

# The naming of the Spawn of Pleiades

The photo below nearly happened to us. A few years back my beautiful wife Melissa, myself and a Dive Buddy Brad, left the dock on a fantastic clear wind free day to dive the wreck of the America off of the Kewaunee coastline. There was just a hint of a breeze, clear skies and unlimited visibility. We could see the Kewaunee Nuclear plant from the dive site about 8 miles or so away. As we anchored to the wreck, put up our diver down flag, and Brad and I donned our dive gear off on the horizon we noticed another vessel, a mere dot on the horizon. We did back rolls off of the sides of the boat and proceeded down the line to the wreck 135' below. Because of the depth we had limited no-deco time and did a slow lap around the bow and back to where the anchor was lodged amidships on the wreck to find only a cloud of dust floating and no line. Odd, but to our minds no big deal we did a free ascent to the surface. Upon surfacing I spotted the boat but thought something looked odd, the bow railing seemed to be hanging off the boat. Melissa spotted me in the water and yelled to me that we had been hit and to hurry. Then I noticed a sailboat circling our position. As Brad and I got back on board I surveyed the damage. They had hit us amidships, fortunately at an angle and glance off, taking out the bow rail, and the windshield in the process. There was glass everywhere. Fortunately, no one was hurt. With Brad and I both on board we hailed the circling vessel and exchanged insurance contact information, and hailed the Coast Guard for instruction. We were instructed to head for the nearest open boat launch in Algoma. A few miles from the point of impact we noticed the boat riding low in the water. Upon opening the engine cover we found water was coming in, and was up the exhaust manifolds prompting a Mayday call. Bailing buckets came out and we were able to get ahead of the incoming water and meet the Coast Guard at the dock. Since the other vessel hit us while at anchor with our dive flag up and on a clear day no less they were deemed 100% at fault. My poor boat was deemed a total loss by insurance and as a result I named the new vessel they bought me after the vessel that created the opportunity to upgrade. The Sailboat was "The Pleiades." The boat they bought me is now ..... "The Spawn of Pleiades"

