

# Crash victim had noted career in public health

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Dr. Stanley J. Leland, 83, a Leisure World resident whose medical career spanned six decades in three states, several European nations, China, India and Liberia, was killed in a car crash Thursday evening.

Dr. Leland was driving on Alicia Parkway west of Bentley Lane and was making a left turn when his car was hit broadside by a car driven by James Schleitwiler, 42, of Laguna Hills, authorities said.

Schleitwiler and Dr. Leland's 80-year-old wife, Isabel, who was in

the car with her husband, suffered minor injuries.

Witnesses told police Schleitwiler was driving without his headlights on when the 5:30 p.m. accident occurred, according to California Highway Patrol officer Patrick Barnard. But Schleitwiler said his lights were on, Barnard said.

With his wife, Dr. Leland traveled the globe during his medical career.

After 12 years of private medical practice in pediatrics in New York City, Dr. Leland was drafted into the Army during World War II. At the war's end, he became assistant to the surgeon general in charge of

public health and nutrition for the U.S.-occupied zones.

He then was recruited for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Agency and was appointed medical director for the agency in China. Dr. Leland supervised allocation of supplies and equipment to hospitals in China, and organized a mass smallpox vaccination program.

Dr. Leland then went to India and unsuccessfully attempted to set up a public health service for the World Health Organization.

Then he was beckoned to Africa where he conducted a medical survey for the Liberian Foundation, a Washington-based private organi-

zation that promoted development of Liberia.

The Lelands returned to the United States, and from 1954 to 1963 Dr. Leland served as the state of New Mexico's director of health.

He then became health director for Imperial and Napa counties.

In 1975 he retired to Leisure World in Laguna Hills, but remained active in the medical community.

He helped form the Medical and Health Services Committee, which monitors health services, including an outpatient contract with nearby Saddleback Community Hospital.