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Saturday, Dec. 8, 2012 | 3:47 p.m.

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Posted: 11:12 a.m. Monday, Nov. 19, 2012

Orange County couple killed on cruise to Mexico



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COZUMEL, Mexico — A well-known Orlando couple died after their dune buggy crashed while on a cruise to Mexico with more than 30 of their closest friends.

Jim Melillo and his girlfriend Susan Borges were reportedly killed in an accident while their ship was docked in Cozumel.

The group was on their way to the opposite side of the island when witnesses said the couple's dune buggy hit a metal bar.

Seliena Crampton, a friend of the couple who witnessed the accident, described the crash. "Everyone ran to Jim who had been ejected from the vehicle," said Crampton.

Jim and Susan died in the crash.

Jim's good friend Wagner Ferriera was driving. Ferriera and his wife Liz survived.

Friends said it appears the steering wheel locked up.

"Susan was like a sister to me. They're just amazing people ... I love them," said friend Nicole Rego.

Rego introduced the two to each other five years ago.

She said Jim and Susan were well-known for involvement in several charities including the Fireball Run, a national road rally that works to help find missing children. But Rego said most people in their group will remember the couple as friends.

"Jim is the jokester. Jim always had the jokes, teased everybody. Susan sort of stood back and shook her head at him," said Rego.

Friends said the bodies will likely be cremated and brought back to the United States on Wednesday.

A memorial service may be held next week.

Family and friends have setup a website to accept donations to help bring the couple's bodies back to the United States, [click here to donate](#).

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- Posted by 162e9f8c-0968-4b38-8f12-fa4337 at 12:59 p.m. Nov. 19, 2012
- [Report Abuse](#)

Codolences to their families for their tragis loss of loved ones.



- Posted by oldcoolbreeze at 1:14 p.m. Nov. 19, 2012
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sad



- Posted by regretoinformu

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- Posted by boarddog at 2:03 p.m. Nov. 19, 2012
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I believe the human race



- Posted by oklacaatfish at 5:37 p.m. Nov. 19, 2012
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God Bless the families, and friends of the couple.



- Posted by Mumbles at 5:48 p.m. Nov. 19, 2012
- Report Abuse

Cartel Bars are the worst.



- Posted by Lolitasfolly1 at 6:28 p.m. Nov. 19, 2012
- Report Abuse

Really sad - sympathies to the families



- Posted by BeSafe at 9:16 a.m. Nov. 22, 2012
- Report Abuse

What a sad and tragic story. It is important for people to know just how poor the safety standards in Mexico really are. Sadly, there are dozens of nightmare vacation stories as a result of this. To read them, go to :
<http://www.mexicovacationawareness.com>

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