood Youth Corps Program in Large, Marion, Nelson, Taylor and Washington counties has gotten under way by employing 91 youths from each county. The youths range in age from 14 to 21 years of age. Jobs given to these workers vary from painting to office work. Some youths are working at various elementary schools supervising the younger children.

The purpose of this program is to help these students through job training and to provide them with experience in earning and handling money. The working hours are 25 hours weekly at \$1.60 per hour.

There are 455 job slots for the five counties, and Marion County is the point of the Neighborhood Youth Corps. Here at the Neighborhood Youth Corps Office located at the Community Action building, the payroll is completed each week.

The five-county N.Y.C. director is Stephen Samuels, a teacher at Bardstown High School. His assistant is Terry Ward of Lebanon. Counselors employed in Marion County are Mrs. Margaret Graves, who lives here in Lebanon, and Robert L. Gardner of Loretto.

The bookkeeper in the NYC Office is Frances Spalding of Lebanon. Her

assistant is Lelia Ann Elder of Lebanon. The payroll clerk is Miss Loyce Fisher of Nelson County. Miss Carol Price and Miss Florence Smith of Marion County are her assistants in keeping the payroll journal.

Mrs. Margaret Graves is directing a recreational program with the help of the enrollees. Other programs are located in Hamilton's Height's, Cleaver's Court and Rosenwald Village. Helping with these projects are six girls enrolled in the NYC. They spend 5 hours each day working with approximately 79 children in the three centers.

# Gorley was more than a conservation officer;

A few weeks ago, my friend Cecil Gorley passed away.

It still seems incredible that a man who has been such a part of this county's history is not with us anymore.

Since his death, it seems everyone has a wonderful story to relate that involves Cecil and the outdoors or his job as a conservation officer.

I don't have a story like that. I never actually knew Cecil as

a conservation officer. I knew that's what his job was but I was not an outdoorsman and never had dealings with him in that capacity. I actually met Cecil on the gridiron. He was my Little League football coach.

We played for the Packers in the Optimist Club league on Johnston Field behind Lebanon Junior High School.

Cecil was an excellent coach. He took the game seriously but

was patient with his young charges. He was clever and loved to win. But enjoying the game was a top priority.

The next time I became as-

Chris Hamilton

## Judgment call



sociated with Cecil was as a co-writer for this newspaper.

I always said I wouldn't know

what to do when Cecil decided to stop writing his outdoors column. His work was an essential part of this section.

I'm pleased that we found a skilled writer such as officer Shelton Young to carry on the outdoors part of this sports section.

Cecil is missed by us all and it's sad that many young people will never get to meet the living piece of history that he was.

\* \* \*

Gaby

## A true friend to Marion County

# Cecil Gorley loses battle to cancer

### CHARLES PEARL

#### News editor

He loved the outdoors. He loved sports. He loved Marion County and its people. And when Cecil L. Gorley, the longtime conservation officer, died on Wednesday of last week, Marion County lost an outstanding citizen and true friend.

At 4:55 p.m. on Jan. 18, 1995, 68-year-old Gorley died of cancer at the home of Ailene and Jack Jones, his sister and brother-in-law, in Danville, where he had been residing the last few months. Cancer was first detected in his lower back on Oct. 3 of last year. Then it was found in his lungs, and from that point on, his condition continued to deteriorate.

"I have never known anyone who provided a better role model as a Christian, father, husband and

"very outgoing and likeable. He always had a smile on his face. In his younger years, he coached little league football and baseball. And last season, he was my eight-year-old son's No. 1 fan at T-ball games."

"He was the (Marion County High School) Lady Knights' No. 1 fan, too. And he loved the University of Kentucky Wildcats. Every year we always got him something UK for Christmas."

Last Thursday night, before the Lady Knights' home game against Adair County, local basketball fans honored their great fan, the late Cecil Gorley, with a moment of silence. And when visitation began at the funeral home Friday morning, the Lady Knight basketball team was present.

Beverly Roby, head coach of the Lady Knights, said Gorley "took such an interest in our bas-

ketball team, and he was such a joy to have around. He came to practice about every day, last season. The kids got really close to him. He would take pictures of the players, and he was always encouraging them. He sent us a cake before the district tournament last year."

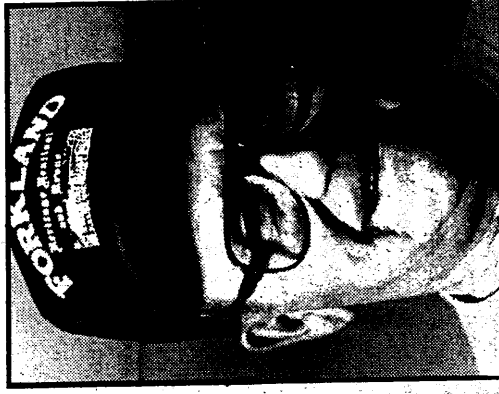
Cecil also loved to fish, and his favorite fishing partner was Harlan Gorley, an older brother.

"He was quite a guy," said Harlan. "He just about loved everybody in Marion County. He knew almost everybody and always had pretty positive things to say about most people."

Cecil could laugh at himself.

Harlan recalled a fishing trip to Green River Lake, almost a decade ago, when Cecil backed his car in the lake while unloading his

Please see **GORLEY/A4**



**CECIL L. GORLEY**

outdoorsman," said Lebanon Police Sgt. Shelton Young. "If my own sons grow to be half the man Cecil was, I'll be happy."

Lebanon's Dale Gorley, one of Cecil's sons, said his father was

# Gorley

Continued from page A1

boat.

"He told me to meet him over there at Green River Lake, and when I got there, the dock manager was talking about some idiot that had backed his car in the lake. He said the water in the car was up to the driver's chin, and the driver was spitting tobacco juice out the window."

Harlan quickly found out that the driver was his brother. And Cecil was there to fish.

"We went on and fished," Harlan recalled. "He didn't worry much about the car. After we finished fishing, I took him home. He went back later for the car."

Harlan said Cecil would frequently take his false teeth out and misplace them.

"He'd call me occasionally and want to know if I'd seen his teeth," Harlan said. "I think the dog had 'em one time."

Harlan said Cecil loved his job as conservation officer.

"He treated everybody the same," Harlan said. "He would give me a ticket the same as he would anybody else. And I never saw anybody get mad at him after he wrote a ticket."

Gorley always appreciated gifts of clean land, air and water. He frequently visited the new Lebanon Reservoir on Fagan Branch near Calvary. And a picturesque hiking trail, which is currently being built around the 135-acre lake, was Gorley's idea.

The day of Gorley's death, a letter from the Lebanon Water Works Co. arrived at his sister's residence in Danville. The letter, written by Dr. Joe Green, president of the water board, said the board of directors voted unanimously on Jan. 16 to name the hiking trail after Gorley.

"You gave so much of your time and interest to our lake from the beginning, and gave us the idea for this walking trail project," the letter said. "We felt it should be named for you. It will require a bit more time and work for completion, but it will be marked and known as the Cecil Gorley Trail. We remember the pleasure that you received watching this lake being built, and it is now our pleasure to name this trail in your honor."

Dale Gorley said the letter was read to his father several hours before he died, "and he understood it."

The Lebanon Reservoir opened for public fishing on Jan. 1. When 1995 arrived, Cecil Gorley knew he would never fish at the Lebanon Reservoir, and would never walk over the hiking trail.

"He knew he didn't have long to live," said Harlan. "He said he was ready to go. He said he had caught enough fish and it was time for somebody else to catch some. He told me to go out to the new lake and catch a big fish. And he said, 'When you do, I'll be right up above you, watching and smiling.'"

## Obituary

Cecil L. Gorley, 68, of Lebanon, died Wednesday, Jan. 18, 1995, at 4:55 p.m. at the home of his sister, Mrs. Ailene Jones, in Danville.

He was born July 11, 1926, in Boyle County.

Gorley was a retired conservation officer with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife. He started with the state Department of Fish and Wildlife in 1958 and retired in 1985. He was assigned to Oldham County before

moving to Marion County in the 1960s. In 1974 Gorley was named Kentucky Conservation Officer of the Year.

He was a member of the Lebanon Church of Christ, the Marion County Sportsman Club, and the Lebanon Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5910. Gorley wrote an outdoors column for *The Lebanon Enterprise*. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps and was a veteran of World War II.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Bonnie Mae Arnold Gorley, who died Dec. 12, 1990; two sons, Michael and Pat Gorley; and his parents, James B. and Mary Kathryn Coyle Gorley.

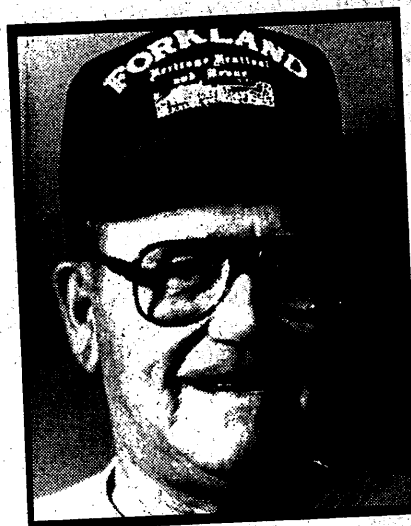
Survivors include: two sons, Jeffery Patrick Gorley of Scottsdale, Ariz., and Marlow Dale Gorley of Lebanon; two daughters-in-law, Hope Gorley of Scottsdale, Ariz., and Deborah Gorley of Lebanon; one sister, Mrs. Jack (Ailene) Jones of Danville; three brothers, W.T. Gorley of Danville, James H. Gorley of Lebanon, and Frank Gorley of Forkland; and three grandchildren, Phillip Jordon Gorley, Tatum Michael Gorley and Marlow Blair Gorley, all of Lebanon.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, Jan. 21, 1995, at 1 p.m. in Bosley Funeral Home in Lebanon. Mr. Forrest Morris, of Lebanon Church of Christ, officiated. Burial was in Elder Cemetery at Gravel Switch.

Active pallbearers were Robert Gorley, Glenn Gorley, Billy Gorley, Gary Gorley, David Gorley, Carey "Rusty" Gorley, Jim Gorley and Jack Jones Jr. Honorary pallbearers were Fourth District officers of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Bosley Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

B



*In Memory*  
1926-1995

# Gorley was a role model as a Christian, father, husband, outdoorsman

It's impossible for me to express in words the loss I felt when I learned of Cecil's death. How do you say good-bye to a friend you've admired for as long as you can remember?

I have never known anyone who provided a better role model as a Christian, father, husband and outdoorsman. If my own sons grow to be half the man Cecil was, I'll be happy.

Before I learned of Cecil's death, I had written an outdoor article. It was written to help keep Cecil's readers informed about what was happening in the outdoors of Marion County.

It was just intended to fill a void until Cecil could write again, never to replace him. I could never hope to reach his level.

Parts of my article were written with the intention of being somewhat funny. With the situation as it is now, it suddenly seemed inappropriate. So, I started to rewrite the article.

But as I started, I remembered Cecil's sense of humor. I believe he would have laughed.

With this in mind and out of deepest respect for Cecil, I submitted the article as written, with very few changes.

Readers want to know what's happening in the great outdoors of Marion County. Thought I had the answer when I suggested to George Hasty that he write a few articles.

George is our Marion County Conservation officer. We don't call them game wardens anymore, and if we say "possum cop," George gets mad.

George had his own suggestion—he'd give me some ideas and information if I'd write a few articles. This sounded okay to me because now I can blame George for all the mistakes I make.

I, as well as every English teacher I ever had, will tell you I don't know how to write. I don't know

composition, sentence structure or the other stuff that makes writing style. I figure, it doesn't really matter. Most of the people I hunt and fish with can't read much better than I can write anyway. And their idea of style is the newest camo pattern.

If this paper's editor is desperate enough for a space filler to allow me to write anything else, this is what you'll get.

I'll try to be informative about hunting and fishing in Marion County. (If I'm not, it's George's fault.)

I'll come as close to telling the truth as I can in some stories. (I've told some fishing and hunting stories so long I can't remember if they happened or not.)

I'll relate your hunting and fishing stories—if they're good, I'll probably claim them as my own—and I'll promote Marion County outdoor activities any way I can.

As of Jan. 15, deer season ended. Wives and girlfriends are shaking dust off the "honey do" list and kids are becoming re-acquainted with their fathers.

Small game hunters have a few more days of relative freedom left. But soon, you too, will have to make up for months of family and household neglect.

According to George's figures, this year's deer harvest in Marion County was about the same as last year. Eight-hundred and ten deer were harvested in 1993; while 797 were taken in 1994.

George also reported that surrounding counties were not as lucky. Their deer harvests were down a bit. I don't know the reasons. Maybe habitat loss, less deer, fewer hunters, bad timing, weather, poachers, predators... take your pick. Everyone has their own idea.

One of the best deer taken in Marion County was by 14-year-old Jimmy Thornton of Bradfordsville. He has hunted three years, but this

## GUEST COLUMN

SHELTON YOUNG

was the first deer his dad would let him shoot. Maybe Jimmy's dad will teach me how to deer hunt.

I don't want to forget Justin Deep. Though his deer was taken out of Marion County, it beat his dad's biggest deer. Justin also harvested deer and turkey in Marion County, with his bow. Maybe Justin will teach me how to hunt. Don't think I mentioned it before, but the fact is, I love to hunt and fish. I'm just not very good at it.

The new lake is now open to public fishing. Guess I should call it by its official title, The Lebanon Reservoir. But really, no one has asked "You fish the Lebanon Reservoir?" They just say "new lake."

Besides, "new lake" is easier to pronounce and spell.

There are size and creel limits for the new lake. Size is how long a fish is without stepping on it and while a creel is something you keep fish in, I think they mean the number you can keep.

I know the size limit on bass is 15 inches with a creel limit of six. I don't know about the other fish species, but I'm told the limits will be posted at the lake.

Other fish species?

Catfish, crappie, small mouth bass, large mouth bass, Kentucky bass, bluegill, shell crackers and who knows what else?

There are several species of fish in the lake the Department of Wildlife didn't stock, but they seem to be thriving.

Several bass in the 18-inch class have been caught with spinners and jigs. George told me of a 21-inch, 5-pound plus smallmouth bass taken Tuesday on a tube jig.

He didn't tell me size, color or depth fished. George doesn't tell me everything.

Other than fishing, there are a very few simple regulations posted at the new lake: No swimming, No hunting and Electric motors only.

These, and the fishing regula-

tions, are simple. I member 'em and Report anyone who d

Also remember, d gets to be a problem be closed to the publ closed, will be clos it and it's legal (I che

The potential for will be limited only treat it. The scener and fishing will ma the area's best lakes that way.

If you'd like to see and hopefully, b County outdoors ar until they get some write, let the editor don't, it won't hurt n

I'll blame George.

Lebanon Enterprise  
25 Jan 1995

# Cecil Gorley handed friendship to everyone

## TRAVELS WITH CHARLIE

CHARLES  
PEARL



It was cold on Jan. 2, the morning I stopped by the white house on Kentucky Avenue in Danville to visit Cecil Gorley. He was having a good day, one of his last good days.

He seemed to be resting comfortably in bed. National Geographic and several hunting and fishing magazines were nearby. So were a pouch of chewing tobacco and a little cup. We talked for about 30 minutes. And I didn't realize until I had left his bedroom, and looked back one last time, that he had chewing tobacco in his mouth. He was reaching for the cup, smiling, when I looked back.

My mother and oldest daughter, Charlsie, were with me. Maybe he didn't want to spit in front of them. Cecil was a polite man.

He never went to college. But the Forkland High School graduate earned a Ph.D in environmental science, biology, engineering, fishing, hunting, basketball, football, baseball and kindness by reading, listening, observing, laughing, and being himself. Always. He could pick up a rock or a leaf and tell you something interesting, something worth knowing.

Cecil Gorley was genuine. He was a tough man with a perpetual smile. He was a survivor. He knew about tragedies, loneliness. He had two sons to die. One died tragically in an auto accident. His wife died in 1990. But he kept going. He found comfort in family and friends.

At Cedarwood Restaurant, at Wal-Mart, at the Calvary Store, at Marion County High athletic events, at the Rolling Fork or Green River Lake or the new Lebanon Reservoir, Marion countians could find a laugh and a true friend in Cecil Gorley. He always had a fish story, a deer story, a sports story to tell.

He was always handing out encouragement to people of Marion County, especially the young people. He loved to watch them grow up and excel. He took pride in their accomplishments. He knew their mammas and daddies and

grandparents. They were all his friends.

On the second day of 1995, I had gone to Danville to take Charlsie back to Centre College after Christmas break. And I wanted Cecil to see the photographs of the new hiking trail, which would be published in the Jan. 4 *Lebanon Enterprise*. The trail, which will extend all the way around the 135-acre Lebanon Reservoir, is being built by inmates from the Marion Adjustment Center under the supervision of Frank Ballard.

Cecil loved the new lake. And the hiking trail was his idea. He wanted Marion countians, especially the young people, to love and take excellent care of their environment. He wanted them to appreciate clean air, clean water, clean land...so that someday, they would pass along those gifts to their children.

He studied each photo carefully. He knew exactly where the photographer was standing for each photo. He had a brief story for each photo. He said he had gone to the new lake to do a whole lot of thinking. The lake was a special friend in the late summer when Cecil knew something was wrong.

Cancer was not kind to Cecil Gorley. It handed him a great deal of pain in the final months, the final weeks.

On the morning of Jan. 2, Cecil complained a little and bragged a lot, but not about himself. He bragged about the Marion County High Lady Knights. And he complained about Marion County's Anthony Epps not getting enough playing time in the New Year's game at Freedom Hall between the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville.

Cecil was a big UK fan. But he was a bigger Marion County fan. He watched the game on TV. "I think Kentucky would have won if Pitino had played Anthony more," said Cecil, in a serious tone. "And to be honest about it, since Anthony didn't get to play enough, I wasn't too disappointed that Denny's team won."

He was still talking about the UK-U of L game when it was time to leave. We shook hands and we both knew the end was near. We didn't say goodbye, but we knew it was.

In the years to come, I hope to spend a great deal of time enjoying the Cecil Gorley Trail at the scenic Lebanon Reservoir near Calvary. It's a wonderful project named after a wonderful man. He was a friend indeed, to all of us. He still is.



The hiking trail currently being developed at the new Lebanon Reservoir near Calvary has been named the Cecil Gorley Trail in honor of the longtime Fish and Wildlife conservation officer from Marion County. The Lebanon Water Works Co. board of directors voted unanimously on Jan. 16 to name the trail after Gorley, a lifetime outdoors enthusiast.

