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Chadrad Communications, Inc.
226 Bordeaux St - Chadron, NE 69337
308-432-5545 fax 308-432-5601
E-mail: kcsr@chadrad.com

(S.D.)-Rapid City Man Killed In California Helicopter Crash

By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 02/12/2013 08:36 AM

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) - The South Dakota mother of a man killed in the crash of a helicopter that was filming in the Los Angeles area for a reality TV show says her son called her before heading out to wish her a happy birthday.

Jeri Rydstrom, of Rapid City, says 46-year-old Darren Rydstrom told her Saturday night that he was excited about the nighttime shoot. He was among three people killed when the helicopter crashed early Sunday. The cause wasn't immediately determined.

Darren Rydstrom was a 1985 graduate of Rapid City Stevens High School. His mother says he liked to shoot photographs at the annual Sturgis Motorcycle Rally, and he got his start as a Hollywood cameraman when he met a film crew and director there.

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