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Grand Canyon worker dies

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A Grand Canyon employee has died from his injuries after being hit by a large boulder.

Randy Thompson, 49, had been in critical condition at University Medical Center since he was flown by the 66th Air Rescue Squad from Nellis Air Force Base after Monday's accident. He died Wednesday evening, a nursing supervisor said.

The 12-year park veteran was on a trail maintenance work trip with fellow crew members when he was hit during a snowstorm at Tapeats Creek, a remote area along the Colorado River within the Grand Canyon National Park.

Rangers and trail crew members provided immediate medical and rescue assistance to Thompson until he could be airlifted to Las Vegas, according to park spokeswoman Maureen Oltrogge.

Thompson worked on many trail projects throughout the park during his career. He was also a Vietnam veteran and Purple Heart recipient.