

Body Pulled From Missouri River Identified

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News

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(NewsPressNow.com) - Authorities ruled out foul play in the death of a missing Atchison (KS) man whose body was pulled out of the Missouri River on Sunday evening.



Garry Clyde Sandy, then 69, was last seen at an Atchison, Kan., convenience store in the morning hours of Dec. 28, said Atchison Police Chief Mike Wilson. Co-workers from Walmart reported him missing Jan. 9 before a statewide Silver Alert was issued the following day, but no one had seen Mr. Sandy until his truck, a 2005 Dodge Ram regular cab, was pulled from the river Sunday near downtown Atchison.

“The cause of death is still pending, but the pathologist has ruled out foul play,” Mr. Wilson said.

A walker discovered a vehicle in the Missouri River around 3 p.m. Sunday, which prompted investigators to call a dive team from Lee’s Summit, Mo., to remove the vehicle from the river. Shortly before 8 p.m., authorities pulled the vehicle out of the river, slightly north of the intersection of Commercial Street and River Road. Mr. Wilson confirmed late Sunday that the vehicle belonged to Mr. Sandy.

Authorities were unable to determine how long Mr. Sandy and the vehicle have been in the river, but Mr. Wilson said he believed the vehicle remained submerged since late December.

“We have tracked medical, financial and cell phone records, but the only thing we can determine was that he was last seen on Dec. 28,” he said.

Authorities examined the river bank along River Road on Monday, looking for an entry point for the vehicle into the river. Although the investigation remains ongoing, Mr. Wilson believes the vehicle entered the water via the boat ramp slightly north of the intersection of Commercial Street and River Road.

Mr. Sandy’s family members were on the scene late Sunday night when the vehicle was removed from the river. Mr. Wilson said the family continued to hold out hope for Mr. Sandy’s safe return. “Obviously, this is tough when the family knows he is deceased,” he said. “But on the other hand, they have a little closure knowing he’s been located and they will not have to keep wondering where he is.”

Authorities have not determined the cause of death pending a formal autopsy report and final determination from the pathologist.