

# Grande Prairie man faces impaired charge in fatal crash

## Tributes flow to four teens who lost lives

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Before Matthew Deller left for a party on Friday night, he caught up with his older half-brother on Facebook. Christopher Ehrler told the 16-year-old to be safe. Matthew assured him he would. When Ehrler, 19, went back online the next morning, the news was all over: Matthew, along with three of his teammates from the Grande Prairie Composite high school Warriors football team, died after a pickup truck hit their car early Saturday.

"I told him I loved him and he told me he loved me, too," an emotional Ehrler said from his home in Sherwood Park on Sunday. "And the next thing I know, he's gone."

Vincent Stover, 16, Walter Borden-Wilkins, 15 and Tanner Hildebrand, 15, were also killed.



A fifth teen, Zach Judd, 15, is in critical but stable condition in an Edmonton hospital.

Impaired driving charges have been laid against a 21-year-old Grande Prairie man in connection with the crash, which happened just after midnight on Saturday on Highway 668, an indus-

trial road, about two kilometres east of Highway 40. The teens were on their way home from a party.

Hundreds of people wearing the Warriors' orange and black team colours attended a vigil for the boys Saturday night, releasing orange balloons into the night sky.

"We are praying for you Zach," read a poster still hanging at Legion field Sunday. "You are a WARRIOR fight buddy, fight."

By Sunday, Facebook memorial pages for the other boys, both individually and as a group, had attracted hundreds of people.

In a group dedicated to Deller, the father of one of four teens killed in a Magrath, Alta., car accident last week reached out to those now grieving in Grande Prairie.

"Our hearts and prayers are



A poster for Zach Judd, the only one of five teens to survive a car crash in Grande Prairie early Saturday, is displayed on a fence following a vigil for the victims.

with you at this time," wrote Gord Card, whose 16-year-old son, Clay Card, was among the southern Alberta victims.

"We have a strong idea of what you are going through

and how you are feeling. Stick close with your friends, family and community and they will help you through this."

Ehrler said Deller's friends flooded his Facebook inbox

with messages over the weekend.

"I can just see that he was the type of person you could go to for anything and he would say three words and you would feel better," said Ehrler, who was adopted.

He met Matthew and their two other brothers for the first time about seven years ago.

"He just completely accepted me as his brother," said Ehrler.

"I'm so proud of the way he lived his life."

Brendan Holubowich faces charges in all, including four counts of impaired driving causing death, impaired driving causing bodily harm and failing to remain at the scene of an accident.

Holubowich was released on \$2,000 bail following a hearing at 1:40 a.m. Sunday, according to Grande Prairie RCMP.

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