



YEARS



# ASHLEY BERRY

EMT

City of Richmond Fire and Emergency Services

Chesterfield, Va

End of service: 11/29/2019

Age: 33

Circumstances: Gunfire



## **Ashley's Contributions in Life:**

Lt. Berry passed away on November 29, 2019, in Hopewell, VA, while off duty. Lt. Berry's last act was to shield her five-year-old son from the gunfire. Lt. Berry was a valued member of the City of Richmond Fire Department family and the community as she served proudly since January 29, 2011. She had recently been assigned to the Fire Marshals Office. She leaves behind three children.

# ANDREW BURKE



EMT

First Responder EMS Sacramento  
Sacramento, CA

End of service: 7/22/2016

Age: 39

Circumstances: Unexpected



## **Andrew's Contributions in Life:**

Andrew would show up to work 45 mins early every day to clean, stock, and get his ambulance ready. He had the same routine, wash his hands, glove up, clean the ambulance from front to back and top to bottom. Andrew provided excellent patient care and showed compassion to every patient in his care. He was also a photographer (winning an award) and an abstract artist. His most prized possession was his LA Dodgers hat; he even bought a smartphone so that he could always keep track of the Dodgers. Andrew was a Great EMT, Artist, and a great friend.

# MADDOX BURTS



Flight Paramedic  
Medevac Alaska  
Anchorage, AK  
End of service: 11/29/2019  
Age: 35  
Circumstances: Aviation Accident



## **Maddox's Contributions in Life:**

Maddox Burts, 35, Medevac Alaska, died in the line-of-duty November 29, 2019, in a medical airplane accident. He died alongside flight nurse Robert Cartner and EMS pilot Glen Morthorpe. They were enroute to pick up a patient. Maddox came to Alaska from Fairhope, Alabama, near Mobile, to work part of the year as a paramedic for Medevac Alaska. He became a paramedic after the birth of his daughter. For Maddox, being able to combine emergency medicine and helping people in a place like Alaska with such beautiful wildlife and landscape made him incredibly happy.



# KATHERINE BUSH



EMT

Richmond Ambulance Authority

Richmond, VA

End of service: 12/26/2019

Age: 25

Circumstances: Unknown



## **Katherine's Contributions in Life:**

Kate was an EMT with the Richmond Ambulance Authority in Richmond, Virginia. Her passion for EMS was evident from the moment she began her work at RAA. A graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University on a Presidential Scholarship in Forensic Science and Chemistry, she had started to study to become a perfusionist. Remembered for her infectious smile, calm demeanor, and her love of animals will forever be missed by those who knew her best. Survived by her loving parents, David and Karen Bush; her big brother, John, his wife Jamie, and their son, Jaxson; and her horse, Rosie.

# ROBERT CARTNER



Flight Nurse  
Medevac Alaska  
Anchorage, AK  
End of service: 11/29/2019  
Age: 53  
Circumstances: Aviation Accident



## **Robert's Contributions in Life:**

Robert Cartner, 53, Medevac Alaska, died in the line-of-duty November 29, 2019, in a medical airplane accident. He died alongside flight paramedic Maddox Burts and EMS pilot Glen Morthorpe. They were enroute to pick up a patient. Robert had just celebrated his 53rd birthday, according to reports from his hometown of Concord, North Carolina where he spent half of his time. Alaska suited his love for adventure and the outdoors as he spent much of his free time fishing, hunting & doing anything challenging.

# HARVEY CONNER



Paramedic

Oklahoma City Community College/ Midwest City EMS  
Midwest City, OK

End of service: 6/5/2019

Age: 64

Circumstances: Illness



## Harvey's Contributions in Life:

Harvey was one of the first paramedics in Oklahoma and an EMS educator responsible for educating hundreds of EMS providers at all levels. Although his health deteriorated and he was confined to a wheelchair, he continued working for Midwest City EMS teaching and doing CQI. He spent decades teaching at Oklahoma City Community College. Harvey received numerous state awards including the Bev Doyle Award and Educator of the Year Awards from the Oklahoma EMT Association and was previously nominated for the NAEMSE Unsung Hero Award.





# ALAN COOKE

EMT

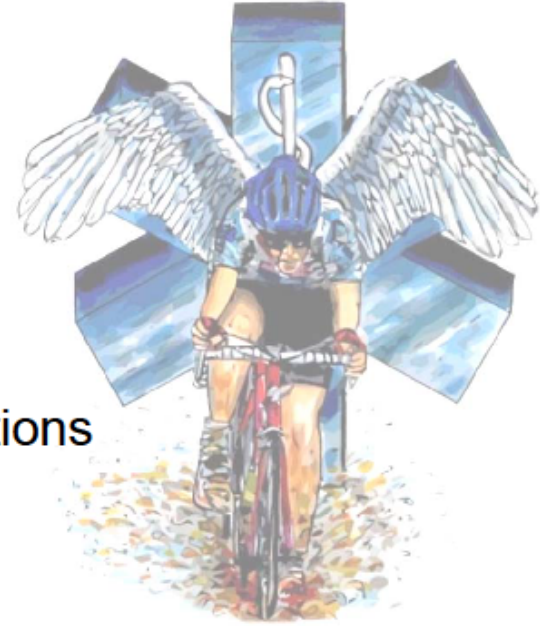
FDNY EMS

Brooklyn, NY

End of service: 4/9/2017

Age: 55

Circumstances: Surgical Complications



## **Alan's Contributions in Life:**

Alan began his career with NYC EMS in 1986 during the HHC days and continued after FDNY took over EMS in 1996. He loved his job and the people with whom he worked. Alan was a Master Grill Man, who would take charge of the grill at station Bar B Ques. Football was such a passion for Alan that he devoted his free time to coach a Jr Pee Wee team, Brooklyn Skyhawks. Alan truly loved his five grown children, seven grandchildren, three brothers, and his two sisters. Alan loved to read and share his knowledge and experience with everyone while sitting on his dock in Conyers, GA, where he hoped to retire.





# PATRICK COYLE

Pilot

Guardian Flight

Juneau, AK

End of service: 1/29/2019

Age: 63

Circumstances: Aviation Accident



## **Patrick's Contributions in Life:**

Patrick Coyle, 63, Guardian Flight, died in the line-of-duty January 29, 2019, in a medical airplane accident, while enroute to pick up a patient. He died alongside flight nurse Stacie Rae Morse, her unborn daughter Delta Rae and flight paramedic Margaret Langston. Pat served in the US Navy where he reached the rank of Lieutenant, worked for US Customs and served in the US National Guard. He was known as someone with a wry sense of humor who was quietly generous and loved to make others laugh.

# RACHEL L CUNNINGHAM



Flight Nurse  
Survival Flight  
Grove City, OH  
End of service: 1/29/2019  
Age: 33  
Circumstances: Aviation Accident



## **Rachel L's Contributions in Life:**

Rachel L. Cunningham, 33, Survival Flight, died in the line-of-duty January 29, 2019, in an air medical helicopter accident enroute to pick up a patient. She died alongside EMS pilot Jennifer L. Topper and flight nurse Bradley J. Haynes. Rachel was described as a wonderful wife and aunt who loved scary movies and always said "yes" and a diligent nurse who loved her job and was honest and fearless.



# ED DAGDICK

Paramedic  
Wauconda Fire Department  
Ingleside, IL  
End of service: 3/26/2019  
Age: 61  
Circumstances: Cancer



## **Ed's Contributions in Life:**

During his lifelong career, Ed became a flight medic for a few years, lead instructor for the paramedic program, an instructor for IFSI, an instructor at the community college, and made his way to deputy chief of the fire department. Ed retired in December of 2018 after 38 years in the service. Ed's hobbies included teaching, spending time with the grandkids, and camping. He was an avid Chicago Cubs fan.





# DOUGLAS DAVIS

Pilot

Survival Flight

Headland, AL

End of service: 12/25/2019

Age: 61

Circumstances: Aviation Accident



## **Douglas's Contributions in Life:**

Douglas Davis, 61, Survival Flight, died in the line-of-duty December 25, 2019, in an air medical helicopter accident, secondary to him suffering a medical event. Doug had 2 other crew members on board as he was piloting the aircraft that was returning to base after dropping off a patient. His final actions attempting to land were described as "heroic" and "lifesaving." In addition to being an EMS pilot and US Army retired Apache instructor, he was a devoted husband and father.



# DARYLYNNE DAY



EMT

Powel County EMS

Deer Lodge, MT

End of service: 8/18/2019

Age: 36

Circumstances: Struck by a vehicle



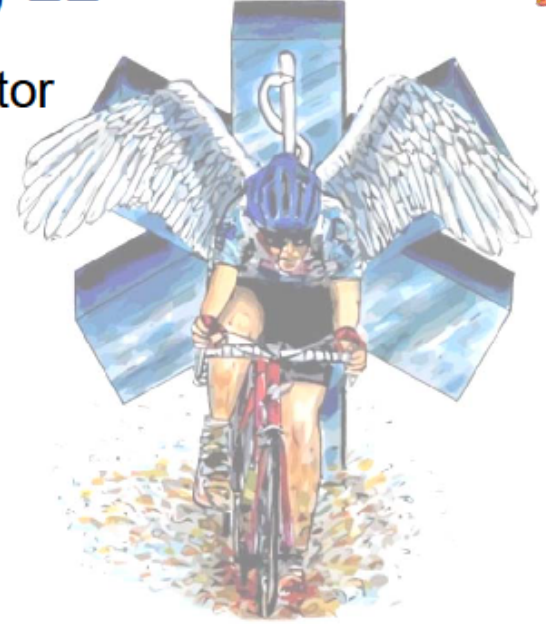
## **DaryLynne's Contributions in Life:**

DaryLynne Day, 36, Powell County EMS, died in the line-of-duty August 18, 2019, while providing EMS coverage for a race event. She pushed a crowd out of the way but was struck by an out of control demolition derby car. DaryLynne had followed in the footsteps of her parents and grandparents when she became an EMT. She was a loving wife and mother with a love of music and singing and who was described as funny and kind.

# DOUGLAS RONALD DICK, II



Emergency Medical Vehicle Operator  
Jan-Care Ambulance  
Shady Spring, WV  
End of service: 8/10/2019  
Age: 36  
Circumstances: MVA



## **Douglas Ronald's Contributions in Life:**

Douglas Ronald Dick II grew up loving all things Motorcross and racing ATVs. Upon his father's tragic motor vehicle accident Doug Dick became an EMT and volunteer firefighter. Being an excellent husband to Candence and a wonderful father to his two children, Kaylie, and Douglas Wyatt, were the accomplishments that he treasured the most. After working in sales for several years, Doug found his way back to his true calling in EMS. He leaves behind a legacy of goodwill and a host of loving family and friends.



# DARYL DRUSCH

EMT

Howard Lake Fire and Ambulance

Howard Lake, MN

End of service: 1/13/2020

Age: 50

Circumstances: Heart Attack



## **Daryl's Contributions in Life:**

Drusch was a 30-year veteran of Howard Lake Fire and Rescue, most recently as chief since 2014. He leaves behind his wife, Julie, and a 15-year-old son, Taylor.





# THEODORE DYBUS

Paramedic

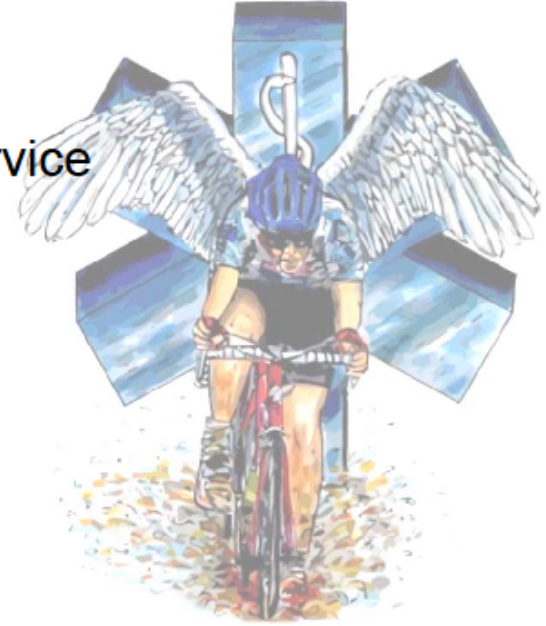
Veterans Memorial Ambulance Service

Ashville, PA

End of service: 2/1/2020

Age: 45

Circumstances: Medical LODD



## **Theodore's Contributions in Life:**

Teddy worked as a paramedic for Veterans Ambulance Service in Northern Cambria and as a Police Officer for Vintondale Police. Additionally, he worked part-time for Med Van Transport and John Carroll EMS. A member of Mt. Top Sportsmen's, social member of Ashville VFW, and a member of Jaffa Shriners.



# FRANK ECHEVARRIA



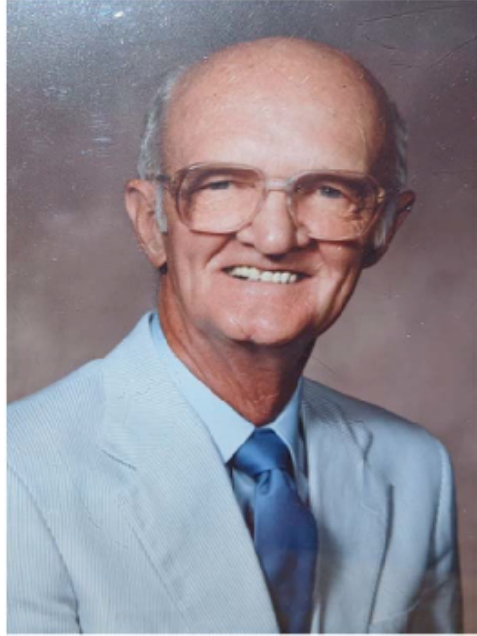
Paramedic  
Cumberland County EMS  
Fayetteville, NC  
End of service: 7/9/2017  
Age: 53  
Circumstances: Heart Attack



## **Frank's Contributions in Life:**

Frank spent more than 30 years in public safety (fire fighting / EMS) in Cumberland, Duplin, and Hoke Counties. Frank cared about the ones he served, and he loved his brothers and sisters that worked alongside him in public safety. On his days off, Frank enjoyed the beach, golfing, boating, online gaming, and being with family and friends.

# LYLE ECKHART



Paramedic

Kansas Board of EMS

Topeka, KS

End of service: 7/26/1996

Age: 70

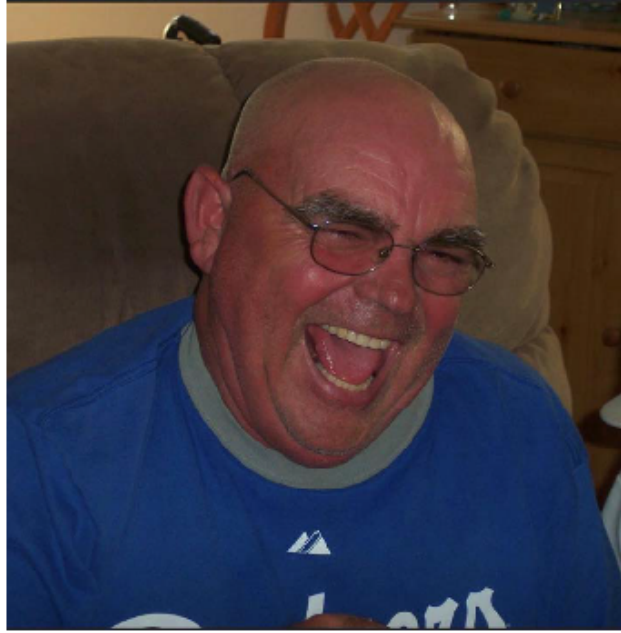
Circumstances: Natural causes



## **Lyle's Contributions in Life:**

Lyle E Eckhart was known by many as the Grandfather of Kansas EMS. Lyle began his career in EMS late in life at the age of 49 in 1975 when he became a MICT. In 1976 Lyle served as the first regional EMS coordinator and was later appointed director of the Bureau of EMS in the state of Kansas in 1977. Lyle implemented many improvements in the late 1970s that resulted in Kansas becoming an EMS leader. Lyle was inducted in the Kansas EMS hall of fame in 2000, and Cowley County Community College Paramedic program has named an academic award in his honor.

# LARRY ETHERTON



First Responder  
Contra Costa County Fire Department  
Rio Vista, CA  
End of service: 10/23/2019  
Age: 73  
Circumstances: Heart Attack



## **Larry's Contributions in Life:**

Larry was the kindest, most giving firefighter I have ever met. He was a mentor to many and a friend to all.





# BRAD GREGRICH

EMT

DeSoto County Fire & Rescue  
Arcadia, FL

End of service: 4/27/2019

Age: 30

Circumstances: Stroke



## **Brad's Contributions in Life:**

Brad Gregrich, 30, DeSoto County Fire & Rescue, died in the line-of-duty on April 27, 2019, about two weeks after suffering a stroke following duty. He never regained consciousness. Brad, a new father, was known for his smile and laughter. He was described as a great husband, father, son, friend, and brother to so many. He loved his family and his job, and he served with tremendous commitment and dedication to excellence.





# GERALD E HALE

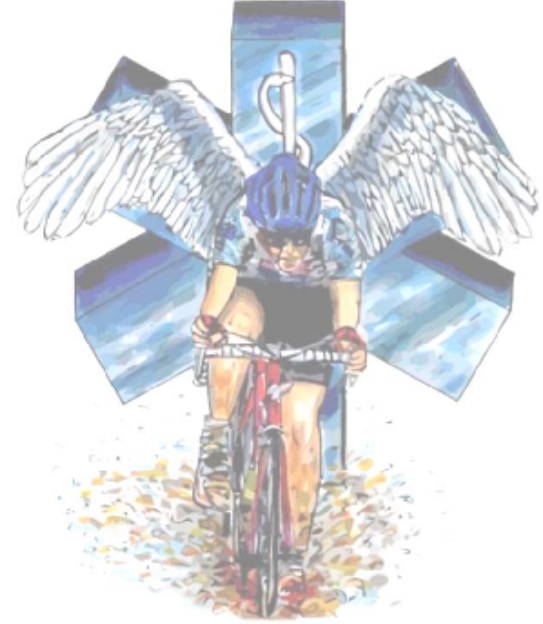
Paramedic

A.L.S.S.-Schuylkill County  
Schuylkill, PA

End of service: 5/30/2014

Age: 46

Circumstances: Suicide



## **Gerald E's Contributions in Life:**

Gerry was a fun-loving person. He had a contagious smile and was a devoted husband, father, as well as being a dedicated emergency care provider. Gerry began his career at St. Clair Ambulance as a volunteer EMT. After achieving his paramedic, he worked in EMS for over 29 years. Beginning with A.L.S.S.-Schuylkill County, then served with various other EMS agencies over the years. Gerry took his own life after suffering from undiagnosed depression/PTSD.



# BRADLEY J HAYNES

Flight Nurse  
Survival Flight  
Grove City, OH  
End of service: 1/29/2019  
Age: 48  
Circumstances: Aviation Accident



## **Bradley J's Contributions in Life:**

Bradley J. Haynes, 48, Survival Flight, died in the line-of-duty January 29, 2019, in an air medical helicopter accident. He died alongside EMS pilot Jennifer L. Topper and flight nurse Rachel Cunningham. Brad also was a firefighter for Jefferson Township Fire. He loved horse racing and belonged to the Ohio Standard Bred Association and the United States Trotting Association. Brad was described as a devoted father, skilled nurse and passionate firefighter who enjoyed duck hunting, dog training and karate.

# HAROLD WAYNE HAYSLIP



Paramedic  
Nile Twp Vol EMS  
Stout, OH  
End of service: 4/14/2019  
Age: 68  
Circumstances: Kidney failure



## **Harold Wayne's Contributions in Life:**

Harold "Wayne" Hayslip retired from Koppers Industry as a Railroad Tie Buyer after 48 years and was a member and deacon of Pond Run Baptist Church. He was a Nile Township Trustee, Paramedic for 29 years at Nile Township, a Volunteer Firefighter, and was involved in numerous community activities. He was well-known and loved in his community for all his sacrifices, selfless actions, and service.



# DR. WESLEY HELENA



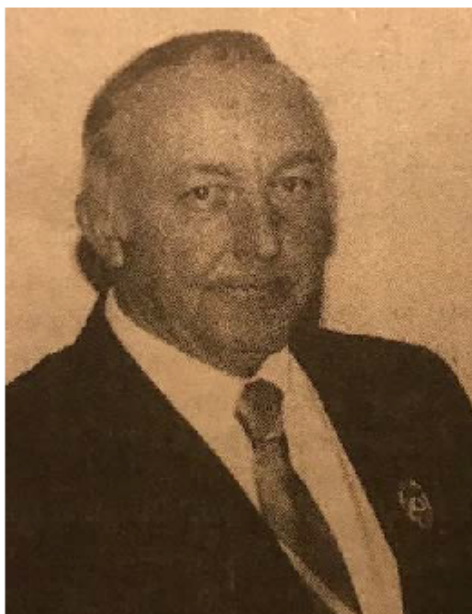
Paramedic and MD  
Sedgwick County EMS  
Andover, KS  
End of service: 12/6/2015  
Age: 57  
Circumstances: Cardiac Arrest



## **Dr. Wesley's Contributions in Life:**

Wesley Helena was born on July 25th, 1958, in Wichita, Kansas. He attended high school in Andover & remained in the area to attend college at Newman University. He graduated with a Bachelors's degree in Biology and was accepted into the University of Kansas School of Medicine. Dr. Helena had a successful anesthesia practice in Wichita while serving as the Chairman and Program Director of Anesthesiology at the University of Kansas Wichita. Dr. Helena had a passion for EMS & served as the Medical Director for the Wichita State Emergency Medical program.

# CHARLES HENDERSON



EMT

Ironsides Volunteer Rescue Squad

Bryans Road, MD

End of service: 2/24/1990

Age: 51

Circumstances: Electrocuted on an EMS call



## **Charles's Contributions in Life:**

Charlie responded to a child stuck in a tree. While climbing the tree, he came in contact with a high voltage electrical line and was electrocuted. Charlie was the Captain of the Ironsides VRS when he died. In the past, Charlie also served as President and was a life member. Charlie worked for the Charles County Board of Education in the maintenance department. He is survived his daughter and son.

# JENNIFER JOAN HESSELBEIN



Paramedic  
American Medical Response  
Jackson, MS  
End of service: 12/17/2019  
Age: 34  
Circumstances: Traumatic Injuries



## **Jennifer Joan's Contributions in Life:**

Jennifer J. Hesselbein, 34, died in the line-of-duty December 17, 2019, from injuries sustained in 2013 when she was struck by a vehicle while caring for a patient. Jennifer suffered life-altering injuries and underwent numerous surgeries and procedures over the years. Still she was known by her family and friends for her laugh and smile, passion for helping others, and her heart for animals in need.



# DIANE APSLEY HOFFMAN



EMT  
Branchburg Rescue Squad  
Readington, NJ  
End of service: 2/2/2020  
Age: 61  
Circumstances: Cancer



## **Diane's Contributions in Life:**

Diane was known as "Momma D" Diane served as a volunteer EMT, Past President, and Life Member Branchburg Rescue Squad and as an EMS educator with Robert Wood Barnabas Health. Diane's other interests included horses, spending time with her family, a 4-H leader in Somerset County, and a member of the American Quarter Horse Association.

# TEENA JOHNSTON



RN

Wesley Medical Center

Valley Center, KS

End of service: 6/9/2015

Age: 57

Circumstances: Renal Cancer



## **Teena's Contributions in Life:**

Teena Johnston was the Trauma Outreach Coordinator with Wesley Medical Center and the recipient of the 2015 Support Person of the Year Award. Johnston served as the Trauma Outreach Coordinator for Wesley Medical Center's Level I Trauma Team. In this capacity, she served as the liaison to EMS for information and feedback regarding the prehospital care of trauma patients received by Wesley. She was always courteous, knowledgeable, and genuine in how this information was communicated, always in the spirit of ensuring the focus was solely on providing trauma care to a high standard.



# DAVID S. JUNIER

EMT

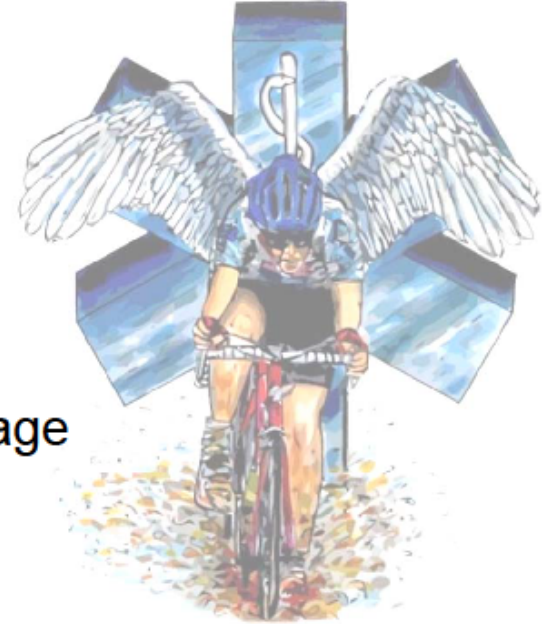
City of New Bedford

North Dartmouth, MA

End of service: 11/3/2019

Age: 77

Circumstances: Cerebral Hemorrhage



## **David S.'s Contributions in Life:**

David started with the George N. Alden Ambulance Corps in 1960 at the age of 18. He was promoted to commander in the early 1970s. David was instrumental in establishing an organized EMS program in the city of New Bedford, MA, where he was Deputy Director and EMT Instructor from 1976-1985. He later went on to found his own business which included first aid and CPR instruction which he continued to do until his sudden passing. David had a big personality, a great sense of humor, and sincere devotion to his wife, sons, and grandsons.



# MARGARET LANGSTON



Flight Paramedic

Guardian Flight

Juneau, AK

End of service: 1/29/2019

Age: 43

Circumstances: Aviation Accident



## **Margaret's Contributions in Life:**

Margaret Langston, 43, Guardian Flight, died in the line-of-duty January 29, 2019, in a medical airplane accident, while enroute to pick up a patient. She died alongside flight nurse Stacie Rae Morse, her unborn daughter Delta Rae and EMS pilot Patrick Coyle. She worked as a paramedic for many years in the Tucson, AZ, area prior to moving to Alaska. Margaret was a wife, mother, daughter, sister, aunt, and dear friend who was looked up to by peers for her quiet strength and soft heart.



# COLEMAN LOADHOLT

EMT

Jasper County, SC Fire Rescue  
Brunson, SC

End of service: 6/21/2019

Age: 52

Circumstances: Cardiac Related



## **Coleman's Contributions in Life:**

Coleman was a fulltime Firefighter and Emergency Medical Technician with Jasper County where he was a Senior Officer. He also worked with the Brunson Volunteer Fire Department where he was a Captain. He had received the Life Saver Award in Jasper County and the Firefighter of the Year and Officer of the Year awards in Brunson. He was a member of the South Carolina Firefighters Association, enjoyed riding motorcycles and was an excellent mechanic. He was a member of St. Nicholas Lutheran Church in Allendale County.

# MITCHELL F LUNDGAARD



EMT

Appleton Fire Department

Appleton, WI

End of service: 5/15/2019

Age: 36

Circumstances: Gunshot Wound



## **Mitchell F's Contributions in Life:**

Mitchell F. Lundgaard, 36, Appleton Fire Department, died in the line-of-duty May 15, 2019, from a gunshot wound sustained during an EMS call. He pursued a career in the fire service after the events of September 11, 2001. A lifelong learner, Mitch was two courses away from a bachelor's degree in Fire and Emergency Response Management. He was a loving husband and devoted father who enjoyed running, golf, coaching and watching his sons play sports.



# TIMOTHY A McDONALD



Pilot  
North Memorial Air Care  
Brainerd, MN  
End of service: 6/28/2019  
Age: 44  
Circumstances: Aviation Accident



## **Timothy A's Contributions in Life:**

Timothy A. McDonald, 44, North Memorial Air Care, died in the line-of-duty June 28, 2019, in an air medical helicopter accident. He died alongside nurse Debra K. Schott. Tim's love for others led him into emergency medicine and later to serve as a Blackhawk pilot in the US Army. Tim served two combat tours in Iraq and left the service to fulfill his dream as a medevac pilot. Tim served in the Army as an Aviation Warrant Officer and as a Paramedic for North Memorial. He was described as a dedicated husband and father whose greatest joy was his family.

# KARL MEEK



Paramedic  
Hennepin EMS  
Minneapolis, MN  
End of service: 4/21/2020  
Age: 45  
Circumstances: Suicide



## **Karl's Contributions in Life:**

Family and friends will remember conversations with Karl on any subject imaginable. His mind was a steel trap of random bits of information, song lyrics and movie quotes. Karl was also a gifted athlete. He played many sports but excelled at baseball, and played for Hamline University during his freshman year of college after graduating high school from Weston-McEwen in 1994. Seeking to become a paramedic, he found himself in Minneapolis, where he completed his paramedic training and joined Hennepin EMS in 2012.



## SUSAN MEYER

Field Mobile Intensive Care Nurse

Life Medical Industries

Stockton, CA

End of service: 7/2/2019

Age: 68

Circumstances: Aspergellous's of the Lungs



### **Susan's Contributions in Life:**

Susan Meyer graduated from Misericordia School of Nursing, Philadelphia in 1971. Sue dedicated her entire life to caring for others. Sue fell in love with Trauma Care and Emergency Care and was certified as a Field Mobile Intensive Care Nurse in 1976 in San Joaquin County California, where her interactions with the field paramedics began. Sue opted to work in the field side by side with the Paramedics as she always looked at the Paramedics and EMT's as an important and vital chain in the healthcare circle of care. Sue is survived by Lou Meyer, a Former Paramedic and EMS Executive.





# KIRK MILLER

Paramedic

Sussex County EMS

Lewes, DE

End of service: 2/6/2019

Age: 66

Circumstances: Congestive heart failure



## **Kirk's Contributions in Life:**

Kirk H. Miller was one of Sussex County EMS Golden 10 Medics. The first Paramedics for Sussex County. The ones who started it all, and he wouldn't let you forget it! He loved his job; it was who he was. Kirk received numerous awards and was offered promotions, but all he wanted to do was be a medic and help those in need. When Kirk wasn't working, he was an avid fisherman and a huge Harley Davidson fan, he owned his fair share of bikes and loved to cruise. Kirk is survived by his wife Dani Miller and his children Eric Miller, Marsha Webb, and Gabrielle Pollard along with eight grandkids.



# CHRISTOPHER MOORE

Paramedic

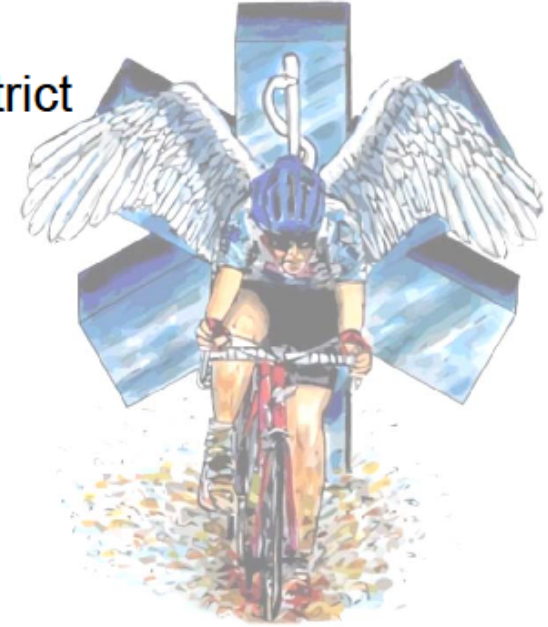
Maryland Heights Fire Protection District

Maryland Heights, MO

End of service: 6/8/2019

Age: 42

Circumstances: Medical Emergency

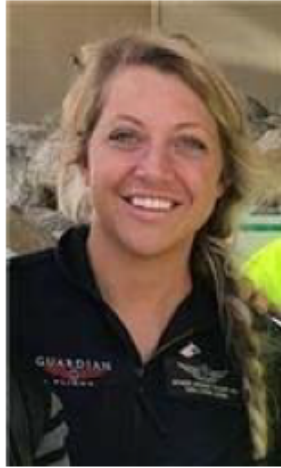


## **Christopher's Contributions in Life:**

Christopher Moore, 42, Maryland Heights Fire Protection District, died in the line-of-duty June 8, 2019, secondary to a medical emergency after caring for other patients. Chris was a member of Missouri Task Force 1 and was deployed to New York in response to the events of September 11, 2001 and to Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina. Chris received several Medals of Valor for actions taken on emergency incidents. He was a dedicated father and "friend of many."

# STACIE RAE MORSE

## AND UNBORN DAUGHTER DELTA RAE



Flight Nurse  
Guardian Flight  
Juneau, AK  
End of service: 1/29/2019  
Age: 30  
Circumstances: Aviation Accident



### **Stacie Rae's Contributions in Life:**

Stacie Rae Morse, 30, Guardian Flight, died in the line-of-duty January 29, 2019, in a medical airplane accident, while enroute to pick up a patient. Seven months pregnant with unborn daughter Delta Rae, she died alongside flight paramedic Margaret Langston, and EMS pilot Patrick Coyle. She was beyond excited to become a first-time mom. Stacie, originally from the Bellingham, WA area, was petite in size but known to be fierce. She was avid in many sports, loved hunting and fishing and was already a mom to her many farmyard animals.



# GLEN MORTHORPE



Pilot  
Medevac Alaska  
Anchorage, AK  
End of service: 11/29/2019  
Age: 75  
Circumstances: Aviation Accident



## **Glen's Contributions in Life:**

Glen Morthorpe, 75, Medevac Alaska, died in the line-of-duty November 29, 2019, in a medical airplane accident. He died alongside flight nurse Robert Cartner and flight paramedic Maddox Burts. They were enroute to pick up a patient. Glen was a family man who loved aviation and loved to teach others to fly. He was a longtime pilot with over 40,000 flight hours, who also volunteered with the Civil Air Patrol and is remembered for his patience, knowledge, and dedication to detail.



# SHAWN MORTON

Dispatcher

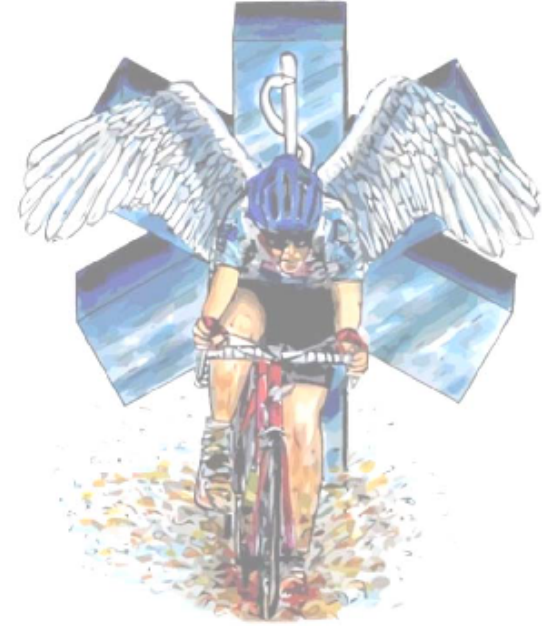
AHN LifeFlight

Yukon, PA

End of service: 11/9/2019

Age: 48

Circumstances: Cardiac Arrest



## **Shawn's Contributions in Life:**

Shawn was devoted to his family and was employed as a dispatcher for LifeFlight. He was a US Army veteran of the 14th Quartermaster that served in Iraq. He enjoyed the outdoors and traveling and was an "aspiring RV owner." He was a faithful brother of the Emergency Medical Services community and was known for his dedication and service.



# BENJAMIN NEEL

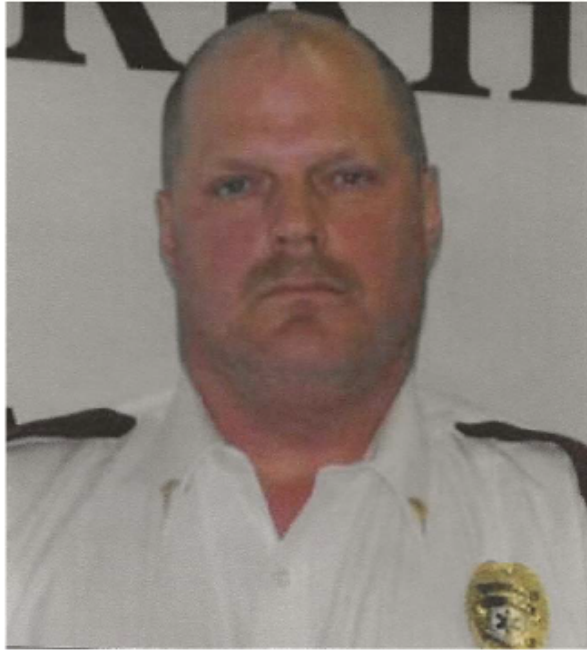
First Responder  
Pine County Sheriff  
Pine City, MN  
End of service: 1/8/2020  
Age: 37  
Circumstances: Stroke



## **Benjamin's Contributions in Life:**

Neel, a 16-year veteran with the Pine County Sheriff's Office, suffered a seizure in late October while hunting, leading to the discovery of brain tumors. Earlier this month, Neel's condition worsened after suffering a massive brain stem stroke as a complication from surgery.





# DEAN W NICHOLS

EMT

Kerkhoven Ambulance

Kerkhoven, MN

End of service: 1/13/2020

Age: 57

Circumstances: Cardiac arrest



## **Dean W's Contributions in Life:**

Dean had an infectious personality, helpful, encouraging, and larger than life. He was always there to help family and friends. Dean was best known for wearing his orange Crocs, even to his daughter's wedding dance; you could often hear Dean whistle to get her attention. He enjoyed taking his family on the spur of the moment road trips, often without a planned destination! Dean was a loving husband, dad, grandpa & friend.



# STERLING NICHOLS

Paramedic

Muskogee County EMS/ Pfafford EMS

Muskogee, OK

End of service: 6/27/2019

Age: 53

Circumstances: Cancer



## **Sterling's Contributions in Life:**

In 1988 Sterling began as an Intermediate EMT with Muskogee County EMS and stayed there for 29 years, starting as a Paramedic. He also held the positions of Central Supervisor, QA Officer, and eventually retiring as the Assistant Director, a position he held for 23 years. After retiring in 2017, he joined Pafford EMS of Oklahoma as the Regional Director for Tulsa and Rogers County and held this title until his death. He was a true friend of the EMS provider and everyone was honored to have worked with him.



# EDDIE NICHOLSON

EMT

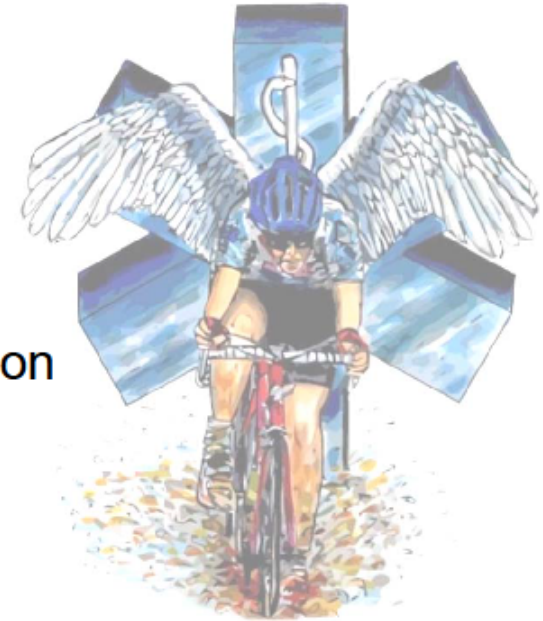
River Falls EMS

River Falls, WI

End of service: 5/15/2020

Age: 62

Circumstances: Traumatic Asphyxiation



## **Eddie's Contributions in Life:**

Eddie had served with River Falls EMS for 25 years; he recently received the EMT of the year award in 2018. Eddie was best known for his commitment to service, his vast knowledge in diesel machines and towing, and his reliability. Eddie had served as a safety crew member with Cedar Lake Speedway and could be found at the track almost every weekend in the summer for many years. On May 15th, 2020, Eddie was assisting in getting a bus that had crashed off the track. The safety system failed, and the bus rolled back onto him. Eddie died as a result of his injuries.





# EDWARD PARRY

Paramedic  
Summit County Ambulance  
Service  
Summit County, CO  
End of service: 1/12/2020  
Circumstances: Medical  
Dementia



## Ed's Contributions in Life:

Muddy Angel, Edward "Ed" Parry of Frisco, Colorado participated in The National EMS Memorial Bike Ride in the early and mid 2000's. He was the first to supply "Muddy Angel" socks. His EMS career began Mankato, MN at Kost Ambulance. After moving to Colorado, Ed worked his way to become the assistant director at Summit County Ambulance Service. He loved to ride his bike and lived out the remainder of his days in a Colorado facility, his bike box was used as his TV stand.



# CRAIG PENNELL

EMT

Delran EMS

Riverside, NJ

End of service: 10/3/2018

Age: 35

Circumstances: MVA



## **Craig's Contributions in Life:**

Craig was such a good man and dedicated his life to helping and serving others. Craig spent 18 years in the military as a Staff Sergeant, most recently as a crew chief for a newly formed MedEvac unit. He served 15 years as a firefighter, most recently as a Lieutenant, and 11 years as an EMT. Words don't do justice to Craig's infectious energy, warm smile, and hugs that simply could not be competed with. He brought love and laughter to everyone around him and you could feel his positivity from the moment you were in his presence. Craig loved his civilian job in the aviation unit at Lakehurst.



# CHRISTOPHER J PRESCOTT



EMT

NYC EMS

Staten Island, NY

End of service: 6/7/1994

Age: 22

Circumstances: Vehicular homicide



## **Christopher's Contributions in Life:**

Chris had been chosen NYC\*EMS Station 34's "Rookie of the Year." He was 22 years old and had been on the job less than one year when he became the first emergency medical technician to die in the line of duty in the New York City system's 25-year history. The accident that took Chris's life occurred on June 17, 1994, as he was treating victims of a traffic accident. When a drunk driver crashed into a car and pushed it into Chris, trapping him between two vehicles, he died four hours later at Kings County Hospital after two cardiac arrests.



# MICHAEL QUITASOL



RN  
Kaiser Permanente  
Stockton, CA  
End of service: 9/2/2019  
Age: 64  
Circumstances: Dive Boat Fire



## **Michael's Contributions in Life:**

Michael was one of 34 people who perished in the tragedy on the dive boat Conception off the California Coast. His wife, along with 3 of his adult daughters were among victims. Michael was there to celebrate his birthday and was an avid scuba diver. His Medical Career included San Joaquin County Paramedic 1979-1987 (Delta Ambulance), ER Nurse 1985-2018 (St Joseph's Medical Center, Stockton), High School Teaching Nurse 1988-1995 (Helping establish a Medical Program at Stagg High School in the late '80s), Flight Nurse 1988-1995, Vascular Access Specialist Nurse. Michael is genuinely missed by everyone who knew him.



# WILLIAM RYAN

EMT

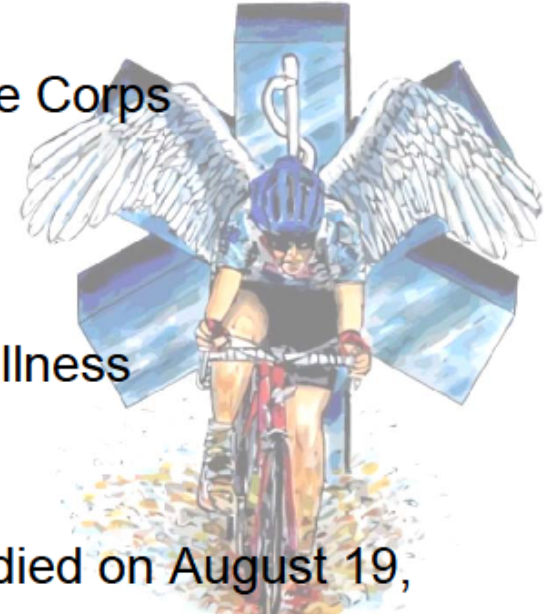
Bay Community Volunteer Ambulance Corps

Bayside, NY

End of service: 8/19/2018

Age: 50

Circumstances: World Trade Center Illness



## **William's Contributions in Life:**

William Ryan, 50, Bay Community Volunteer Ambulance Corps, died on August 19, 2018, after he succumbed to a certified World Trade Center illness sustained in the line-of-duty. He treated and transported victims in days of countless round trips to Ground Zero as an EMT with the Bay Community Volunteer Ambulance Corps in Bayside, Queens. That agency retains the ambulance he used at Ground Zero in his honor. A native Long Islander, Ryan had the gift of gab and loved being in the community.



# DEBRA K SCHOTT



Flight Nurse  
North Air Care  
Lester Prairie, MN  
End of service: 6/28/2019  
Age: 58  
Circumstances: Helicopter crash on duty



## **Debra's Contributions in Life:**

Deb loved to travel, work in the garden, drive her red mustang convertible, and was an avid photographer--her favorite was taking scenic photos. She loved spending time with her kids & grandkids! She is survived by her husband, Gary; daughter, Kristie; son, Craig; grandchildren, Hailee & Bryce; mother, Norma; brother, Tim; step-daughter, Jennifer; step-son, Brent; step-grandchildren, Taylor, Benjamin, Chloe, Trevin, Desiree, Brianna & Preston; and her beloved dog, Meka.



# MATTHEW SMELSER



Paramedic  
Rostraver West Newton EMS  
Charleroi, PA  
End of service: 1/5/2020  
Age: 44  
Circumstances: Struck by vehicle



## **Matthew's Contributions in Life:**

For the past 24 years, Matt worked as a paramedic, becoming a supervisor for the Rostraver-West Newton EMS Department, while also working for UPMC's Paramedic Response Unit. During this time, Matt was a decorated member of the UPMC Search and Rescue Unit with his K-9 Mondo. Matt had previously worked for TCA. A member of Edwards Chapel United Methodist Church in Finleyville, he had recently joined a local gun club because he enjoyed shooting, he always liked to golf, swim and especially riding quads with his son Logan. Matt always enjoyed helping others and took pride in teaching and instructing.



# PATRICK SMITH

President

REMSA/Care Flight

Reno, NV

End of service: 6/21/2019

Age: 65

Circumstances: Natural Causes



## **Patrick's Contributions in Life:**

Patrick was an EMS Entrepreneur well known for his innovation and leadership in EMS systems design and medical 911 communications systems. Patrick loved the Minnesota Vikings. He took care of the people that worked for him while we took care of others. Patrick was a EMS consultant in Washoe County in 1986, President of REMSA/Care Flight from 1990 to 2013, and President of SEMSA 2013-2018. He promoted Public Utility Models from Reno and across the Nation. Patrick was affectionately known as the Janitor.





# STUART SMITH

Flight Paramedic

PHI Med 4-5

Janesville, CA

End of service: 5/30/2018

Age: 58

Circumstances: Heart Attack



## **Stuart's Contributions in Life:**

Stuart "Stu" Smith was a Flight Paramedic, US Marine, mentor, and friend who spent more than 35 years serving the communities of Northern California. He served his country honorably as an Antitank Assaultman in the US Marine Corps from 1976-1980, where he received the Good Conduct Medal and the Rifle Sharpshooter Badge. As a lifelong horseman, Stu was also one of the last Marines to serve on mounted patrol. During his EMS career, Stu cared for more than 2,000 patients, including several field deliveries. Stu died suddenly of a heart attack after coming off flight shift on May 30, 2018.





# JAMES (JIM) TALLMAN

Paramedic  
North Memorial EMS  
Elk River, MN  
End of service: 6/8/2019  
Age: 57  
Circumstances: Suicide



## **Jim's Contributions in Life:**

As a veteran paramedic, Jim strongly believed it was an honor if he could help someone on possibly the worst days of their lives. Jim loved nature, whether maintaining his many bird feeders, birdhouses, celestial observing, or hunting for rocks everywhere he went. Snowmobiling trips and fishing in Canada with the guys were cherished annual events. He loved boating and the 4th of July fireworks. Jim's sense of humor, sharp wit, and his ability to put someone at ease served him and his many patients. Above all, he loved his wife Louisa and cherished every minute with her.



# DONALD TEEARS

Chaplain

Dare County EMS

Kill Devil Hills, NC

End of service: 9/23/2019

Age: 61

Circumstances: MVC



## **Donald's Contributions in Life:**

Donald worked as a Youth Pastor and Senior Pastor for over 30 years in several different states. He was involved in the FAITH motorcycle riders group. Don served as the chaplain for the Kitty Hawk Fire Dept and the Dare County EMS in the Outer Banks area. He leaves behind a wife and three sons, all residing in NC.





# RANDY TEMPLIN

EMT

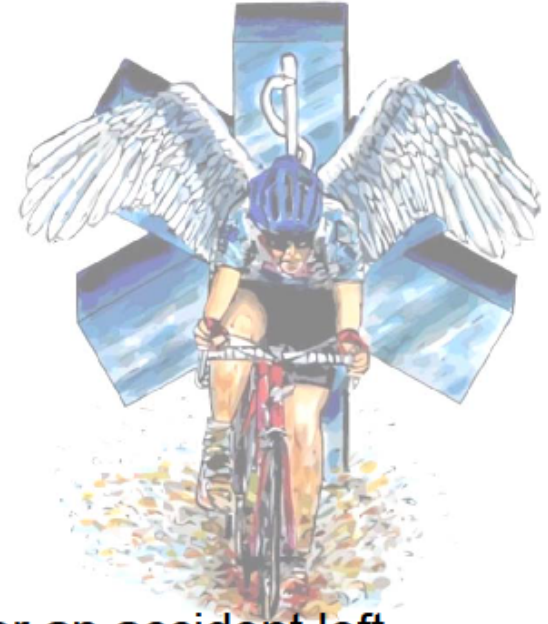
Northwest EMS

Elizabethtown, PA

End of service: 2/29/2020

Age: 55

Circumstances: Pancreatic Cancer



## **Randy's Contributions in Life:**

Growing up Randy wanted to be a police officer or firefighter. After an accident left him unable to continue as a police officer, he focused his efforts on EMS and volunteer firefighting. He was an active volunteer firefighter and EMT in the Elizabethtown and Rheems Fire Departments. Anyone who knows Randy knows that, in every aspect, he reflects the attitude of the Good Samaritan; always treating everyone he meets with generosity and kindness, particularly his patients. Randy was involved in emergency services for more than 35 years in the Elizabethtown community.





# JENNIFER L TOPPER

Pilot

Survival Flight

Grove City, OH

End of service: 1/29/2019

Age: 34

Circumstances: Aviation Accident



## **Jennifer L's Contributions in Life:**

Jennifer L. Topper, 34, Survival Flight, died in the line-of-duty Jan. 29, 2019, in an air medical helicopter accident. She died alongside flight nurses Rachel Cunningham and Bradley Haynes. Jennifer joined the US Navy after the events of September 11, 2001, first as a rescue swimmer, dropping into the water on a long line for search and rescue operations which sparked her desire to become a helicopter pilot. She also worked as an EMT, before finding her passion for aviation. She was known as a hard worker who was wise, generous, caring, and always smiling.



# CODY WELCH

EMT

Norwich EMS

Norwich, KS

End of service: 10/16/2019

Age: 27

Circumstances: Accidental Overdose



## **Cody's Contributions in Life:**

Cody began his career as a volunteer EMT for Norwich EMS. He was a very bright and vibrant young man who could light up any room with his smile. He was very passionate about EMS and exhibited a commitment to knowledge that drove him to learn as much as he could about prehospital healthcare. He was humble and truly believed that he could always learn something. Cody treated every patient with respect and believed that every patient should receive the best care possible, even in the most difficult of situations. He demonstrated his love for EMS, as he provided each patient with attention & respect.



# JOHN WHITTIER

EMT

United Ambulance

New Gloucester, ME

End of service: 8/30/2019

Age: 38

Circumstances: Heart Condition



## **John's Contributions in Life:**

John was a paramedic with the United Ambulance Service in Lewiston, Maine, for many years. John also was an instructor and coordinator, EMT/A-EMT, at the United Training Center. John volunteered time at the New Gloucester Fire and Rescue department. As an avid outdoorsman, John enjoyed hiking, paddle boarding, sailing, skiing, and rock climbing. John loved nature and traveling the world around him. He spent much of his time at the family camps in Phippsburg and Mount Blue, where he helped transform a rustic cottage into a beautiful camp for his family.



# JAMES "WOODY" WOODMAN



Paramedic  
West Haven Fire Department  
West Haven, CT  
End of service: 3/29/2019  
Age: 55  
Circumstances: MVA



## **James "Woody"'s Contributions in Life:**

James "Woody" Woodman, 55, West Haven Fire Department, died in the line of duty on March 29, 2019, following life-altering injuries sustained on October 5, 1999, when an ambulance he was riding in outside Yale-New Haven Hospital was involved in an accident. He was a member of Recruit Class #15 at the Connecticut State Fire Academy and was only out of the academy two days when his accident occurred. He was described as larger than life and his EMS colleagues marveled that against all odds, he fought on for close to 20 years, living out the remainder of his days in a facility in Colorado Springs.

# ALYCE YOUNG-WILKEN



Paramedic  
Reno County EMS  
Derby, KS  
End of service: 3/30/2008  
Age: 59  
Circumstances: Renal Cancer



## **Alyce's Contributions in Life:**

Alyce Ann Young-Wilken was born and raised in Sterling, NE. She graduated from Sterling High School and received a beautician license. After marrying Thomas Allen Young, she and had three children, John, Carol, and Jason. Later, she changed careers and became a paramedic and then went on to nursing school. She was an ER nurse with the Hutchinson Hospital for over 25 years. Alyce was also an EMS and ACLS instructor and a state examiner. She was the first female paramedic in Kansas, and her team nicknamed her Awesome Alyce. She was often noted for her creativity and resourcefulness in saving lives.

# BRITTANY YOUNG



EMT

Jan-Care Ambulance

Prosperity, WV

End of service: 8/10/2019

Age: 24

Circumstances: MVA



## **Brittany's Contributions in Life:**

Brittany Lachelle Young was 23 years old and the mother of a beautiful little girl. Brittany Young lived her short life to the fullest, and her life was devoted to her daughter Carley Dawn. Brittany was an EMT and Dispatcher for Jan-Care Ambulance while pursuing a degree in nursing. Brittany Young received her last call in the line of duty on August 10, 2019.





YEARS