



ALABAMA



Rickey Levi Davis, 33, a five-year career firefighter with Center Point Fire/Rescue, died after falling through a floor while battling a house fire on April 20, 2000. Davis also worked as a firefighter/paramedic with the Homewood Fire Department. He had served in the U. S. Navy.

He did his job and took care of his family the right way. He had a smile that could light up a room when he walked in.

Paul Anthony Husband, Sr., 33, a four-year career firefighter with the Mobile Fire-Rescue Department, died on September 27, 2000, after falling from a fire truck. He served in the Marine Corps during Operation Desert Storm.

He was a big man in stature, but he didn't have a mean bone in his body. He was a big teddy bear, a real nice person.

ALASKA



David J. Liston, 28, a smokejumper for the Bureau of Land Management - Alaska Fire Service, died when his parachute failed to open during a mandatory training exercise on April 29, 2000. The specially trained smokejumpers are the first to respond to remote fires by parachuting into the area.

It was the exceptional people he worked with and the camaraderie they enjoyed that inspired him with a tremendous pride and love for his chosen career.

ARKANSAS



Jared C. McCormick, 19, a firefighter with the Bono Volunteer Fire Department, died on November 2, 2000 when he was struck by a motor vehicle while trying to repair his broken fire truck.

He was a loving husband, son, brother and grandson. He always had a quick smile and a helping hand for everyone he met.

CALIFORNIA

Paul E. Cooper, 27, a firefighter with the Hoopa Volunteer Fire Department, died on his birthday, February 14, 2000, of injuries sustained three days earlier when the fire truck hit a tree as he responded to a call. He was very dedicated and planned to make firefighting his career.

Paul was a resident of Hoopa Reservation, a community where he gave and received love. He will forever be known as a hero. He was a good man with a good heart.

Leo W. Koponen, 49, a contract pilot for the U.S. Forest Service/Courtney Aviation, died on May 15, 2000, when his plane crashed during a surveillance mission in New Mexico. He began flying at age 17 and had more than 9,000 hours of flying time. He served in the Marine Corps and U.S. Army.

His friends knew they could depend on him for help. He loved his model train collection and sailing on his sailboat. He loved all people, especially his grandchildren.

Michael Shortt, 44, fire chief with the Weaverville Volunteer Fire Department, suffered a massive heart attack during a fire training drill and died two weeks later on March 31, 2000. He was in charge of training volunteers, acted as fire inspector, and taught fire prevention.

He was a dedicated firefighter and a dedicated family man. He was definitely a teacher, and he died teaching other firefighters.

COLORADO

Robert W. Crump, 37, a career firefighter with the Denver Fire Department, drowned while trying to rescue a woman from a flash flood on August 17, 2000. Crump was a Marine Corps veteran.

His smile told the whole story: that he loved life. For him to ultimately sacrifice himself for another was just a part of who he was. He was a kind and caring man, and he will forever live in our hearts.



CONNECTICUT



Robert Boy Ketelsen, 59, an eight-year volunteer with the Westbrook Fire Department, died of a heart attack after a false alarm call on January 27, 2000. He was a top responder, with more than 800 emergencies in the past five years. He was also a member of the Westbrook Volunteer Ambulance Association for 10 years.

The measure of a life is not how long you live, but the good you do. Bob's life was full measure.



Jaime Quinones, Jr., 38, a six-year career firefighter with the Waterbury Fire Department, was shot while collecting money for his department's Muscular Dystrophy Association "Fill the Boot" campaign. Quinones served in the Marine Corps.

Nicknamed "Q," Jaime was an avid comic book collector and a Star Trek fan; "Q" was a kid at heart. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends. My son was my best friend; he was my HERO!



Whitney C. Teehan, Jr., 66, a 48-year volunteer with Eastern Point Volunteer Fire Company #2, died of a heart attack while at a fire scene on June 25, 2000. He served as fire department captain for 26 years. He was also a professional magician,

known throughout the state as Misto, Master of Magic, 8th Wonder of the World.

He was well regarded by his peers; respected by many; devoted to his wife, four daughters, and five grandchildren. In his own mind, all the firefighters who served under him were his own children.

DELAWARE

Arnold Blankenship III, 27, assistant chief and six-year veteran of the Greenwood Volunteer Fire Department #1, Inc., died April 30, 2000, when he became trapped during a controlled burn. His department had selected him as "Fireman of the Year" in 1998.

Arnie loved hunting, fishing and his boy. He was a great husband, daddy, son, brother, and uncle who will always be missed and never forgotten.



FLORIDA

Marvin Maurice Bartholemew, 30, a four-year career firefighter with the Pensacola Fire Department, was attempting rescue operations when he became trapped in a house fire and died on November 25, 2000. He was searching for the residents, unaware they had already escaped.

Maurice was a good, sweet guy. He wouldn't even step on an ant; he was so good-natured. He worked hard and paid his way through college to become a firefighter.



George A. Burton, 49, a pilot for the Florida Division of Forestry for nine years, died in a helicopter crash while fighting a wildfire on June 4, 2000. He was a Vietnam veteran and a flight instructor for 21 years with the U.S. Army.

George gave his life protecting others, which is characteristic of him.

Nolen A. Sauls, 51, a 14-year career firefighter with Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department, died on August 7, 2000, of cardiac arrest after responding to several calls. He was also an instructor/mentor with an EMS program.

His favorite hobby was cooking, and he was known to the fire department for his hot sauce and hot peppers. His good-hearted nature and love of teaching will be sadly missed.



FLORIDA (cont.)



Roger H. Taylor, 54, a division chief and 31-year veteran with Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department credited with launching the careers of many division employees, died on May 16, 2000, of cardiac arrest. He was a paramedic/EMT instructor for more than 20 years and was a Marine Corps veteran.

Remembering your love of life and family, that special smile you gave so freely, your firefighter's dedication to those in need. We all miss and love you so very much.

Michael K. Yahraus, 32, a 13-year career firefighter/paramedic with the Sarasota County Fire Department, died of injuries received during a training exercise on September 12, 2000. He was completing law enforcement certification to become a SWAT medic for the Sarasota Police Department.

Proving his dedication to helping others, he was an organ donor and in so doing will continue to help others for many years to come.

GEORGIA



Michael R. Queen, a 12-year member of the Clayton Volunteer Fire Department and its chief, died on March 28, 2000, during a training exercise. He was involved in auto racing and was a member of the Weber pit crew, and a Woodman of the World.

He was a very dedicated firefighter who believed in helping others in need. He took pride in everything he did.



Phillip D. Smith, 49, a 20-year career civilian firefighter with the Department of Defense Fort McPherson & Fort Gillem Fire and Emergency Services, died on November 16, 2000, of heart failure after completing a wildland training exercise. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and gardening. *His greatest love was for his girls. He taught that the best things in life to have are integrity, loyalty, honesty and love.*

ILLINOIS

Scott P. Gillen, 37, a 14-year member of the Chicago Fire Department, died of multiple injuries on December 23, 2000, when struck by a passing vehicle at an accident scene. A new state law, known as "Scott's Law," will help protect emergency personnel from motorists at accident scenes. Gillen's family actively worked to make this legislation a reality.

He will always be remembered as an extraordinary person who brightened the lives of everyone he met, for he certainly lived and died a hero.



Thomas G. Gotkowski, 55, a captain with the Tinley Park Volunteer Fire Department, died on October 1, 2000, of a heart attack after assisting at an EMS call. He had 25 years of service with the fire department.

He just really loved the fire department. He also loved to fish.



L. C. Merrell, Jr., 43, a lieutenant and 18-year member of the Chicago Fire Department, died on April 29, 2000, of injuries sustained in an accident while responding to an alarm. He was awarded an associate's degree in fire science from Harold Washington College posthumously.

Every place L. C. went became a better place because he had been there. His hobbies were golf, camping, racquetball, fishing, and traveling.



Steven M. Wilmot, 47, an arson investigator with the Springfield Fire Department, died on August 9, 2000, from injuries sustained while investigating an arson fire. Captain Wilmot had been a member of the department for 15 years.

Steve was an avid hunter and fisherman, a skilled woodworker and a dedicated family man.



ILLINOIS (CONT.)



Donald Ray Wilson, 50, a 15-year volunteer with Herrick Fire Protection District, died on March 6, 2000, of a heart attack while fighting a residential fire. His wife and son are also members of the department.

He loved life, helping others, and riding his motorcycle.



INDIANA

Robert M. Samanas, 53, a firefighter/paramedic with Rural Metro Fire Department-Bethlehem Steel, died on October 31, 2000, of a heart attack after completing physical ability training. He served with the Porter Volunteer Fire Department for eight years and Porter County Ambulance Service for ten years.

He knew what he was doing and was someone you could always count on in an emergency and as a friend. His death is a great loss to Porter County.

Warren "J. C." Smith, 28, a five-year career firefighter with the Indianapolis Fire Department, died on August 13, 2000, during a dive rescue training exercise. He was a certified rescue diver.

J. C. Smith gave his entire life to our community, not just on the day he died, but every day. He was a hero.

IOWA



James Ted Griffith, 25, a volunteer with the Winterset Fire Department, died on April 7, 2000, when a fuel tank exploded at a grass fire. He was named his department's "Firefighter of the Year" in 1999 and his county's "Citizen of the Year" in 2000.

Griffith was a third-generation firefighter.

He achieved his lifetime goal of becoming a fireman on a "good" department, and the best part is — he was very much a part of what made it "good."

IOWA (CONT.)

Douglas G. Stevens, 42, a seven-year volunteer and the Story City Lafayette Township Fire Department's training officer died on February 6, 2000, of a heart attack while performing overhaul operations at a house fire. The Iowa Senate honored him for "courage, heroism and self-sacrifice in the line of duty."

Doug was a loving husband and father to his two daughters and enjoyed spending time with his family. He was a hard worker who enjoyed a good laugh and being a firefighter.



KANSAS

Lyndell J. Smith, 46, a 12-year volunteer with the Caldwell Fire Department, died on May 31, 2000, when the fire department vehicle was involved in an accident while responding to a call. Smith was manager of the local water company and received an Operator of the Year Award in 1992.

Lyndell was a loving husband of 23 years, a devoted father to four sons, and a caring brother, son and grandson. He was an avid motorcyclist and served his community and church with pride.



KENTUCKY

Logan D. Fields, 51, a deputy chief with the Hazard Fire Department, died of a heart attack on August 12, 2000. Fields was a member of the Water Rescue Team and helped set up the area's 911 system. He also served as chief of a nearby volunteer fire department.

Logan is greatly missed; he was a very kind and giving person.



KENTUCKY (CONT.)



Kyle A. Hendrick, 19, a three-year member of the Gott Volunteer Fire Department, died on November 16, 2000, when a tanker overturned during a water-shuttle training exercise. He was involved in church and many activities in his small community.

Kyle touched many people in such a positive way that his memory will live forever. He had a never ending smile that will always be cherished in our hearts.

John C. Slade, 46, a career lieutenant with the Cynthiana Fire Department, died of a massive stroke on September 19, 2000, after collapsing at the scene of an automatic alarm at a nursing home on September 2. He had responded to another call earlier that day. He was the first Cynthiana firefighter to die while on active duty.

We thought a lot of John and will definitely miss him. He was a member of the Cynthiana Elks Lodge 438.



Richard Owen Spink, 48, a 24-year Federal firefighter with Fort Campbell Fire Department, died of a heart attack during a live burn training on February 13, 2000. He was a driver/operator in aircraft/air crash and rescue, as well as a structural firefighter.

His passion and devotion to firefighting came second only to his love for God and family. He was a loving, devoted, and caring son, husband, father, brother and friend who enjoyed life to the fullest.

LOUISIANA



Charles E. Klick, 67, a 13-year volunteer with the Fiske Union Fire Department, died of a stroke while fighting a grass fire on February 23, 2000. During his service, he helped the department grow from one station to three.

He worked hard to help build up the department. He loved helping others and will be missed by a lot of family and friends.

LOUISIANA (CONT.)

Lester L. Shadrick, 53, a contract pilot with the Bureau of Land Management, died on August 13, 2000, in a helicopter crash while making water drops on the Twin Peaks fire in Nevada. Shadrick had been flying with ERA Aviation since 1985.

MAINE

Robert "Jonesy" Jones, 48, a member of Unity Volunteer Fire Department, died on his birthday, January 12, 2000, of a heart attack at a structure fire. He had served as Chief of the department from 1990-1998. Jones was also the Waldo County Sheriff.



The most important part of Jonesy's life was his family. Firefighting and law enforcement were second, followed closely by football.

MARYLAND

Robert W. Humphrey, 62, a 27-year life member of Maryland Line Volunteer Fire Company #450, died on September 17, 2000. He was struck by a car while crossing the highway to an accident scene. Humphrey served in the Air Force, belonged to the Bel Air Moose Lodge, and was on the Kidney Foundation Committee.



He was always helping people and serving his community. Bob knew everyone and loved to talk your ear off. Bob is our hero.

MASSACHUSETTS

David C. Fitzgerald, 63, a 31-year career firefighter with the Somerville Fire Department, died of a heart attack on October 13, 2000, after responding to emergency calls. He served in the military during the Cuban missile crisis. Somerville Fire Department awarded him its Medal of Honor posthumously.



He was a Little League assistant coach, an avid reader, and always volunteered at community fundraisers. He truly loved his work and was very modest about his courage. He is deeply missed by his loving wife and five children.



Remembrances

MICHIGAN



Ronald James Haner, 61, a deputy chief and 26-year career member of the Portage Fire Department, died on December 18, 2000, of smoke inhalation in a fire in his home. Haner was an avid hunter, fisherman, and model railroad collector.

His family was very important to him, and he was looking forward to spending more time with his grandchildren after he retired.



David A. Maisano, 38, volunteer captain with the Tri-Town Fire Department, died on April 8, 2000, of pneumonia after being hospitalized for injuries sustained in a fall from a fire truck while securing ladders after a fire.

David was a devoted volunteer firefighter as well as a family man. He loved hunting and fishing.



David P. Sutton, 27, a three-year volunteer with the Fraser Department of Public Safety, died on March 4, 2000, of smoke inhalation while attempting to rescue an elderly woman from an apartment building fire set by an arsonist. The Macomb County

Chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart honored Sutton posthumously for his heroic effort.

He took his role very seriously in the fire service. We'll never forget him and what he did here.



Gail L. Van Auken, 41, a four-year volunteer with the Overisel Township Fire Department, died on November 2, 2000, in a motor vehicle accident while responding to a fire call. She was a teacher's aide and taught a fire prevention program that she had developed.

She will be missed by everyone who knew her. They will never forget her smile that she always had on her face, no matter what the situation.

MISSISSIPPI

John Paul Pritchett, 56, Forestry Crew Chief, Mississippi Forestry Commission, died on September 3, 2000, after earlier sustaining burns as he was plowing a fire lane. He was a member of the Bellefontaine Masonic Lodge.



He worked his whole life doing what he loved, which was saving nature. He hoped his accident would bring more light to other firefighters' deeds. He loved fishing and his family.

MISSOURI

James W. Altic, 47, chief and a 15-year member of Halfway Volunteer Fire Department, died on January 17, 2000, in a traffic accident on the way to a fire scene. Altic was well known for helping others in his community.

He was more than a fire chief. He was our friend. More than a loss to our fire department, it's a big loss to our community.

Bradley S. Pierce, 27, career firefighter/paramedic with St. Charles City Fire Department, died on August 6, 2000, while training as part of the department's health and wellness program. Known as "Moose" to his co-workers, Pierce was a member of his department's Firefighter Combat Challenge Team in 1999 and 2000.



He will be forever remembered as a loving husband, father, and firefighter.

Robert D. Pollard, 64, a volunteer with the Southern Stone County Fire Protection District, died on January 1, 2000, of a brain aneurysm after collapsing earlier en route to a brush fire. He was a past board member of the District and was instrumental in getting 911 in Stone County.



He enjoyed fishing, boating and hunting; but most of all, he was a loving husband, father and grandfather and loved his extended firemen family.

MISSOURI (CONT.)



James A. "Jim" Reavis, 69, a volunteer captain with the North Stone NE Barry County Fire District, died on October 26, 2000, of a heart attack en route to the fire house for additional equipment for a house fire. He was a veteran of the Korean War and also served as a Deputy Sheriff for 35 years.

One of seven brothers, his parents instilled in their sons the importance of serving their community. Jim did this all his life by serving his country, community and family well.

Phillip D. Ridings, 52, a 10-year member of Hornersville Volunteer Fire Department, died on July 16, 2000, of a heart attack at a structure fire. A 23-year U.S. Army veteran, he received the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. As a licensed pilot, he served on the Presidential flight crew under President Ford.

He loved to fish, especially with his grandchildren.



Evan N. Shirk, 27, a five-year volunteer with Moreau Fire Protection District, died on May 27, 2000, from injuries sustained in a traffic accident while returning from a fire call.

A man dedicated to his family and community, forever smiling. Evan always had a kind word and a helping hand to give. He is sorely missed.

NEVADA



Phillip "Pip" Conner, 29, a four-year seasonal firefighter with the National Park Service - Lake Mead National Recreation Area, died on August 3, 2000, in a helicopter crash after fire suppression activities. A U.S. Navy veteran, he was very involved with youth groups, his church and the Boy Scouts.

Pip, taken from "Great Expectations," was his nickname from birth, and he was ours. He was a big guy with a big smile that could melt an iceberg. He liked anything that was a challenge.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

David A. Anderson, 43, a 16-year career firefighter with the Manchester Fire Department, died of a heart attack on December 23, 2000, after trying to rescue two children from an apartment fire.

He was a dedicated firefighter who loved his job. He gave his life unselfishly in the performance of his duty. David Anderson died a hero.

NEW JERSEY

Ralph H. Jones II, 37, a 14-year career member of the Deptford Fire Department, died on June 23, 2000, of a heart attack after returning from an EMS call. He was President of the IAFF Local 3592 and a coach for the Woodbury Little League Association.

Daniel King, 21, a four-year volunteer with the Cliffside Park Fire Department, died on November 26, 2000, in a motor vehicle accident while responding to a fire call.

Daniel would have never wanted to die any other way than in the line of duty. His family was all his fellow workers. He was a wonderful son, friend and brother.

Ronald J. Osadacz, 36, a 14-year member and assistant chief with the Moegansville Volunteer Fire Company No. 1, died on January 11, 2000, of a heart attack after returning from a fire. His father and brothers were also firefighters.

Ron was a wonderful, loving husband and father and was very proud of his children. He was halfway to his dream of becoming a paid firefighter.





Remembrances

NEW MEXICO



Samuel J. Tobias, 47, a 25-year member of the U.S. Forest Service – Lincoln National Forest, died on May 15, 2000, in a plane crash while flying a surveillance mission. Because of his outstanding service, a local campground and road were renamed in his memory. A bronze memorial on the Billy the Kid Scenic Byway at the White Mountain Wilderness Vista Point also honors him.

Sam was a strong, gentle man— a peacemaker, an adventurer, a builder, a hunter, a lover, and a best friend. He was quick to laugh, gave heart-warming bear hugs, and placed the love of his family above all else.



NEW YORK

Fred Brain, 76, a volunteer with Miller Place Fire Department, died of a heart attack on April 24, 2000, after collapsing in March at the scene of a motor vehicle accident.

He was a family man; and the members of the Miller Place Fire Department were his second family, and the fire house his second home.



Kenneth W. Kerr, 44, a 14-year veteran of the Fire Department of New York, died of a heart attack after returning from a fire on November 15, 2000. He served in the U.S. Air Force. At Engine Co. 90, he was known as "Special K" and the "Back Step Commander."

Ken's love for his wife and children was always a top priority, and being a firefighter was in his blood. To his wife Lorraine he gave passion, and to the world he gave kindness.



Keith P. Purcell, 46, a 16-year volunteer with Southold Fire Department, died on December 17, 2000, when he suffered a heart attack at the scene of a house fire. Purcell was named "Fireman of the Year" in 1988.

He was a good guy, and a collector of real fire trucks. He loved the fire department and was a dedicated member.

NEW YORK (CONT.)

Bernard "Pete" Scannell, 70, a 45-year volunteer with the Waterloo Fire Department, died on September 21, 2000, of a heart attack while responding to a vehicle fire. He was also a captain with the Seneca County Fire Police and a life member of Waterloo Sportsman's Club.



He believed that the best part of being a firefighter is "how well people work together and how firefighters can depend on each other." He loved his family, community and stock car racing.

NORTH CAROLINA

Gary L. Bankert, Sr., 37, a member of the Roanoke-Wildwood Volunteer Fire Department, drowned on January 15, 2000, during a dive training exercise. He was an original member of the department's Search and Recovery Dive Team.

When Gary put his mind to something, he wouldn't stop until he accomplished it, whatever it was. He will always be here with us no matter how much time goes by.

Lisa A. Farrow, 30, a volunteer with Engelhard Fire and Rescue Department, died of a heart attack on August 9, 2000, after collapsing at the scene of a residential fire.

Michael R. Fossett, 45, a member of the North Carolina Division of Forest Services, died in a helicopter crash en route to a training/education field day on September 7, 2000. He served in the U.S. Army for more than 20 years.



Michael loved his job, something he had dreamed of. He loved his helicopters and also the mountains. Our memories keep us going.

David Timothy "Tim" Newman, 40, of the North Carolina Division of Forest Services, died in a helicopter crash en route to a training/education field day on September 7, 2000. He was a highly decorated U.S. Army veteran of the Gulf War.



Tim's greatest love and joy was his family. He was a loving, dedicated husband of 16 years and an involved, loving, caring father of three children.

NORTH CAROLINA (CONT.)



David C. Sharp II, 31, a 12-year career member of the City of Fayetteville Fire Department, Station 1, died on March 17, 2000, when his fire truck was struck by a train while returning from a call. He was on the department's Haz-Mat team.

David lived every day to its fullest, and those days always somehow contained family and friends. He always kept you smiling, if not laughing.



Howard W. VanHoy, 67, a 40-year member and assistant chief for 35 years with the Austin Volunteer Fire Department, died on September 5, 2000, of a heart attack at the scene of a live burn training exercise. VanHoy

received special recognition for being one of the best pump operators in the state.

He was thoughtful, kind, giving and had a good heart. He had a smile that could light up a room.



OHIO

Michael Ray Baughn, 46, a paid-on-call member of Washington Fire/Rescue, died on April 11, 2000, after suffering a heart attack at a search and rescue training exercise.

Mike was a photographer, carpenter, Air Force Reservist and woodworker. He turned wood into beautiful pieces of furniture. I am able to walk through our home and see him in his work.



James D. Geiger, 55, a 20-year auxiliary firefighter/EMT with the City of Defiance Fire & Rescue, died on February 19, 2000, of a heart attack after returning from an EMS call. He had assisted with victim removal from a snow sledding accident.

He loved to tinker in his garage and spent many hours visiting with his friends and co-workers at the fire station. Jim did not know a stranger and very willingly offered his advice and expertise to others.

OHIO (CONT.)



Lee A. Purdy, 57, a volunteer with Spencerville Invincible Fire Company, died on January 8, 2000, of a heart attack while operating a water pump at a house fire. His wife, Sharon, is a paramedic with the local rescue squad. Purdy was a Fire Safety Inspector for the department, and had served as a trustee.

Lee was a dedicated volunteer who loved his community. He was always ready to go the extra mile when needed. No task was too small or too difficult for Lee.

OKLAHOMA

James Alan "Jim" Burnett, 51, a district forester and 18-year member of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture - Forestry Services, died on August 11, 2000, of burns suffered while fighting a Wyoming wildfire. Burnett received a Forest Stewardship Planner of the Year award in 1998 and was Oklahoma Forester of the Year in 2000.

He loved hunting, fishing and woodworking. His pride and joy was his family, children, grandchildren and his 40-acre pine plantation.



Jerry W. Coppin, 56, a 12-year training officer with Okay Volunteer Fire Department, suffered a stroke while on a storm watch callout and died on March 11, 2000.

Robert Jeffrey "Jeff" Jackson, 35, a member of the Harmony Volunteer Fire Department, died on February 29, 2000, from injuries sustained when a vehicle skidded into the fire truck he was driving to an emergency call. Jackson was a teacher and coach with the Atoka School System.



Jeff was a member of the Boy Scouts of America, attaining the rank of Eagle Scout. He was a gentle man, a special person.

OKLAHOMA (CONT.)



Allen L. Streeter, 58, a volunteer with the Ranch Drive Fire District, died of a heart attack on January 11, 2000, at the scene of a residential grass fire. He helped establish the department. Streeter had earned a

black belt in karate six months prior to his death and was a certified CPR instructor.

Allen loved life, and was an avid gardener, devoted husband, loving father and grandfather.

PENNSYLVANIA



Thomas J. Hazaz, 69, an eight-year volunteer fire police Lieutenant with the Tunkhannock Township Fire Department, died of a heart attack on November 17, 2000, while directing traffic at the scene of a motor vehicle accident.

He was an extraordinary man who touched the lives of all who knew him with his generosity, caring and selflessness. He will truly be missed.



Kenneth Jesse, 80, a member of the Harford Volunteer Fire Company for over 50 years, died on May 8, 2000, of a heart attack after performing fire police duties at the scene of a vehicle fire. He was a member of the Masons Lodge, the Susquehanna County Fire Police Association, and the Harford Rod and Gun Club.

He loved fishing, hunting, baseball and Boy Scouting. All three sons are Eagle Scouts. He is remembered for his great sense of humor.



Nathan Andrew Pescatore, 17, a member of the Lloydsville Volunteer Fire Department, died on July 2, 2000, in a motor vehicle accident while responding to an emergency fire call. Pescatore became a "senior" member of the department on his 17th

birthday. His late father was also a firefighter.

His most precious possession was his own black helmet. He is greatly loved and missed by his mother, sisters, family, friends and fellow firefighters.

PENNSYLVANIA (CONT.)

Elwood C. Queen, 67, a 45-year member of the Irvona Volunteer Fire Department, suffered a heart attack while transporting a patient and died on November 30, 2000. He was president of the department.

Grant E. Trick, 49, a 24-year volunteer with the Canton Borough Fire Department - Innes Hose Company, collapsed while responding to a controlled burn and died on August 13, 2000. He served as Chief for 17 years and Assistant Chief for five years.



He was a wonderful husband, father, and grandfather and loved the fire service. He is greatly missed by family, friends, the community and fellow firefighters.

Ernest J. Young, 52, a 30-year member of the Big Knob Volunteer Fire Department, died on January 17, 2000, from head injuries sustained when he fell while performing station maintenance duties. A U.S. Army veteran, he served during the Vietnam War. In his memory, the helicopter pad at his fire department was named the "Ernie Young Memorial Landing Zone."



His gear was retired and is displayed at the fire station with the inscription, "He will still be on every call with us." Ernie was the nicest person I've ever known.

PUERTO RICO

Evangelio "Chiqui" Soto, 43, a 21-year career firefighter with the Puerto Rico Fire Department, died on February 21, 2000, after being struck by a vehicle at the scene of an arson fire.



"Chiqui" Soto was greatly appreciated by his family, friends, and co-workers. He was a lovely husband and a wonderful father. My husband will always be remembered by his family, his co-workers and the community of Arroyo Town in Puerto Rico.



SOUTH DAKOTA

Robert Wayne "Bob" Buhler, 62, a nine-year member of the Delmont Volunteer Fire Department, died on March 16, 2000, of burns sustained ten days earlier while fighting a wildland fire.

He was an excellent craftsman whose woodwork enhances many South Dakota homes. Most of all, he was a good person who never hesitated to help others.

TENNESSEE

William M. Blakemore, Sr., 48, a career private with the Memphis Fire Department, died on March 8, 2000, of a gunshot wound sustained while responding to an arson fire.

William was a warm and loving person, an excellent cook, and an avid fisherman. He took pride in everything he did. William loved his three children, parents, and siblings and he made each one feel special.



Javier Lerma, 41, a 21-year member and career Lieutenant with the Memphis Fire Department, died on March 8, 2000, of a gunshot wound while responding to an arson fire. Lerma's father also died in the line of duty while a member of the Memphis Fire Department.

Javier loved to golf, work in the yard and spend time together as a family. His son and daughter were the joy of his life. Javier always had a smile on his face and laughter in his heart.

TEXAS



David Butler, 47, a 23-year member and assistant chief of 10 years with the Kkalou Volunteer Fire Department, died on September 19, 2000, after suffering a heart attack at the scene of a truck rollover. He had helped free the driver from the wreckage.

He was a good Christian man and a cherished husband and father. He worked in his church ministry, was a Cub Scout leader, and coached his daughter's softball team. He loved firefighting and considered his fellow firefighters his second family.

TEXAS (CONT.)

Walter H. Gass, 74, a 12-year member and captain with the Sealy Volunteer Fire Department, died on January 27, 2000, when he collapsed from smoke inhalation and suffered burns while fighting a house fire. He was Sealy Volunteer Fire Department's Firefighter of the Year.

The Walter Gass Memorial Scholarship fund was established, and each May a scholarship is awarded to a fireman's child for college.

Kevin S. Harshbarger, 36, a member of the Scenic Loop Volunteer Fire Department, died on September 24, 2000, of smoke inhalation after falling through a roof while fighting a structure fire. He served as the fire department's secretary, the web site manager, and a dispatcher.

He was an outstanding and outgoing person. He made every call he possibly could, and was normally the first one en route.

James G. Hill, Sr., 68, a 15-year member and former assistant chief with the Daingerfield Volunteer Fire Department, died on November 9, 2000, after suffering a heart attack at the scene of a house fire. He was the department's Safety Officer. Hill was Fireman of the Year for three years. He also devoted many hours to the volunteer ambulance service.

James was a Master Mason, a member of The Eastern Star, on the building committee at his church, and treasurer of The Iron Bluff Cemetery Association. He will be missed by all.

Lewis E. Mayo III, 44, a 19-year career firefighter with the Houston Fire Department, died on February 14, 2000, from smoke inhalation and burns after being caught in a roof collapse at an arson fire. Mayo had gone in to rescue a fellow firefighter.

A loving husband for 23 years, a great father, a soccer coach for 16 years for all three children and all the children of the community.



TEXAS (CONT.)



Carl R. Payne, 66, a contract firefighter/seat pilot with the Texas Forest Service, died on May 7, 2000, in a plane crash while dropping retardant on a wildfire. Payne was an Air Force veteran.

His hobbies included air show flying and old war birds, his favorites being a P-51 and ME-109. He devoted his life to the Lord in 1991. He also enjoyed vacationing in Big Bend on horseback. He loved life and loved to help others.



James Robert Renfroe, 47, a 10-year volunteer and assistant chief with the Dallas County Fire and Rescue Services, died on August 14, 2000, after suffering a heart attack at the scene of a fire. He was a certified EMT and CPR instructor.

He enjoyed serving the people of the community. He is survived by his wife, Lisa, and two sons, Jason and Shaun.



Kimberly A. Smith, 30, a six-year career firefighter with the Houston Fire Department, died on February 14, 2000, from smoke inhalation and burns after being caught in a roof collapse at an arson fire. She had gone in to rescue a fellow firefighter. Smith placed first

in the 1998 Western Regional Firefighter Combat Challenge. She was the first female in department history to die in the line of duty.

Kimberly was a beautiful daughter, sister and fiancé, with long blonde hair, bright green sparkling eyes, infectious dry wit, and a famous smile that would melt your heart.

TEXAS (CONT.)

Albert Leonel Voris, Jr., 63, a lieutenant with the Combine Volunteer Fire Department, died on September 1, 2000, in a motor vehicle accident while en route to the station to respond to a car fire. Voris was a retired letter carrier and became a certified EMT after joining the department.

He loved the department and was proud to serve with his fellow firefighters. Al's heritage was fire fighting. His father served as a volunteer firefighter in New York for many years and his mother served as a fire dispatcher for 40 years.



Lamar Y'Barbo, 54, a nine-year Forest Technician/Firefighter with the Texas Forest Service, died on April 7, 2000, of burns sustained on March 13, 2000, when his 4-wheeler overturned and trapped him during a prescribed burn. Y'Barbo was Chief of the Kirbyville Volunteer Fire Department for many years.

He served with the Fifth Special Forces as a "Green Beret" in Vietnam and was awarded two Purple Hearts. He was a dedicated leader and member of many community services.



UTAH

Michael Todd Bishop, 27, inmate fire-fighter, Utah Department of Corrections, died on August 23, 2000, when he was struck by lightning while fighting a wildfire. He was a member of the Flame-N-Go's firefighting crew.

He loved fighting fires and saving the wild animals in those fires. He was an excellent father, always working in prison to help support his precious daughter.



Rodgie R. Braithwaite, 26, inmate firefighter, Utah Department of Corrections, died on August 23, 2000, when he was struck by lightning while fighting a wildfire. He was a member of the Flame-N-Go's firefighting crew.

A Utah Department of Corrections spokesman said that Bishop and Braithwaite were members of the Flame-N-Go's because they had actually been model citizens, that they were trying to turn their lives around. We only take the best of the best."

UTAH (CONT.)



Kendall O. Bryant, 36, an eight-year paid-on-call firefighter with the Layton Fire Department, died on March 31, 2000, of smoke inhalation while searching for residents during a house fire. He also worked full-time for the Ogden Fire Department.

The qualities that made Kendall a dedicated firefighter also made him a wonderful father, husband and friend. He was more than willing to do anything for anyone. He wanted nothing less than to be one of the best firefighters.

VERMONT



Edward A. Russ, 39, a five-year member of the Bethel Volunteer Fire Department, died on December 11, 2000, when he was struck by a vehicle while directing traffic at an accident scene. He was an industrial, commercial and residential plumber by trade.

He was a quiet, behind-the-scenes donator who never judged those he helped. He greeted life, and anyone he met, with a ready smile, a hearty laugh and a strong handshake.

VIRGINIA



Kenneth T. Miller, 65, a nine-year member and Captain with the Cape Charles Volunteer Fire Department, died on October 16, 2000, when he suffered a heart attack while fighting a structure fire. He was a Marine Corps veteran who served in the Korean War.

Dedicated to his family and his community, he thrived on being there to help. Ken shared his laughter with all and died doing what he loved to do. We miss his love, smile and strength.

WEST VIRGINIA

Robert C. Brannon, 43, a 21-year career lieutenant with the Bluefield Fire Department, suffered a heart attack while fighting a house fire and died eight days later on May 4, 2000. He led an effort by city firefighters to erect a memorial to a Bluefield fireman who died in the line of duty in 1926. The effort also resulted in the establishment of a scholarship fund that has helped many attend college.

He is remembered for the style, quality, and professionalism he brought to the department, and for the positive way in which he affected people who knew him.

WYOMING

Roger "Bo" Rathbun, 69, a 50-year member of the Sundance Volunteer Fire Department, died on November 8, 2000, of burns suffered while fighting a forest fire one month earlier. After serving in the military during the Korean conflict, he joined his father in farming and ranching the land his grandfather homesteaded in 1883.

He enjoyed hunting, playing the fiddle, mandolin, and bango, and woodworkring. He was a rugged and tough outdoor individual who loved spending time with his family.



FIREFIGHTERS FROM PREVIOUS YEARS BEING HONORED

CALIFORNIA



Roger D. Bookout, 34, a heavy fire equipment operator for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, died on November 18, 1998, in an equipment accident while performing fire break maintenance work.

Though he will be remembered for many things, the most memorable would be when he put up a sign on his locker that read, "Love you wife, Love your life," for his wife and children were his whole world!

NEW YORK

Walter G. Morrison, 46, Fire Coordinator/ Civil Defense Director with Otsego County Emergency Services, died on July 18, 1981, from a heart attack at a barn fire. Morrison was past Chief of the Fly Creek Fire Department, a member of the Board of Directors of the Central New York Firemen's Association, and a former Secretary of the State Fire Service Council.

His dedication and devotion was extraordinary and his accomplishments immense. He was the loving father of four.





Congress created the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation to lead a nationwide effort to honor America's fallen firefighters. Since 1992, the non-profit Foundation has developed and expanded programs that fulfill that mandate. Our mission is to honor and remember America's fallen fire heroes and to provide resources to assist their survivors in the rebuilding of their lives.

ASSIST IN WORLD TRADE CENTER TRAGEDY

The Foundation is providing immediate and long-term support for the families and coworkers of the fire-rescue personnel killed and missing. Currently assisting the Fire Department of New York with its immediate needs, the Foundation will provide long-term support for the fallen firefighters' families, including counseling, emotional support, programs and scholarships.

SPONSOR THE ANNUAL NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL WEEKEND

Each October, the Foundation sponsors the official national tribute to all firefighters who died in the line of duty during the previous year. Thousands attend the weekend activities held at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The Weekend features special programs for survivors and coworkers along with moving public ceremonies.

HELP SURVIVORS ATTEND THE WEEKEND

The Foundation provides lodging and meals for survivors of fallen firefighters being honored. This helps family members participate in Family Day sessions conducted by trained grief counselors and in the public tributes.

OFFER SUPPORT PROGRAMS FOR SURVIVORS

When a firefighter dies in the line of duty, the Foundation provides survivors with a place to turn. Families can receive emotional assistance through a Survivor Support Network. This Network matches survivors with similar experiences and circumstances. This contact can be an important part of their healing. Families receive a quarterly newsletter and specialized grief resources through a Lending Library. Our web site provides information on benefits, the Memorial Weekend, and other resources.

AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS TO SURVIVING SPOUSES AND CHILDREN

Spouses and children of fallen firefighters are eligible for scholarship assistance for education and job training costs, filling in when other benefits are not available.

HELP DEPARTMENTS DEAL WITH LINE-OF-DUTY DEATHS

Under a Department of Justice grant, the Foundation offers regional training sessions to help fire departments handle a line-of-duty death. Departments can receive numerous materials and support through the Foundation. Immediately after a loss, a Chief-to-Chief Network provides professional and personal support from another chief who "has been there."

CREATE A NATIONAL MEMORIAL PARK

America's fire service has a rich heritage based in community involvement. The Foundation is expanding the official national memorial site in Emmitsburg, Maryland, to create the first permanent national park honoring all firefighters. The park includes a brick Walk of Honor that will connect a Visitors Information Center, the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Chapel, and the official national monument.

Sponsors of the Weekend and Family Programs

SPECIAL THANKS FOR PROVIDING LODGING AND MEALS FOR FAMILIES

State Farm Fire and Casualty Company

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT OF THE WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

*Department of Justice
Federal Emergency Management Agency*

INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT

<i>AIG, STARR Foundation</i>	<i>International Association of Fire Chiefs</i>
<i>Allsafe</i>	<i>Kenai Firefighters Association, Alaska</i>
<i>The Allstate Foundation</i>	<i>Maryland Fire Equipment</i>
<i>American Fire Sprinkler Association, Chesapeake Bay Chapter</i>	<i>Munich-American Risk Partners</i>
<i>Bradford County Firemen's Association, Pennsylvania</i>	<i>National Fire Academy Classes</i>
<i>Combined Federal Campaign Donors</i>	<i>The Passarelli Family</i>
<i>Firehouse.com</i>	<i>Radnor Fire Company, Pennsylvania</i>
<i>Frederick County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association, Maryland</i>	<i>G. A. Sims</i>
<i>Arthur J. Glatfelter</i>	<i>State Farm Fire and Casualty Company</i>
<i>Glatfelter Insurance Group</i>	<i>Streamlight</i>
<i>Holmatro</i>	<i>200 Club of Atlantic & Cape May Counties, New Jersey</i>
	<i>Underwriter Laboratories</i>
	<i>Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Services</i>

INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS GENEROUSLY DONATING TIME AND SERVICES

<i>Anne Arundel County EMS Fire and Rescue, Maryland</i>	<i>The Kamber Group</i>
<i>Charlotte Fire Department, North Carolina</i>	<i>Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute</i>
<i>Costa Mesa Fire Department, California</i>	<i>Maryland State Firemen's Association</i>
<i>Chief Charlie Dickinson, Retired</i>	<i>Chief Warren McDaniels, New Orleans</i>
<i>Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department, Virginia</i>	<i>Newport News Fire Department, Virginia</i>
<i>Firefighters' Emerald Society Pipe Band, Washington, DC area</i>	<i>Prince George's County Fire and EMS Department, Maryland</i>
<i>Frederick County Career Firefighters, Maryland</i>	<i>Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue, Virginia</i>
<i>Frederick County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association, Maryland</i>	<i>U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes and Staff, Maryland</i>
<i>International Association of Fire Chiefs</i>	<i>Sleep Inn, Ennitsburg</i>
	<i>Southern Pines Fire Department, North Carolina</i>
	<i>TANA Graphics, New York City</i>

The Foundation also wishes to thank the individuals, departments, organizations, corporations, and foundations that have and continue to support the creation of the National Memorial Park.



