

## Beloved Caregiver Killed in DUI Crash Involving School Band Director

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— Categories: Crime



**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** – A deadly crash early Sunday morning on I-24 has left a Tennessee family devastated and a local school community in shock.

Police say 52-year-old Angela Loupe was killed when her car was rear-ended by a middle school band director who admitted to drinking before driving.

The crash happened around 4 a.m. near the Bell Road exit. According to Metro Nashville Police, two vehicles had collided minutes earlier and were left abandoned in the middle of

the interstate. Investigators believe the drivers of those cars ran away, leaving debris blocking traffic lanes.

As Loupe slowed her car to avoid the wreckage, police say 28-year-old John Baudendistel crashed into her vehicle. Loupe died at the scene.

Baudendistel, who teaches band at LaVergne Middle School, was arrested and charged with vehicular homicide by intoxication. Officers said they found an open container of alcohol in his car, and he later admitted he had been drinking. He was released on a \$25,000 bond.

The crash has deeply affected parents and students who knew Baudendistel as “Mr. B.”

“He really cared about the kids,” said Samantha Travis, whose son was in his band class. “He put his heart into teaching. It’s hard to believe this happened.”

For Loupe’s family, the loss is painful beyond words. Her sister described Angela as a kind and caring woman who spent her life helping others.

“My sister Angel wasn’t one for taking pictures, she preferred to be behind the scenes, quietly pouring love into everyone,” her sister shared. “She was like a mother to me.”

Loupe had worked as a nanny and later homeschooled her nephew during the pandemic. She was known for her strong faith and support for her family, especially during difficult times.

“I am a recovering alcoholic with nearly six years of sobriety,” her sister wrote. “Angel was my rock. She never judged me. For her life to be taken by a drunk driver is something I’m still trying to understand.”

Metro Police are asking for help finding the two drivers who abandoned their cars after the first crash. They confirmed that alcohol was found in both vehicles.

Loupe’s family says they are taking comfort in their memories of her love and faith.

“Her loss leaves a hole that cannot be filled,” her sister said. “But her spirit will stay with us forever.”