

**Elisha L. Pochodzay, Ruby L. Pochodzay, Kevin Long**

**Couple killed in crash (12/29/2008)**

A former Geneva resident and his wife were killed in a triple fatality in Northwest Indiana on Christmas Eve.

Elisha L. Pochodzay, 25, Schererville, his wife, Ruby L. Pochodzay, 23, and their unborn child, died Wednesday following the two-vehicle accident on U.S. 30 in Starke County.

Elisha Pochodzay died shortly after the accident at South Bend Memorial Hospital. His wife also died a short time after the accident at Porter Memorial Hospital, Valparaiso. The couple was married on Aug. 16.

Also killed in the accident was Kevin Long, 45, Wanatah. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

According to Starke County police, Long was driving westbound in the eastbound lane of U.S. 30. His 1998 Buick collided with Pochodzay's eastbound 1995 Oldsmobile.

The accident occurred at 5:45 p.m. The Indiana State Police assisted with the investigation.

Elisha Pochodzay was born July 6, 1983, in Effingham, Ill., to Kermit and Teresa (Randolph) Pochodzay.

Ruby Pochodzay was born May 3, 1985, in Hawaii to Cheyenne and Tory (Ratcliffe) Barnes.

Both were members of First Baptist Church, Hammond.

Elisha worked for Michaels Distributing and was attending Hyles-Anderson College of Crown Point. He was studying to become a minister. Ruby was a homemaker and substitute teacher.

Elisha is survived by his parents in Geneva; a brother, Samuel Amoz, Geneva; and a sister, Mrs. Jamie (Rebekah) Segwick, Guadalajara, Mexico.

Ruby is survived by her father and step mother, Cheyenne and Helen Barnes, Polermo, Maine; her mother and step father, Tory and Timothy Sullivan, Crown Point; a sister, Grace Barnes, Crown Point; three brothers, Joshua Barnes and Stephen Barnes, both of Polermo, and Jonathan Barnes, Augusta, Maine; and a step sister, Stacy Henderson, Durand, Mich.

Services for the couple will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Faith Baptist Church, Berne, with the Revs. Travis Combest and Joshua Barnes officiating. Burial will be at Westlawn Cemetery, Geneva.

Calling hours are today from 5 to 8 p.m. and Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Yager-Kirchhofer Funeral Home, Berne.

Memorials may be made to the family.