During the afternoon hours of March 4th, 1975, Patrolman Saulin was on patrol when he heard a fellow officer call in that he was checking out a suspicious male near a bank at Henderson Road and DeKalb Pike in the Valley Forge Shopping Center. Patrolman Saulin was in the Gulph Mills section of the Township at the time and radioed that he would respond as a back-up. While traveling on South Henderson Road, Patrolman Saulin lost control of his patrol vehicle, skidded off the road, and struck a tree causing his death. At the time of his death, Patrolman Saulin and his wife were expecting the birth of their first child, son Michael Jr., who was born two months later. He was laid to rest in Saint Mary's Cemetery, Bridgeton, New Jersey after a service with full honors.

Patrolman Saulin joined the Upper Merion Police Department on September 9th, 1974, and was assigned to the Patrol Division. Prior to joining the Department, Officer Saulin had graduated from Villanova University in 1972 with a degree in Sociology, and was employed at St. Gabriel's Hall as a youth counselor. Patrolman Saulin’s name is listed on both the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC and the Montgomery County Police Officers Memorial in Norristown, PA. On October 12, 2000, the Upper Merion Township Board of Supervisors passed a resolution naming a street which connects Henderson Road and DeKalb Pike “Saulin Boulevard” in Patrolman Saulin's honor.

District Attorney Ferman said, “Patrolman Saulin made his ultimate sacrifice while on route to helping a fellow Officer. The comraderie between law enforcement officials is clear, as we can see here today, with numerous police departments and officials in attendance. Patrolman Saulin was willing to risk his life for his fellow officer and his community, and unfortunately that is how he made his sacrifice. We come here today to show our respect for this sacrifice and dedication, and also as a sign of honor and loyalty for his devotion to the citizens of Upper Merion and Montgomery County.”