

93-year-old says despite crashing into two homes, he will still drive

By Erica Nochlin KATU News and KATU.com Staff Published: Oct 13, 2013 at 5:10 PM PST



TIGARD, Ore. - A 93-year-old man who crashed into two homes blames his shoes for what happened and said he plans to throw them away and keep on driving.

Jack O'Rourke was backing his 2012 Chevy Malibu out of his driveway on Saturday when he said his shoe got wedged on the gas pedal. He lives on Southwest Eldorado Drive, near King City.

"My foot slipped off the brake and got stuck between the brake pedal and throttle," he said.

His car went right through a vacant mobile home and came to rest inside a mobile home that wasn't vacant. Denny Long just missed getting hit while he was sitting in his chair.

"It was like a bomb blowing up," he said. "The only good thing was that my grand kids weren't here. They were supposed to be here yesterday."

No one was hurt and police determined that driver impairment was not a factor. O'Rourke was not cited, but Washington County deputies did send a recommendation to the Department of Motor Vehicles that the man be re-tested. He does currently have a valid driver's license.

Long said he knows his neighbor didn't crash on purpose, but he thinks perhaps it's time that O'Rourke hang up his keys for good.

"I don't think he needs to get back behind the wheel," Long said.

O'Rourke disagrees and said he plans to drive again. He said he is in good health and is even a retired

professional driver.

"This is the first time I've ever gotten in an accident that was my fault," he said.

Source: <http://www.katu.com/news/local/93-year-old-crashes-into-homes-227607691.html>