

Traffic mishap fatal to girl on walk-a-thon

A 16-mile March of Dimes walkathon ended in tragedy Sunday when a 16-year-old Dover girl was struck and killed by an auto on County Rd. 55 at Goshen-York Township Rd. 325, south of New Philadelphia.

Dead is Sandra D. McDonald, a daughter of Donavon and Verna McDonald of 141 W. Iron av. The girl was a sophomore at Dover High.

According to state troopers, Miss McDonald was walking with three other girls when she was struck by a car driven by Jerry R. Adkins, 19, of RD 3, New Philadelphia. Troopers today said the accident, which occurred at 1:10 p.m., is still under investigation.

Mrs. Stanley Thomas of 422 Iron av.,



SANDRA D. McDONALD

Dover, organizer of the walkathon, said the event was canceled when news of the tragedy spread to the 75 walkers, most of whom were area teenagers.

The walkers were picked up and returned to New Philadelphia's South Elementary, where the walkathon began just an hour before.

Mrs. Thomas said there are no immediate plans to reschedule the walkathon. Those participating had obtained sponsors, who donate an amount of money for each mile walked. The March of Dimes charity fights birth defects and children's diseases.

Dover High Principal Robert Schrock described Miss McDonald as a "friendly individual."

"She always said 'hi' to me," Schrock said. "You never get used to these kind of things."

A math teacher, Tom Berens, said Miss McDonald was an average student, who got along good with other students. "She was very friendly," he said. "If you asked her to do something, she did it."

Born in Dover, Sandra was employed part-time at Elby's Restaurant there and was a member of New Philadelphia First Baptist Church.

In addition to her parents, she is survived by two brothers; Donald and Paul McDonald of the home; a step-brother and step-sister, Chester Davis of Strasburg and Mrs. Pamela Schaar of RD 1, Tippecanoe, and grandmothers, Mrs. Pearl McDonald of Dover and Mrs. Lenora Goettel of RD 4, New Philadelphia.

Funeral services will be conducted Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. in Toland-Hertzig Funeral Home at Dover by Rev. Wesley Hunt. Interment will be in Dover Burial Park. Friends may call Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 at the funeral home.