

Children killed in Vaughan crash were familiar faces in Aurora



By Brock Weir and Mark Pavilons

Daniel and Harry Neville-Lake's faces were familiar ones around Aurora.

As a member of Aurora's 44 Beaver and Cub Scouts, big brother, often accompanied by mom, dad, and little brother, were smiling faces selling apples at the corner of Yonge Street and Henderson Drive for their troop on special occasions, such as the annual Santa Under the Stars Parade and local Remembrance Day commemorations.

Despite moving to Brampton a few years ago, the boys remained active in the local community, spending a lot of time with their King-based grandparents, who stepped up to the plate to watch Daniel, as their parents began a relentless set of appointments to address the needs of Harry, who was born with physical challenges.

Once that was settled, this relationship endured, with the kids enjoying regular weekly visits to their grandparents ? and the feeling was mutual.

Despite these early setbacks, the Neville-Lakes became a formidable team, turning Harry's challenges into a positive, with the youngster becoming a War Amps CHAMP, raising their voices locally and throughout the GTA in challenging misconceptions of, and raising awareness for, persons living with disabilities.

Sadly, many of these voices were silenced on Sunday afternoon with Daniel, 9, Harry, 5, little sister Milly, 2, and their beloved grandfather, 65, killed in a devastating car crash just north of Kleinburg.

29-year-old Marco Muzzo of King Township is facing a long list of 18 charges following the incident.

York Regional Police are still seeking witnesses in the September 27 collision, which took place at the intersection of Kirby Road and Kipling Avenue in Vaughan.

Police were called to the scene at 4:10 p.m. and all occupants of the mini-van suffered injuries. The 65-year-old man was pronounced at the scene, and the three children later succumbed to their injuries.

Two adult females of the same family were removed from the same vehicle and taken to hospital with serious injuries, where they remain. Their condition has improved to stable and they are expected to survive.

Two occupants in a third vehicle involved that were not injured.

Police said Mr. Muzzo was the lone occupant of his vehicle. He suffered minor injuries as a result of the collision.

He was charged with four counts of impaired driving causing death; four counts of over 80 causing death; four counts of dangerous operation of a motor vehicle causing death; two counts of impaired driving causing bodily harm; two counts of over 80 causing bodily harm and two counts of dangerous operation of motor vehicle causing bodily harm.

He appeared in Newmarket court Monday.

Police are appealing for any witnesses to come forward. You are urged to contact the Major Collision Investigation Unit by calling 1-866-876-5423, ext. 7704, or to call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS, or leave an anonymous tip online at www.1800222tips.com, or text your tip by sending TIPYORK and your message to CRIMES (274637) starting with the word YORK.

In the aftermath of the crash, a GoFundMe page has been set up in memory of those who lost their lives, raising money for the family left behind. It has come to serve as a makeshift memorial to their lives.

?The cities within Toronto feel your pain and heartache and wish there was some small way we could help ease all of it,? wrote one woman.

?I taught one of the boys a few years back in daycare and I can't imagine this happening to such a wonderful, loving family,? wrote another.

For more, visit www.gofundme.com/pp544vvc.