Everett man dies canoeing with Boy Scouts in Grant County

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EPHRATA — The Grant County Sheriff's Office has released the identity of an Everett man who died over the weekend while canoeing south of Ephrata.

Edward J. Williams was paddling with a Boy Scout troop on the Winchester Wasteway on Sunday when they came to a low dam and waterfall. The sheriff's office says that as the group was discussing how to get past the dam, the 74-year-old Williams decided to take an empty canoe and go over it.

He fell overboard as the canoe plunged over the falls. The canoe was sucked up against the falls, and when Williams tried to retrieve it he went under and lost his life jacket.

The Boy Scouts retrieved him from the water and began CPR, but he was pronounced dead at Columbia Basin Hospital.

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