
Navy Plane Crash Kills Husband of Town Woman

The mid-air crash of two Navy A-6A Intruder jets Friday claimed the life of a Navy pilot who was the husband of a former Manchester resident.

He is Navy Lt. J. G. Thomas P. Lufkin, 25, of Virginia Beach, Va. husband of the former Linda Hohweiler, of 114 Green Manor Rd. Lt. Lufkin was one of three men killed in the crash. A fourth was injured.

Navy officials are investigating the crash which occurred in clear skies, with a 4,000 foot ceiling, scattered clouds, and a 12-mile visibility.

Both pilots were killed, along with one of the bombardier-navigators. The other bombardier-navigator ejected from the plane and was slightly injured.

The planes crashed in a field and caused no injuries to persons on the ground.

Lt. Lufkin was born in Gloucester, Mass., and attended Gloucester High School and New Preparatory School. He graduated from Boston College, where he was a hockey star, in 1969.

He joined the Navy immediately after graduation and received his Navy wings from Training Squadron 22, Kingsville, Texas. He was most recently attached to Attack Squadron 35, at the Naval Air Station, Oceana, Virginia Beach, Va.

Survivors besides his wife include his eight-month old daughter Samantha Lee; his father, Leo E. Lufkin, of Gloucester; two brothers, George E. Lufkin, of Centerville, Va., and Paul L. Lufkin, of Deerfield, Va.; a sister, Mrs. Patricia A. Bradley, of Vienna, Va.; and an aunt, Mrs. Alice M. Barron of Gloucester.

A mass of requiem will be celebrated Thursday at 10 a.m. at St. Ann's Church, Gloucester. Burial with full military honors will be in Gloucester.

Memorial services will be held Tuesday at the Oceana Air Station Chapel.

The family requests that contributions be given to the American Cancer Society in lieu of flowers.
