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(Neb.)-Dawes County Woman Dies In Vehicle Of Natural Causes

By: Jeremy Anderson Posted at: 04/11/2013 03:04 PM

(Whitney)-Eighty-two year old Dawes County resident, Genevieve Rieck died while sleeping in her vehicle, outside of her Whitney home, in the early morning hours of April 10, 2013.

According to neighbors and witnesses, Ms. Rieck and her 47 year old son, Arlis, had developed the habit of sleeping in their vehicle in the driveway of their rural home over the last couple of years. While in the car, they used an independent heat source so the car did not have to be running. They had been doing so during the night of April 9th and morning of April 10th. Ms. Rieck and her son had spoken in the car early that morning and then fallen back asleep. When Mr. Rieck awoke after 8:00 a.m., he found that his mother had died in her sleep. He contacted neighbors, who called for emergency assistance.

The Dawes County Attorney/Coroner and Dawes County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to Whitney to investigate the death at approximately 8:30 a.m. Law enforcement gathered evidence at the scene. They also interviewed neighbors, witnesses, doctors, and medical personnel. Later that day it was determined that Ms. Rieck had died of natural causes related to her advanced age and deteriorating health.