On February 2, Kyla Bartelheimer was pregnant with her third child and headed with her husband, Peter, to the hospital. Within minutes of leaving, Kyla told Peter to pull over and they came to a stop along 92nd St SE near 115th Ave SE in Snohomish.

Deputy Poteet was on patrol driving eastbound along 92nd St SE when he saw the Bartelheimer’s vehicle and could hear the sound of the car’s horn blaring. Deputy Poteet stopped and Peter told him, “My wife is in labor and she is wanting to push!” Deputy Poteet immediately called for paramedics, but it was clear that the baby was not going to wait. Without hesitation, Deputy Poteet gloved up and prepared for delivery.

Deputy Poteet gave Kyla instructions, all the while remaining hopeful that paramedics would arrive in time. When Deputy Poteet saw the baby’s head appear he knew that Kyla would be delivering her baby in the vehicle on the side of the road.

Deputy Poteet was relieved when the baby’s shoulder’s emerged but relief soon turned to concern when he saw the baby’s skin color was blue and the baby made no sound. Deputy Poteet patted the baby’s back as he had seen the doctor pat his own daughter’s back when she was born. A moment later the baby let out a cry. Case Daniel Bartelheimer was born at 11:06 PM, a healthy 9 lbs. 2 oz.

For grace under pressure and for extraordinary performance while rendering life saving techniques that likely resulted in the preservation of two lives and lifelong connection between Keith and the Bartelheimer family, this Life Saving Medal is awarded to Deputy Keith Poteet.