

## Latest News

# Dallas teen's death spurs elderly drivers bill 🗣️ 📺

10:28 AM CST on Wednesday, February 28, 2007

By [DARLA MILES](#) / WFAA-TV

DALLAS - A push in the Texas legislature has begun to require more stringent testing for elderly drivers.

Nicknamed "Katie's Law," it's named after a Dallas teenager who died in an accident last year involving a 90-year-old driver who ran a red light.

In the last year of 17-year-old Katie Bolka's life, she created 28 paintings.

"She wrote come July, she said this is the end of Katie's life part one," said John Bolka, Katie's mother.

But unfortunately, Katie never made it to part two. She was hit by the 90-year-old driver while on her way to school.

"[I] saw Katie listless on the trauma table and I remember buckling to my knees, that I remember," Mrs. Bolka said.

Rick Bolka, Katie's father, said his daughter was a fighter.

"And I knew, I knew the chances for my daughter's survival were very slim," he said. "I knew that on the first day. But she fought very hard for five and a half days, but she just couldn't make it."

After her death, the Bolkas pledged to make a change.

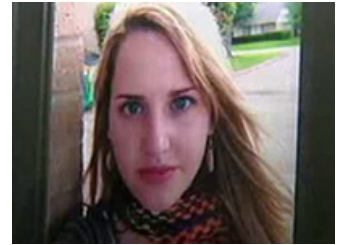
"Our goal is to make our roads safer," Mr. Bolka said.

After much research, the "Katie's Law" bill is before the state House and Senate. The bill requires elderly drivers take a vision test before they can renew their license.

Many believe periodic vision tests for seniors is a good way to reassess their driving skills instead of simply revoking their license once they reach a certain age.

"This is Katie's voice, that I can tell you without a shadow of a doubt," Mrs. Bolka said. "Katie was a spirited, giving person."

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Katie Bolka  
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