

Commercial Review, The (Portland, IN) - Wednesday, December 7, 2005

Gary Robert "Bob" Banta, 47, 25 East Brown Drive, Portland, died Sunday in an automobile accident in Henry County.

Born in Portland on June 18, 1958, to Willard and Mary Elizabeth (Robbins) Banta, he graduated from Jay County High School in 1976, where he was a member of the golf team.

He was a communication technician for Radian Systems Integration in Lufkin, Texas.

A veteran of the U.S. Navy, he graduated from Purdue University in 1988 and was a member of Golf Course Superintendents Association.

Survivors include his mother, Mary Elizabeth Wirth, Portland; a son, Maxwell Banta, Fort Wayne; a daughter, Michelle Banta, Fort Wayne; three brothers, Tom Banta, Portland, Jack Banta, Westfield, and Bill Banta, Chicago; a sister, Cynthia Banta, Sacramento, Calif., and several nieces and nephews.

Services are Thursday at 10 a.m. in Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Greg Rittenhouse officiating. Burial will be in Green Park Cemetery.

Visitation is Wednesday from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials may be sent to the Jay County Heart Fund.

Contributed by Jane Edson