

Mystery Still Surrounds Double Drowning

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The worst fears of family and friends of a man from the High Country—that Kenneth Wayne Benfield was found dead—his body retrieved from the waters of Lake Rhodhiss Friday morning.

The search finally ended late Friday afternoon with the recovery of the body of 51-year-old Terry Key who disappeared along with Benfield. Their small boat was found mid-afternoon Thursday—still circling and under power—in the lake, and a search was launched that continued until about midnight. Rescuers combed the shoreline hoping that the men made it to shore, but after hours of searching, it was certain the two were in the water. Benfield and Key, who was from Collettsville, had been doing signage work for Crescent Land and Timber, the Duke Power subsidiary, when somehow they fell or were tossed from the boat, which kept going until stopped by the fishermen who reported the incident.