

*Tragic mishap at his home*

# Shotgun accident claims youth's life

**DEFIANCE** -- A nine-year-old Defiance boy was killed Sunday morning, Jan. 18 in a horrific shotgun accident in the basement of his Defiance home.

Jacob Scott Allen Willroth, the son of Alicia Cadwell and John Willroth, was accidentally shot with a 12-gauge shotgun about 10 a.m. Sunday, according to Shelby County Sheriff reports.

The accident occurred at the youth's home, 408 2nd Ave.

Shelby County Chief Deputy Mark Hervey said, "The investigation revealed that (Jacob) and his 10-year-old brother were handling a shotgun in the basement.

"As a result, the gun accidentally discharged and struck (Jacob) in the side."

Defiance Rescue was called to the scene, and the youth was transported to the Defiance ball field.

He was airlifted from the ball field by MedFlight rescue helicopter to the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, where he was pronounced dead.

Officials said Jacob's parents are over-the-road truckers and were in the Kansas City area when the accident occurred. They were contacted immediately and they rushed home Sunday.

Services for Jacob are pending at Huebner Funeral Home in Denison.