

Man killed in Jackson Co house explosion identified

**(KNZA)--The man killed in a house explosion Monday evening in Jackson County has been identified.**

**Jackson County Sheriff Tim Morse, in a news release Tuesday, identified the victim as 61-year-old Billy “ Lu” Griffiths, of rural Holton. Griffiths served a director of the Banner Creek Lake.**

**His wife, Teri, was seriously injured and airlifted to a Kansas City hospital. She is a teacher at Royal Valley High School.**

**Morse said the Jackson County Sheriff's Office was notified of a large explosion around 6:15 Monday evening that could be heard over 10 miles away.**

**Rescue units responded to the residence located at 27284 Q.4 Road over 3 miles north of Holton, just northeast of Jackson Heights High School.**

**Morse said responders found the residence to be completely leveled and on fire.**

**He said it's believed the home owners had been working on remodeling the residence.**

**The incident remains under investigation by the Kansas State Fire Marshal's Office and the Jackson County Sheriff's Office.**

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