



Eaton County Central Dispatch

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On this date at approximately six o'clock in the evening one of our 9-1-1 Dispatchers was fatally injured in a car crash in Jackson County just outside of Eaton County.

Stacy Sprouse had joined Eaton County Central Dispatch in April of this year and was sailing through her probationary period with high marks. She had previously been a dispatcher at Albion Police Department and came to us with high honors and accolades.

Stacy was more than a 9-1-1 dispatcher; she was an inspiration. She was praised by her co-workers as someone who "pulled the fun out of you". No matter what mood you were in before you were in her presence, she made sure you were in a better one. She held everyone up and made them feel happy. She always smiled; she played games and enjoyed life immensely. There were only a few things Stacy feared (something about gnomes?) but she did not fear living life to its fullest. This was evident to everyone around her. She touched so many lives, police officers, firefighters, paramedics, her family, friends, and community. But she impacted the lives of her fellow 9-1-1 dispatchers unlike anyone before her. She glowed, she joked, and she reasoned with the best of them. She made a tough job seem not so tough.

I still wonder how such a delightful dispatcher such as Stacy could fill the dispatch kitchen with so much smoke that the Fire Department was called.

There will be tough times ahead for all of us at Eaton County Central Dispatch as we mourn one of our own. This holiday season we will work through our pain and sadness as we miss Stacy's laugh and her smile. Someone else must have needed her sunshine more than us. We will miss her, and true to form, as a 9-1-1 center, we will be here for her family, each other, and her. Because Stacy held us to that higher standard.