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Rebecca Velker ('13) Killed on Way to Graduation

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REBECCA VELKER ('13) KILLED ON WAY TO GRADUATION



“My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord” in Isaiah 55:8.

Yes, it is very difficult at times to understand why things happen, like why Rebecca Velker was driving back to Lynchburg to participate in her graduation ceremony only to die in a car accident.

Rebecca was an Honors student who earned a B.S. in history with a minor in business. Her heart’s desire was to serve the Lord by working toward ensuring a long-lasting, mutually beneficial relationship between the United States and Japan. Her husband, Vincent Hogue, was an LU alumnus who had taken a position as a coach in Houston. They were driving to Lynchburg when on May 9, when the accident occurred in Breaux Bridge, Louisiana. Velker died at the scene, but her husband, although injured, survived.

Rebecca met her husband in Okinawa, which was home to both of them. The title of her thesis was “A Thread in Japan’s History: The Historical Journey of Japanese Christianity to the Brink of Modern Japan.” A copy can be found in *digitalcommons*. She was also a frequent contributor to the Japanese Philosophy Blog: News and Discussion of Ancient and Modern Japanese Philosophy (<http://japanphilosophy.com/blog/2013/05/may-roundup/>).

Although it is hard to understand why her life was cut short, we embrace Romans 11:33, “Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and His paths beyond tracing out!” In commemoration of the path she did walk at Liberty, the Honors Program donated \$500. to the JFL Library which would be the new home for Honors and had a brick laid at its front doors, in Rebecca Velker’s name with the hope that the dreams that Honors students dream will lead from Liberty on paths directed by God out into the world.

