

Kents Killed in Sky-Car Crash

METROPOLIS — THE DAILY PLANET NEWS SERVICE — Jonathan and Martha Kent, the Midwestern couple who ten years ago welcomed to our world two “strange visitors from another planet,” were killed in a sky-car mishap this afternoon.

The Kents were returning to their Smallville home after a ceremony celebrating “A Decade of Krypton’s Gifts.” The Metropolis Festival, commemorating the tenth anniversary of the arrival on Earth of Lady Lara and her son Kal-El, had featured the unveiling of several wonders of Kryptonian technology, including the new personal aerial vehicle called “the sky-car.”

Lady Lara this afternoon presented the Kents with the first consumer-available sky-car at the Festival’s closing ceremonies. “I hope this gift will begin to repay these fine people for their influence on the lives of me and my son,” she said as she unveiled the futuristic vehicle.

Rumors of discord between the Kents and the female Kryptonian scientist, which had been circulating in whispered conversations and anonymous calls to gossip columnists, were disproven by the warm affections evident at the Festival.

After a half-hour’s instruction, Lady Lara pronounced Mr. Kent “ready to fly.” But a mere ten minutes later, word came that the craft had crashed just outside Midvale, a small college town about halfway between Smallville and Metropolis.

“It started hummin’, and then it buzzed real loud like a ’lectric shaver,” reported Ricky Malverne, a resident of Midvale Orphanage, “and then it just fell outta the sky like a big rock.”

Preliminary examination of the wreckage by Lady Lara led to speculations that human error had led to the crash. “I designed these vehicles to be completely safe,” she said grimly at the scene of the crash. “I can’t see any indications of mechanical or electrical failure.”

In a later statement, Lady Lara said, “Kal and I will always be grateful to Jonathan and Martha for welcoming us to your beautiful world. We — especially my son — will miss their guidance and counsel.”