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Narada Lovings

Founding member of SFA's Iota Phi Theta dies in car accident

On-campus memorial activities will start at Social Work, end at Kennedy Auditorium

By Andy Phifer
November 03, 2004

Narada Lovings, Houston junior and co-founder of SFA's Delta Xi chapter of Iota Phi Theta, died Monday morning in a car accident in Angelina County.

"He was traveling at an unsafe speed for the rainy conditions, and he hydroplaned and struck a tree with the driver side of his car at about 8:15 a.m.," Joshua Senn, Texas Department of Public Safety Trooper, said.

Lovings was driving north on U.S. Highway 59 when his car crashed near the Angelina River bridge. He was alone, wearing a seat belt and there were no drugs or alcohol involved in the accident, Senn said. Lovings was pronounced dead at Memorial Health System of East Texas at about 9:30 a.m. Monday, Senn said.

His fraternity will hold a candlelight vigil at 5:30 p.m. Thursday in front of the School of Social Work Building. Attendees will then walk to Kennedy Auditorium for a memorial service from 6 to 8 p.m.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday in Houston at Kashmere Gardens Missionary Baptist Church on 4302 Cavalcade St.

"He was like a father figure to everyone, well knowledgeable about everything in the fraternity and the world," Iota Phi Theta President Kentrel Dickerson said. "He was a laid-back person, involved in the fraternity and other organizations. He had a wonderful singing voice and sang in the church choir."

Lovings was a pre-social work major who was doing an internship with the School of Social Work. The 24-year-old is survived by his wife, Brandy.

"He was a charter founder in bringing Iota Phi Theta to SFA," Dickerson said. "He and one of his (fraternity) brothers were one of the main attributes for bringing the fraternity (here). He wanted to see the fraternity grow. He was willing to do anything for it, if it cost money or cost time."

Dickerson said Lovings' passions were his wife and his fraternity.

"I know that on behalf of myself and the fraternity he will always be remembered," Dickerson said. "We always loved him with all our hearts, and we'll contribute our whole organization in his name, his legacy."
