



**WESTMORELAND COUNTY  
OFFICE OF THE CORONER**

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John F. Swartz  
Chief Deputy

**Kenneth A. Bacha**  
Coroner

Jeffrey D. Monzo  
Solicitor

**PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 2, 2018**

<u>Nature of Release:</u> Motor Vehicle Fatality	<u>Date and Time of Incident:</u> November 30, 2018 3:23 PM
<u>Incident Location:</u>	Bethel Church Road near Dorsey Lane Cook Township
<u>Person(s) Involved:</u> <b>Decedent:</b> Joseph E. Lopuch, Jr., 66 y/o male Address: Longview Drive Cook Township	
<u>Date and Time of Death:</u> November 30, 2018 at 4:23 PM	
<b><u>Incident Details:</u> Cause of Death: Blunt Force Trauma to the Chest Due to: Single Vehicle Collision Manner of Death: Accidental</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Westmoreland County Coroner, Kenneth A. Bacha, has released the following information on a motor vehicle fatality.</li><li>▪ Joseph E. Lopuch, Jr. was the operator and lone occupant of a 2007, Chevrolet Silverado, traveling south on Bethel Church Road.</li><li>▪ For an unknown reason, the decedent crossed the centerline into the opposite lane of travel, left the east side of the roadway, and collided with a tree.</li><li>▪ The decedent was ejected from the vehicle and the vehicle became engulfed in flames.</li><li>▪ Emergency medical personnel transported the decedent to Excelsa Latrobe Emergency Department where he was pronounced dead by a hospital physician.</li><li>▪ It is not believed a seat-belt was utilized by the decedent.</li><li>▪ Cell phone use is not believed to have been a factor in the incident.</li><li>▪ Cause and manner of death is reflected above.</li><li>▪ Toxicology results will not be available for several weeks.</li><li>▪ Vaia Funeral Home of Delmont is in charge of arrangements.</li><li>▪ Pennsylvania State Police Greensburg Barracks also investigated.</li></ul>	
<p><b>***** No further information is available from this office at this time. *****</b></p>	