

NORTHEAST PA



CAR DOT

Accident victims buried Tuesday; investigation continues

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Sept. 14 for Stephen Strumski of Wyoming and Kathleen M. Patla, Sweet Valley who died following a motorcycle crash on Route 309 last Saturday. Strumski, 20, Box 254,

RD 3, Wyoming was buried from the Snowdon Funeral Home, Shavertown. Interment was in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Carverton. Patla, 28, RD 1, Sweet Valley was buried from the Clarke Platt Funeral

Home in Hunlock Creek. Interment was in Maple Grove Cemetery, Pikes Creek. Dallas Township Police report the accident occurred at 2:56 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 11 near the Mr. Donut Shop on

Route 309. A pickup truck, operated by Floyd Lengel, 25, 142 Pocono Trailer Court, Wilkes-Barre, was traveling south on Route 309 and attempted to make a left turn into Mr. Donut. Lengel is reported to have

made the turn and was entering the parking lot when his truck was struck in the right rear by a motorcycle.

Strumski was driving the motorcycle with Patla riding as a passenger. Both were thrown from the bike, which continued down the road and burst into flames. Neither Lengel nor a passenger in his vehicle, Ron Wilson, 23, Wilkes-Barre, were injured in the crash. Strumski was tran-

sported to the Nesbitt Memorial Hospital by the Back Mountain Mobile Intensive Care Unit and was pronounced dead at 5:15 a.m. Patla was transported by the Kingston Township

ambulance. She died at 8:15 a.m. Dallas Fire Department was summoned to contain the fire. Dallas Township patrolman Clark Van Orden is investigating, assisted by Chief Carl Miers. The investigation was not complete at press time.

Strumski was a 1980 Dallas graduate, presently employed by Robbins Door and Sash Co., Wilkes-Barre. He was the son of Stephen J. and Ann Altavilla Strumski. Surviving besides his parents are a brother Joseph; sisters, JoAnn and Suzanne, all at home; paternal grandmother, Mrs. Doris Strumski, Plymouth.

Patla was born June 16, 1954 in Noxen, the daughter of Phillip and Delores Roberts Sorber. She was employed as a secretary at Walco Electronics, Wilkes-Barre. Surviving besides her parents are her husband, Charles J. Patla Sr.; son, Charles, Jr.; brothers, Rodney P. Sorber, Dallas; Bradley R. Sorber, Sweet Valley; sisters, Phyllis R. Dale, Harveys Lake; Lisa Sorber, Hunlock Creek.

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