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Parents Of Broncos Coach Killed In Panhandle Crash

The Denver Broncos are mourning the deaths of running backs coach Eric Stutesville's parents in an auto accident in the Texas Panhandle.

Al and Jan Stutesville were killed Tuesday when an 18-wheeler crossed into the westbound lanes on U.S. Highway 54 and struck the Wisconsin couple's motorcycle head-on, according to the Texas Department of Public Safety.

The Broncos canceled their media availability Wednesday and said in a statement, "Our most heartfelt condolences go to Eric Stutesville and his entire family following the tragic loss of his parents, Al and Jan Stutesville. We were devastated to learn of their passing today. Our thoughts and prayers are with Eric and his family, and our organization will support them however possible during this difficult time."

Stutesville is entering his fourth season with the Broncos and 17th in the NFL. He was the Broncos' interim coach for the final month of the 2010 season following the firing of head coach Josh McDaniels. When John Fox was hired after that season, Stutesville returned to his job coaching the team's running backs.

Texas DPS trooper Christopher Ray said the accident Tuesday afternoon occurred in good weather about five miles outside the town of Texhoma.

Ray said the truck driver, Anthony DeWayne Buck of Dalhart, Texas, who was not injured, was eastbound on U.S. 54 when his empty 18-wheeler drifted into the westbound lanes and struck the Honda Goldwing motorcycle head-on. The driver of the motorcycle, 67-year-old Alfonso Stutesville, and his passenger, 68-year-old Janet Stutesville, both of Madison, Wis., were pronounced dead at the scene.

AP/Denver Post