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# Remembering



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October 5th and 6th • Washington, DC





- 12:30 P.M.    PRELUDE  
                  The United States Marine Corps Band, Washington, D.C.
- 1:00 P.M.    WELCOME  
                  Hal Bruno, Chairman  
                  National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
- The Honorable Anthony Williams  
                  Mayor of Washington, D.C.
- HONOR GUARD PROCESSIONAL\*
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE\*  
                  U. S. Representative Steny Hoyer
- NATIONAL ANTHEM\*  
                  The United States Marine Corps Band
- INVOCATION  
                  Reverend Ed Stauffer  
                  Federation of Fire Chaplains
- VIDEO TRIBUTE TO FIRE-RESCUE SERVICE  
                  Fire & Emergency Television Network
- PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE  
                  U. S. Representative Curt Weldon
- INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER  
                  Joe Allbaugh, Director  
                  Federal Emergency Management Agency
- KEYNOTE ADDRESS  
                  Tom Ridge, Director  
                  Office of Homeland Security
- PLACING OF PRESIDENTIAL WREATH
- UNVEILING OF PLAQUES
- MUSICAL TRIBUTE  
                  Sandi Patty

\* Those who are able may stand



## ROLL OF HONOR

### READERS:

**Donald P. Bliss**  
President, National Association of State Fire Marshals

**Chief Randy Bruegman**  
President, International Association of Fire Chiefs

**Chief Mike Chiaromonte**  
Advisor, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation  
Lynbrook Fire Department, New York

**Vina Drennan**  
Advisor, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation  
Fire Service Survivor, New York

**Mary Ann Gibbons**  
Director, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation  
Maryland State Firemen's Association

**Chief David Halstead**  
Chairman, Florida Fire & Emergency Services Foundation

**Chief Denis Onical**  
Superintendent, National Fire Academy

**Chief David Paulison**  
Administrator, United States Fire Administration

**Steve Robinson**  
Director, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation  
State Forester, Nevada

**Gerard Scannell**  
Vice Chairman, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation

**Harold Schaitberger**  
Director, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation  
General President, International Association of Fire Fighters

**James M. Shannon**  
President, National Fire Protection Association

**Chief Ronald J. Siarnicki**  
Executive Director,  
National Fallen Firefighters Foundation

**Dennis Smith**  
Author, Fire Department of New York retired



## READERS:

**Raymond Sneed**

President, District of Columbia Fire Fighters Association  
International Association of Fire Fighters, Local 36

**Seth Statler**

Director, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation  
U. S. Department of the Treasury

**Chief Philip Stittleburg**

Director, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation  
Chairman, National Volunteer Fire Council

**Chief Mario Trevino**

Advisor, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation  
San Francisco Fire Department, California

**Susan Watkins**

Director, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation  
State Farm Fire and Casualty

## REMEMBRANCE READINGS:

**U. S. SENATOR JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.**  
(Delaware)

**U. S. REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER**  
(Maryland)

**U. S. SENATOR BARBARA MIKULSKI**  
(Maryland)

**U. S. REPRESENTATIVE CONNIE MORELLA**  
(Maryland)

**U. S. REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM PASCRELL**  
(New Jersey)

**U. S. SENATOR PAUL S. SARBANES**  
(Maryland)

**U. S. REPRESENTATIVE NICK SMITH**  
(Michigan)

**U. S. REPRESENTATIVE CURT WELDON**  
(Pennsylvania)



## National Memorial Service

### MUSICAL SELECTIONS

**Children's Chorus of Maryland**  
*Climb Every Mountain*

**Shannon Forsell**  
*There You Are*

**Michelle Lynn**  
*Precious Memories*

**Tim McDonald**  
*The Most Beautiful White Dove*

**Dawn Smith**  
Fire Service Survivor, Mississippi  
*Another Hero's Coming Home*

**Firefighter James Smith**  
*I Believe I Can Fly*

**The Steuart Family**  
Brooke, Bryan, Cynthia, Todd  
*The Prayer*  
*To Where You Are*

### BLESSING

**Reverend Bevon Smith**  
Fire Service Survivor, Mississippi

### DEDICATION

**Bill Manning**  
Editor, Fire Engineering

### MUSICAL TRIBUTE

**Sandi Patty**

## ALABAMA



**Carl V. Cook, Sr., 55**, career captain, Birmingham Fire and Rescue Service, died June 15, 2001, when he suffered a heart attack during an annual physical ability test. He was one of the first African-American firefighters hired by the department, where he served for 27 years. He filled many roles, including Supervisor in Fire Investigations, state representative for the International Association of Black Professional Firefighters, and member of the International Association of Arson Investigators. He was chosen "Brother Elk of the Year" at the local and state levels. Active in his church, he served as a deacon, Sunday school teacher, and member of the choir.



**Johnny McKinley, 54**, firefighter, Pine Hill Volunteer Fire Department, died January 25, 2001, after he collapsed while fighting a structure fire. He served with the department for nearly 20 years and was a self-employed carpenter and contractor.

McKinley served in Vietnam. He was a member of the Nuthin' New Car Club and enjoyed fixing up antique cars. Department members described him as a person everyone depended on, someone who did excellent work.



**James Timothy Smith, 41**, firefighter/EMT, Flomaton Volunteer Fire Department, died October 6, 2001. He was injured in 1997 at a structure fire and died from complications. Before his accident, he and his wife owned and operated a restaurant in the town where they lived. He worked as a part-time driver for Brewton Ambulance Service and was active in community sports.

*He was very dedicated and loved being a firefighter. We loved him and will always love him.*

## ALASKA

**Christopher D. Kobierowski, 41**, firefighter, City of Delta Junction Volunteer Fire Department, died March 6, 2001, from injuries sustained in a truck rollover while responding to a structure fire.

He served for 25 years with the department, where his father used to be the chief. Kobierowski worked for Alaska State Forestry and a local gold mine. He enjoyed country music, rodeos, playing volleyball and pool, and recreational gold mining.

*He was a dedicated, quiet man with a good sense of humor.*



## ARIZONA

**Bret Richmond Tarver, 41**, career firefighter, Phoenix Fire Department, died March 14, 2001, when he was trapped during a fire at a shopping center. He began his fire service career with the Sun City Fire Department. In 1999, he received a Quality Customer Service Award when he and his crew framed and covered a hole in a home that had been hit by a car. Tarver built his own home and, at the time of his death, was building a corral for the horse he had just bought for his three daughters. Described as a gentle giant, who was always smiling, he was an outdoorsman who enjoyed hiking, camping, and hunting.

*Most of all, he was a devoted family man who loved his wife and daughters.*



## ARKANSAS

**Brian Steven Richter, 34**, firefighter, Pottsville Volunteer Fire Department, died April 8, 2001, from injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident while responding to a fire call. After high school, he volunteered with the Moreland Fire Department. He served with two departments in Florida—Bloomington Fire Department, where he received extensive training in firefighting and rescue procedures, and Midway Fire Department, where he served as chief. He returned to Arkansas and joined the Pottsville Department in 1999. Richter worked as chief engineer at Americold Logistics. He liked playing cards and board games.

*He enjoyed being part of the fire department, feeling this was a contribution he could make to his neighbors.*





## Remembrances

### CALIFORNIA

**Gary L. Cruise, 48**, career engineer, South San Francisco Fire Department, died November 3, 2001 from complications related to an injury during training. He served the department for 22 years and was vice president of the South San Francisco Fire Fighters Widows and Orphans. He received an Outstanding Member Award from his local.



**Lawrence L. Groff, 55**, contract pilot, California Department of Forestry, died August 27, 2001, when his air tanker collided with another plane while fighting a wildfire. The pilot of the other plane also died. A U. S. Navy aviator for 27 years, Groff retired as a lieutenant commander. After retirement, he instructed pilots for Lockheed and flew for the United Nations World Food Program, dropping food supplies in African villages. He had over 15,000 hours of flying time. He was an accomplished fisherman, and was famous for his barbecued ribs.

*He was kind, quiet, and methodical, but a man with a strong presence. He was a humble man who could calm a hardened man with his southern drawl.*



**Kirk James Schafer, 36**, career firefighter, North Central Fire Protection District, Kerman, died July 27, 2001, from injuries sustained when a pressurized tank exploded as he filled a fire truck's tanks with water. He came from a fire service family. His father retired after serving with the same fire protection district, and his brother is an active firefighter there. Schafer began his service as a volunteer, then became a career firefighter about five years before his death.

*He was a wonderful man. He loved his job, was a hard worker, and a loving father. He was always there if he was needed.*

**Matthew D. Smith, 33**, career firefighter, Redwood City Fire Department, died February 5, 2001, at the end of a physical fitness period while on duty. A lifelong resident of San Jose, he was a skilled carpenter who had helped many of his fellow firefighters with their homes. He loved to spend time fishing and hunting with his son.

**Lars Stratte, 45**, contract pilot, California Department of Forestry, died August 27, 2001, when his air tanker collided with another while fighting a wildfire. An experienced pilot and aerial firefighter, Stratte was president of the Redding Area Pilots Association and a former member of the city's Airports Commission. He enjoyed golfing and hunting.

*He was quick with a joke, gregarious, a dedicated family man who loved what he did.*



### COLORADO

**Charles R. Drennan, Jr., 50**, career assistant chief, Denver Fire Department, died September 13, 2001, when he was shot by a coworker whom he was trying to assist. Committed to physical fitness, Drennan worked out nearly every day of his life and enjoyed many sports and activities. His biggest love of all was baseball. He served the department for 29 years, and his son is a captain with the department.

*You have always been my hero. You are so loved by your many friends and family.*



**Jack Hamilton Fowler, Jr., 46**, chief, Pueblo West Volunteer Fire Department, died June 24, 2001, when his motorcycle was struck by a car as he traveled to the fire station to get equipment. He served with the department for 23 years, including 18 years as chief. From a firefighting family, Fowler was a third generation chief. He served in numerous roles, including member of the Pueblo County Emergency Response Team, chairperson of the county's Hazardous Materials Committee, and member of the emergency team at Pikes Peak International Speedway. He was instrumental in forming the Pueblo Countywide Mutual Aid Agreement.

*He loved riding his Harley or playing with his four-wheelers on mountain camping trips with his wife and daughters. He loved living life. He was rescuer, hero, friend, leader, husband, and father.*







**Lazaro Martinez, 70**, volunteer firefighter, Fisher's Peak Fire Protection District, Trinidad, died July 28, 2001, after completing a live burn training exercise. He taught English to immigrants, worked with troubled youth, and served on the board of the American Red Cross.

He served during the Gulf War and had been a member of the U.S. Air Force and the National Guard.

*He was a giving, selfless man who believed that his mission in life was to serve his fellow man. He leaves a legacy of unselfish sharing of his skills and energy.*



**Jay Alan Shaffer, 47**, volunteer captain, Larkspur Fire Protection District, died March 17, 2001, during a pack test to certify for fighting wildfires. He was also a volunteer captain with Bald Mountain Fire Station. A full-time consultant for Compaq, he set up a

computer program for servicing department vehicles. Skilled at repair, he took special delight in fixing the "unfixable." He served for six years in the U.S. Air Force, where he made top grades in special schools and received the Commendation Medal.

*He loved helping people in difficult situations. Many coworkers spoke about his extreme patience and helpfulness to others, and his fine teaching skills.*



**Ralph E. Vance, 68**, volunteer firefighter, Elk Creek Fire Protection District, Conifer, died December 14, 2001 while responding to a chimney fire in a tanker truck. He served for 32 years with the department, where he demonstrated unparalleled patience

and teaching skills. He recognized that women were of real value to a volunteer fire department, and he provided the encouragement and support that helped them find their place there. He served in Vietnam and was retired from United Airlines after 29 years as a pilot.

*To know him was an experience, period. It was an experience in the emotions that make up life—laughter, anger, frustration, and satisfaction. He demonstrated courage, skill, and concern for others in everything he did.*

## CONNECTICUT

**Barry Wollman, 53**, career firefighter, Eagleville Fire Department, died February 18, 2001, after responding to a fire at a local mall. He served with the department for 26 years. Wollman was described as a very civic-minded and was a justice of the peace, an active member of the Civil Air Patrol, and a member of the Correctional Facility Liaison Committee and the International Fire Buff Associates. He served with the U.S. Air Force in Vietnam.

## FLORIDA

**Darryl Dzugen, 36**, career captain, Hillsborough County Fire Rescue, Tampa, died August 29, 2001, while working a 24-hour shift. He joined the fire service as an Explorer at age 12. In 1983, following in his father's footsteps, Dzugen became a volunteer firefighter with the Brandon Fire District. He began his career with Hillsborough two years later. He was involved in the department's training department and was coordinator of Hillsborough Community College's fire science program.

**Linda Hernandez, 37**, career firefighter/EMT, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue, died September 18, 2001, from complications related to injuries sustained earlier in the line of duty. Hernandez was a correctional officer for 13 years before joining the fire department in 1997. After her injury, she was often in the hospital, but continued to study to keep her EMT certification up-to-date until her death.

*She was "a fighter," a person who loved people and life.*

**Ray Walters Lloyd, Jr., 65**, volunteer firefighter, Marion County Fire-Rescue, Ocala, died February 7, 2001, at the scene of a trailer fire. His wife, also a member of the department, was working beside him when he collapsed. Lloyd was a machinist by trade, a specialist in recovering evidence using his metal detecting skills, and an accordion player for square dances. Honored for his volunteer work with several organizations, he sometimes drove over 100 miles a day to deliver Meals on Wheels. He served for six years with the Army Signal Corps.



*He was a caring, loving, and always a giving man.*



## Remembrances



**Brian Reed**, 39, career firefighter/EMT, West Manatee Fire and Rescue, Holmes Beach, died April 3, 2001, from injuries sustained from a fall at the department. He began as a volunteer with Anna Maria Fire District, and became a career firefighter in 1995. Reed was a certified

electrician and a dedicated blood donor. He liked to be where the action was and served for eight years in the Marine Corps. He and his wife exchanged marriage vows at the fire station.

*He was reliable, dependable, honest, and hardworking.*



**Daniel Neil Woodward**, 32, captain, Blackman Volunteer Fire Department, died September 26, 2001, after battling an electrical fire at his home.

His wife, a paramedic, was in New York working at the World Trade Center at the time of her husband's death. Active with the fire department since age 13, Woodward also served as a sheriff's deputy for eight years and worked with the rescue squad and as a 911 dispatcher. In 2001, he returned to college and became a nationally-certified EMT.

*He was a public servant nearly all his life. He was always giving of his time and his abilities. Thirty-two years was not enough time for all that he had to give.*

### IDAHO



**Douglas William Gilbert**, 52, contract pilot, Idaho Department of Lands, died July 10, 2001, when his plane crashed while dropping fire retardant on a grass fire. He was a career pilot who flew for his family's crop-dusting business and had over

14,000 hours of flying time. He learned to fly after serving in the U.S. Army in Vietnam.

*He loved traveling, hunting, and his son.*

### ILLINOIS

**Robert A. Augustyn**, 57, career lieutenant, Town of Cicero Fire Department, died September 7, 2001, from injuries received when he was struck by a fire truck at the scene of a motor vehicle accident. He

served with the department for 33 years and was planning to retire later in the year. He had been selected Firefighter of the Year for his department. At the firehouse, he was known for his quick wit and was affectionately called 'Auggie.'

*Known for his rough exterior, he most definitely was a puppy dog inside. He was always there for us whenever we needed him.*



**Willard Christoffer**, 54, paid on-call firefighter, Western Springs Fire Department, died May 14, 2001, from injuries suffered when in a fall during a training drill. He was a member of the department for only a few months.

A Certified and Licensed Industrial Hygienist, he conducted classes nationwide on asbestos, hazardous materials, and other environmental issues. Active in his church, he was a member of the choir and the Board of Church Properties. He enjoyed traveling throughout the U.S. and Canada with his family.

*He loved reading to his children, singing, vegetable gardening, cooking and grilling, and baking bread.*



**Kenneth J. Frayne**, 28, volunteer firefighter, Channahon Fire Protection District, died October 13, 2001, during a deepwater training exercise.

He was a member of the dive team and the special rescue team. He owned a construction company, and he and his wife built their own home. The oldest of four brothers, Frayne was an avid hunter.

*He had a great attitude about life and lived it to the fullest. His 28 years were filled with lots of love, friendship, and a great ambition. He was a very loving husband, son, brother, and uncle.*



**Mike L. McKean**, 32, volunteer firefighter/EMT, Ashton Fire Protection District, died February 17, 2001, when a floor collapsed and trapped him during a structure fire. A second firefighter died in this incident. McKean had been a member of the department

for less than two years, but accomplished much in that short time. He received a department



commendation for his role in reviving a man who had suffered a heart attack. He served as the department's Ambulance Inspection Officer and made more ambulance and fire calls in 2000 than any other member of the department.

*He felt so passionate about life. Every day was an adventure. Nothing could ever make him take a day for granted.*



**Donald Dean Myrick, 49,** volunteer firefighter, Ludlow Fire Protection District, died June 22, 2001, from injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident while responding to a call. A former assistant chief, he served with the department for 21 years and took part in most department projects. He was an avid hunter and fisherman.



**Clint A. Talley, 27,** volunteer lieutenant, Ashton Fire Protection District, died February 17, 2001, when a floor collapsed and trapped him during a structure fire. Talley was also an EMT. He always volunteered his time to teach fire prevention to children at the local school. Described as the department's teacher, he had a working knowledge of every piece of equipment in the firehouse. He was a devoted dad and was known for his beautiful singing voice.

*He was what every volunteer firefighter should be and loved the time he spent in service to the department and community.*

## IOWA

**Dale F. Simpson, 38,** firefighter, Clear Lake Volunteer Fire Department, died April 2, 2001, after helping to extinguish a fire. He was the chairman of the department's Muster Committee, an annual gathering of antique fire equipment and display of firefighting techniques. He was in charge of the department's EMT certification and helped raise funds for the purchase of a thermal imaging camera. The son of a former department chief, as a child Simpson often rode his bike to the station when his dad was going out on a call. Simpson worked at Mercy Health Center.

## KENTUCKY

**William "Willie" Lawrence Thompson, 21,** firefighter, Hillsboro Volunteer Fire Department, died January 12, 2001, when the tanker truck he was driving struck a utility pole and overturned as he responded to a grass fire. His father is the department's chief. A senior Agricultural Education major at Morehead State University, Thompson had been active in the F.F.A. at the county, state, and collegiate levels. A scholarship for students interested in agricultural careers has been established in his honor.

*His love of agriculture and caring for others was his driving force to become a teacher.*



**Marcus Alan Walters, 19,** firefighter, Faubush Tri-County Volunteer Fire Department, died June 5, 2001, from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident while en route to the department for a training session. He joined the department at age fourteen as an Explorer and completed enough training hours to become a certified firefighter as soon as he turned eighteen. He was employed as a service technician with the Western Pulaski County Water District.

*He loved the training, the equipment, the older firefighters (his heroes), and he would do anything to be at the department.*



## MARYLAND

**Clarence Kreitzer, 78,** firefighter, Bowie Volunteer Fire Department, Company 19, died September 24, 2001, after assisting at the scene of a tornado. A life member of the department, he joined as a junior member in 1937 at age 14 and served for over 64 years. He was a member of the U.S. Army during WWII and a police officer with the Maryland Park Police for 22 years. He enjoyed rebuilding and refurbishing cars, and one of his favorite pastimes was NASCAR racing. His daughter especially remembers the summer road trips she took with her dad.

*He was a man who wore many hats and never stopped giving. We simply had wonderful times together.*





**Gilmore W. Stitley, III**, 54, volunteer firefighter, Citizens Truck Company, Frederick, died January 10, 2001, while preparing to assist at the scene of a mulch fire at the Frederick County Fairgrounds. He was a life member of Independent Hose Company and a volunteer firefighter for more than 36 years. He served in the U.S. Army, where he was awarded Army Commendation, National Defense Service, Vietnam Service, and Vietnam Campaign Medals. *He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather.*

#### MASSACHUSETTS



**Donald E. Souza**, 64, career captain, Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire District, died May 30, 2001, as the result of injuries received years earlier from an electrical shock at a structure fire. He served with the department for 31 years and was its longtime training officer. The department's annual clambake, which he organized for years, has been renamed in his honor. He was a devoted grandfather who faithfully attended his grandchildren's school and sports events.

*He was a real friend and father figure to his fellow firefighters. His great sense of humor and loyalty will be missed by all.*

#### MICHIGAN



**James M. Pelton**, 58, career chief, Mason Fire Department, died August 10, 2001, from injuries sustained in a multi-car accident while en route to a training meeting. He served the department for 37 years, first as a volunteer, then as the department's first full-time chief. As chief, he oversaw the building of a new fire station and the purchase of the first aerial platform truck. He was a Certified Fire Inspector and was committed to ensuring firefighter safety through training and proper equipment. Until his retirement, he was also the owner of The Golden Shear, where he worked as a barber. He also loved to spend time in his home workshop doing woodcarvings.

*He was a man of many talents, and he was living his dream.*

**James A. Rupkey**, 58, volunteer lieutenant, Troy Fire Department, died April 23, 2001, during a search and rescue drill. He was a charter member of Station #5, and during his nearly 25 years with the department, he served in many positions, including president and assistant chief. He was voted Station #5 Member of the Year in 1998 and City of Troy Fire Fighter of the Year in 1999. He created an online system to monitor firefighter availability, a system currently used by all fire stations in the department.

*He always kept a positive attitude and outlook. He led by example.*



**Christopher D. Towne**, 52, career lieutenant, Detroit Fire Department, died January 18, 2001, while on duty. He served with the department for nearly 30 years and received a department citation in 1991 for helping to rescue a fellow firefighter who was overcome by smoke after an equipment malfunction. He did extensive fundraising for Children's Hospital Burn Unit and was active with the VFW, Lions, and Moose.

*He approached life and all that it offered with great passion. He loved people and, through his action, took every opportunity to show that love.*

#### MISSISSIPPI

**Mary Lynn Waite**, 49, firefighter, U.S. Forest Service-Homochitto National Forest, Meadville, died February 6, 2001, when she suffered a heart attack while taking a physical fitness test to certify for the 2001 firefighting season. She worked as a forest analyst and computer assistant for the Mississippi Forest Service-Homochitto National Forest. She and her husband served in Liberia as Peace Corps volunteers, and they later started the West African Pigout, an annual tradition in the Pacific Northwest to raise funds for Friends of Liberia. Her granddaughter, born five days after her death, was named in her honor.

*She was well known for her Liberian cooking. She enjoyed traveling and quilting and had sewn quilts for all her family members.*



## MISSOURI



**Travis Lee Brown, 30**, volunteer firefighter, Dearborn Area Fire Protection District, died June 2, 2001, when the pumper truck he was riding in overturned while responding to a fire. He was a licensed practical nurse

who worked for two nursing agencies in the Kansas City area and had a gift for helping people. A father of five, Brown coached his sons' basketball teams and loved to take his family camping. Fellow firefighters described him as a good friend and a very caring person who loved the fire department.

*From the mudslides into the lake that he made for his children, to the practical jokes he constantly played, Travis demonstrated he was the biggest kid of them all.*



**Ritchie Eutsler, 30**, career captain, Republic Fire Department, died May 16, 2001, in his sleep at the station while on-duty. He began his firefighting career as a reserve firefighter and became a full-time firefighter in 1997. A CPR and first

aid instructor, he was well known in area schools as "Exit" the Fire Educational Clown. He was an avid NASCAR fan and enjoyed sports and hunting.

*He was a very devoted husband and father.*

*Even though he is gone, he will make every call with the Republic Fire Department.*

**David Mullaney, 36**, volunteer lieutenant, Sac-Osage Fire Protection District, Osceola, died March 18, 2001, as he was fighting a house fire. Another firefighter also died in this incident. The father of two, Mullaney would help anyone and was very involved in his community.

*Being a firefighter was David's way of giving something back to his community*

**Frank Whitby, 39**, volunteer firefighter, Sac-Osage Fire Protection District, Osceola, died March 18, 2001, as he was fighting a house fire. A second firefighter also died in the fire.

## MONTANA

**David Ray Rendek, Jr., 24**, firefighter, U.S. Forest Service-Bitterroot National Forest, died September 3, 2001, when he was struck by a falling tree while fighting a wildfire. He was first in the pack test two years in a row and completed many classes related to firefighting. He had a great love for the outdoors and enjoyed snowboarding, mountain biking, and skateboarding. A gifted artist, he followed the Straight-edge, which advocates a drug-free lifestyle.

*He was going to be a leader,  
but was taken much too soon. He is our angel  
and will always be with us.*



## NEVADA

**Robert H. Marsh, 78**, captain, Cal-Nev-Ari Volunteer Fire Department, Station 84/Clark County Fire Department, died October 14, 2001, while responding to a reported motor vehicle accident. He moved to Nevada from Illinois after retiring from TransAmerica Insurance. He was the sole member of Squad 1-84 in his small department. A World War II veteran, he was awarded a Purple Heart after being wounded in the Battle of the Bulge.

*My father not only did things right, he did "right things." I only hope I finish with a life that makes my children half as proud of me as I am of my father.*



## NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Cecil F. Smith, 76**, firefighter, Meredith Volunteer Fire Department, died January 28, 2001, from injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident while responding to a fire call the day before. He was with the department for 48 years, serving as a firefighter, member of the rescue squad, line officer, and dispatcher. Two of his sons are also firefighters. Smith was active with the Masonic Lodge and the Odd Fellows.

*He was an individual  
with an extreme amount of civic pride.*



## NEW JERSEY



**Willie Barns, 66**, volunteer lieutenant, Country Lakes Fire Company #1, Browns Mill, died September 16, 2001, while responding to a transformer fire that had knocked out traffic lights. Barns served with the department for 25 years, first as a firefighter and later as a fire police officer. Known as a teacher in the department, he often took rookies under his wing. He worked as a truck driver and was a bingo caller for all the years he was with the department. Originally from South Carolina, Barns had six grown sons and was raising his young grandson.

*He would do anything for anybody. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. He made a difference in the life of, and was loved by, one little boy in particular—Tyrone.*

**George "June" Danielson, Jr., 77**, volunteer firefighter, Mine Hill Fire Department, died November 9, 2001, from injuries sustained in an accident while responding to a fire call earlier. He had served with the department since 1948 and received the department's 50-year service award. He served as chief, trustee, executive committee member, and president of the department. Danielson worked as a carpenter with the Morristown school system for 33 years and retired as director of maintenance. A World War II veteran, he received several distinguished Military Service Medals.



**James T. Heenan, 37**, volunteer firefighter, Verga Fire and Rescue Company, died March 25, 2001, from burns sustained at a New Year's Eve fire. An 18-year member of the fire service, he had served as assistant chief of his department. He received many awards, including 2000 Firefighter of the Year for Woodbury Heights. He worked as a dredge operator and attended community college, taking many courses related to firefighting. He and his wife met at the fire hall.

*He lost his life while trying to save someone else. His actions will not be forgotten.*

**Alberto Tirado, 40**, career firefighter/EMT, Passaic Fire Department, died May 9, 2001, when he was trapped while searching for children in an apartment fire. He was a certified fire inspector and had recently passed the State of New Jersey's Fire Officers Exam, which made him eligible for promotion to lieutenant. He was a member of the U.S. Marine Reserve and served in the Gulf War. He worked part-time as a postman.



*He performed the greatest act of bravery a firefighter can render. He gave his life trying to save others.*

**Lawrence James Webb, 37**, career firefighter, Newark Fire Department, died May 22, 2001, while fighting an apartment fire. He came from a family dedicated to service. His father is a retired Newark fire captain, and his brother currently is with the department. One of four brothers, Webb often took young firefighters under his wing and acted as a big brother to them. He was a motorcycle enthusiast and was described as courageous and a great firefighter.



## NEW MEXICO

**William A. James, 65**, volunteer firefighter, Caballo Fire and Rescue Department, died March 14, 2001, after collapsing during certification training earlier. He retired after 37 years as a computer specialist at White Sands Missile Range. After retirement, he and his wife moved to their pecan farm in New Mexico. James was a father of five and a grandfather of five.



*He was happy to be able to help in the community.*

**Paula Jane Varble, 40**, volunteer chief, Arrey Derry Fire Department, died November 21, 2001. After responding to a call, she became ill and died the next day from cardiovascular causes.

## NEW YORK

**William E. Bennett**, 49, chief, Kennedy Volunteer Fire Department, died September 4, 2001, from injuries sustained in an accident while responding to a rescue call. Before serving as chief for two years, he served as assistant chief for 10 years and as fire commissioner for one year. He worked as a metal fabricator and welder. He was active in every aspect of the fire department and was a mentor and friend to all who knew him.



**Richard D. Buongiorno**, 48, volunteer firefighter, Kendall Fire District, died January 10, 2001, after being struck by a vehicle while directing traffic at an accident scene the day before. He and his step-grandson joined the department in

September 2000, because they wanted to serve the community. In 2000, he was recognized by the department for completing the most training hours and was selected Firefighter of the Year.

*Our dad died doing what he enjoyed the most—being a fireman. In our eyes, he died a hero. He held his family together with a smile, a gentle touch, and soft words.*



**Lloyd E. Curtis**, 75, volunteer firefighter, Vestal Fire Department, died February 19, 2001, while responding to a fire call. The oldest member of his department, he was an IBM employee for 31 years. He served with the U.S. Coast Guard and the

U.S. Army and was a veteran of World War II and the Korean War.

*He loved life and never met a stranger.*



**John J. Downing**, 40, career firefighter, Fire Department of New York, Ladder 163, died on Father's Day, June 17, 2001, after an explosion and building collapse at a hardware store fire.

Three firefighters were killed in this incident. Downing was from a large, tightknit family that includes two brothers who are NYPD members and another brother who is an FDNY firefighter. In June 2002, a park in Queens was renamed and dedicated in his honor.

He enjoyed barbecuing for family and friends, a good debate, and a good joke and always had a home improvement project in progress.

*He was a wonderful husband, loving father, devoted son, loyal brother, fun-loving uncle, and true friend. He was a beautiful person and is a true hero. He has left us with wonderful memories.*

**Brian D. Fahey**, 46, career firefighter, Fire Department of New York, Rescue 4, died on Father's Day, June 17, 2001, when he was trapped as he fought a hardware store fire. He was also a volunteer firefighter with Hempstead Fire Department and a deputy chief instructor with the Nassau County Fire Service Academy.



*Through his teaching and caring and willingness to help, he touched so many lives. His whole life was dedicated to making his family happy. He is a true example of how one man can make a difference.*

**Harry S. Ford**, 50, career firefighter, Fire Department of New York, Rescue 4, died on Father's Day, June 17, 2001, after an explosion and collapse at a hardware store fire. He served the department for 27 years and was the senior member of Rescue 4. Over the course of his career, he received nine department commendations for bravery, including the prestigious Thomas Crimmins Medal. He was an avid sportsman who especially loved golf and had played on the department's football team.



*He was an exceptional firefighter, gaining respect from both the officers and his fellow firefighters. He was a true hero and will always be remembered and loved.*

**Donald Franklin**, 42, career firefighter, Fire Department of New York, Ladder 44, died January 13, 2001, while searching for residents in a burning apartment building. Two residents of the building also died in this incident. A father of five and a stepfather of one, he was cited twice for acts of



**Donald Franklin (cont)**

bravery and heroism over the course of his career. He loved having a good time and making people laugh. An avid hunter and fisherman, his life's dream was to go caribou hunting in Canada, a dream he fulfilled four months before his death.

*Donald was a very loving, caring, and devoted man. He loved life more than anyone could imagine. One of his favorite songs was "What a Wonderful World" by Louis Armstrong.*

**Bradley Golden**, 19, firefighter, Westmoreland Volunteer Fire District-Lairdsville Fire Department, Clinton, died September 25, 2001, during a live burn training exercise. A trainee, he had been a member of the department for only a few weeks, joining just after his high school graduation. Golden loved driving his 1995 Saturn, which he called "The Red Roker."

**Michael John Gorumba**, 27, career firefighter/

EMT, Fire Department of New York, Engine 163, died August 28, 2001, while fighting a fire at an auto body shop. He was a member of the city's Police Auxiliary Unit and a track worker and steel welder for the New York City Transit Authority. A member of the U.S. Naval Reserve, he loved scuba diving, hiking, biking, running, and the outdoors.

*He lived to be a firefighter, a husband, and a wonderful father. He lived his life doing what made him happy.*

**Ronald T. Kreamer**, 34, firefighter, Frontier Volunteer Fire Department, Niagara Falls, died

August 13, 2001, after rescuing several residents from a fire at a senior citizens complex. A second-generation firefighter, he served with the department for 16 years. Kreamer's father, mother, and wife continue to serve the department through the fire police and ladies auxiliary. Though he was known for his jokes and pranks, his fellow firefighters described him as someone who responded to any call, no matter how dangerous or routine.



*His family and friends meant the world to him, and serving his community gave him great pride in himself and his fire company.*

**Gregg J. McLoughlin**, 39, career firefighter, Fire Department of New York, Engine 302, died January 4, 2001, after responding to several calls during a 24-hour shift. McLoughlin was from a fire service family. His brother is also an FDNY firefighter and his father is a retired battalion chief.



**Joe M. Vargason**, 69, volunteer firefighter, Maine Fire Department, died June 30, 2001, when he was struck by a vehicle as he performed fire police duties at the scene of a car fire. He served with the department for 26 years and also served with the Broome County Fire Police. An avid outdoorsman, he was active with the VFW and American Legion. He was a devoted grandfather, and he and his young grandson were usually seen together.



*He was a dedicated family man.*







## THE FOLLOWING FIREFIGHTERS FROM NEW YORK DIED IN THE WORLD TRADE CENTER ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

**Joseph Agnello, 35**, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 118. Off the job, he devoted his time to his wife, his two sons, and his dogs. Described by friends and family as quiet and confident, Agnello “never needed to talk about himself...never wanted material possessions.” He enjoyed skiing and snowboarding with friends and being with his family.

**Brian G. Ahearn, 43**, lieutenant, FDNY, Engine 230. A father of two, he lived in Huntington, N.Y.

**Eric T. Allen, 44**, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 18. Allen took extra courses to qualify for duty with Squad 18. He was also very handy, always willing to help friends and the elderly in his neighborhood in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, where he lived with his wife and young daughters.

**Richard D. Allen, 31**, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 15. A probationary firefighter, he was a Rockaway Beach lifeguard and New York City public school teacher before joining the FDNY.

*He loved the outdoors, he was creative, had a great personality. Both the children he taught and his coworkers loved and respected him. Once people met Richie, their lives were changed forever. His amazing smile would light up a room and his laugh was contagious.*

**James Amato, 43**, captain, FDNY, Squad 1. The Ronkonkoma resident loved to spend time with his wife and four children—Sean, Tara, Katherine, and Ashley—and to take vacations with his brother, Lee, a firefighter in Florida. He had been a college wrestler and loved to be in the middle of the action.

**Calixto Anaya, Jr., 35**, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 4. Anaya, who was known as Charlie, was posthumously awarded a diploma from the Fire Academy in November 2001, during the first graduation ceremony since September 11th. A former Marine, he re-enlisted during the Gulf War. A father of three, he was also a volunteer with the Suffern, N.Y., volunteer fire department. He loved the Yankees and the Giants.

**Joseph Angelini, Sr., 63**, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 1. A 40-year veteran, he was the oldest active firefighter in New York City and a member of Rescue 1 for 22 years. He received many citations for bravery during his career. Angelini's son, Joseph Jr., also died on September 11th. Another firefighter son, Michael, helped carry FDNY Chaplain Mychal Judge from the World Trade Center.

*He loved his job and dreaded retirement. He was a kind, compassionate, loving husband, father, and grandfather—a real family man to us and to his fire department “family.”*

**Joseph J. Angelini, Jr., 38**, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 4. Angelini's firefighter father also died in the September 11 attack. Known as the spitting image of his dad, they were the first father and son firefighters to die in the line of duty in New York City. A seven-year veteran firefighter, Angelini was also a cook, carpenter, and gardener. He enjoyed spending time with his wife and three children.

*Joe was a great man—father, husband, and friend. He was kind and understanding. You know that saying, “Take time to smell the roses?” Joe would take the time. He lived life to the fullest.*

**Faustino Apostol, 55**, firefighter, FDNY, Battalion 2. With 28 years on the job, he was the chief aide in the Battalion. Apostol told friends he would only quit when the job stopped being fun.

*Faust was a devoted family man. He enjoyed vacationing with his wife of 33 years as well as spending his free time with his children and two grandsons. He was the kindest, most loving and generous man to all who knew him. He also could tell a good joke or two!*

**David G. Arce, 36**, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 33. Arce had ended his shift on September 11th but responded with his best friend from childhood and fellow firefighter Michael Boyle. They died together and their families held a joint funeral. Arce was nicknamed Buddha because of his strong belief that his purpose in life was to aid and to serve.

*David grew up playing with fire trucks and the desire never went away.*

**Louis Arena, 32, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 5.** A father of two, he met his future wife when both were in grade school in Staten Island. Friends and family say that Arena was always helping people, with little concern for himself.

**Carl Francis Asaro, 39, firefighter, FDNY, Battalion 9.** A father of six, he loved music, especially of the Grateful Dead. A firefighter for 14 years, Asaro also played one on the screen. He was an extra in several movies and appeared on *The Sopranos*, *Law and Order*, and *Third Watch*. He was still waiting for a speaking part.

*Carl saw life as bright music. He was always singing (Elvis impressions) or pounding his hand on something for a rhythm. He played the piano and the flute. Music was a great part of his life.*

**Gregg A. Atlas, 45, lieutenant, FDNY, Engine 10.** Atlas had firefighting in his blood, as he shared the profession with his three brothers. Atlas loved hunting, fishing and boating and was also a part-time farmer, sharing his produce with friends, family, and neighbors.

*He once told his son, "Find a job you love and you'll never work a day in your life."*

**Gerald T. Atwood, 38, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 21.** An eight-year FDNY veteran, Atwood had previously run a renovation business with his brother. The Brooklyn native attended Kingsborough Community College for two years. He enjoyed helping neighbors with home improvement projects and fishing. Atwood's third child, Robert, was born this year.

**Gerard Baptiste, 35, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 9.** Baptiste joined the National Guard when he turned 18, rising to second lieutenant. At 30 he became an FDNY firefighter, and he was working to become an officer. A great animal lover, he was nicknamed "Biscuits" at the firehouse for the treats he always gave to the neighborhood dogs.

*He liked challenges and saw them as opportunities to overcome and most of the time did just that. He possessed a pronounced and contagious laugh. He liked to live life to its fullest. He demonstrated his love for this country and sense of duty every day of his life.*

**Gerard A. Barbara, 53, assistant chief, FDNY.** On duty as citywide tour commander at the FDNY headquarters, Barbara was put in charge of the rescue effort in Tower Two. He received many awards over his 31-year career with the FDNY, including the 1999 Man of the Year Award from the Columbia Association and the Pulaski Association Medal in 1980. Barbara loved opera, the Beatles, the New York Yankees, and traveling with his wife and children.

*He loved to be with his family. His children were his pride. He should always be remembered for his knowledge of his job, his quick smile, and engaging personality. But most of all as the best dad ever.*

**Matthew E. Barnes, 37, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 25.** Barnes, who grew up in Maspeth, Queens, joined the FDNY in 1990. He had three sons, whom he enjoyed taking fishing when he wasn't on the job. Barnes was known for his love of children. In 2000, he was honored at City Hall for the rescue of 6-week-old twins from a fire and awarded the Honor Legion medal.

*He was a natural. He loved his job*

**Arthur T. Barry, 35, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 15.** A seven-year veteran, Barry enjoyed fabricating parts for heavy machines in his shop. In 2000, he rode his Harley-Davidson 10,000 miles from New York to Fairbanks, Alaska, and back. The son of a retired fireboat pilot, Barry was on vacation when he responded to the World Trade Center.

*Arthur had an irrepresible zest for life and was never content to idle away his time.*

**Steven J. Bates, 42, lieutenant, FDNY, Engine 235.** An 18-year FDNY veteran, he had been studying for the captain's exam. Bates was an avid golfer and athlete who often competed in triathlons and marathons. He also liked to cook at the firehouse—sauerbraten was his specialty. He loved his dogs and they shared his life with Joan.

**Carl J. Bedigian, 35, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 214.** An avid traveler and cook, Bedigian joined the FDNY in 1993. He spent two years with Engine 228 before joining Engine 214. Bedigian was driven by an extraordinary devotion to help

others. After recovering from a rare illness, he worked to help others facing medical crises. In 1995, he donated bone marrow to save the life of a young boy he had never met. The child recently celebrated his 10th birthday.

*Always ambitious, adventurous, and reaching for more. Never seen without a smile.*

**Stephen E. Belson**, 51, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 24. A graduate of Lehman College, he became a "career" lifeguard in Rockaway where he lived for 30 years. Belson joined the FDNY in 1973 and immediately felt he'd found his niche. A close friend of Father Mychal Judge, Belson was named an Honorary Irishman by the Consulate General of Ireland.

*His love and dedication to his firehouse gave him the label "Mr. Ladder 24." He was devoted to the firehouse where he spent over two decades.*

**John P. Bergin**, 39, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 5. Bergin worked as a court officer in Manhattan Criminal Court before joining the FDNY in 1985. He was a member of the Fire Department Vikings Association, the Emerald Society, and the Holy Name Society. When his wife Madeline returned to work as a teacher, he used his flexible schedule to take care of their three children. He and a partner had almost completed renovations on a local bar they had purchased.

*Loving husband, father, son and brother.*

**Paul M. Beyer**, 37, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 6. Beyer worked as a machinist for 12 years before joining the FDNY in 1993. Always good with his hands, Beyer was revamping a classic 1973 Jeep and building a new home on Staten Island for his family—wife Arlene and sons Michael and Shawn. He enjoyed off-roading and camping with his sons.

**Peter A. Bielfeld**, 44, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 42. A 19-year veteran, Bielfeld received two citations for valor. On September 11th, Bielfeld was at a follow-up visit for injuries he had sustained at a fire earlier. He asked to be placed back on duty so that he could respond. He attended Wesley College in Delaware on a football scholarship. The college retired his number and established a scholarship

in his name. Bielfeld also played on the FDNY football team and was a member of the FDNY Steuben Society for 19 years.

*Anyone who knew Peter knew that he loved to play poker and smoke JR cigars.*

*He loved to work with numbers.*

*His dream was to be an actor and a CPA.*

**Brian E. Bilcher**, 38, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 1. Known affectionately as Tugboat because of his girth, Bilcher was a 10-year FDNY veteran. He enjoyed riding his motorcycle, pulling practical jokes, and playing guard on the FDNY football team. He is survived by his wife and their young son.

**Carl V. Bini**, 44, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 5. An 18-year veteran, Bini was off duty on September 11 but he rushed to join his fellow firefighters. He took part in two plane-crash rescue-and-recovery operations as a diver, including the 1996 crash of TWA Flight 800 off Long Island. He and his childhood friend and fellow firefighter, Joseph Mascali, owned a construction business. Bini, who attended the College of Staten Island, was a member of the FDNY Columbia Association. He was very involved with his wife and two children and their extended family.

*Everything he did, he did from his heart, and with determination.*

**Christopher J. Blackwell**, 42, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 3. The 20-year veteran, who served in the Air Force, specialized in collapsed buildings, lecturing on the subject around the country. A father of three, he was also a volunteer firefighter for 25 years. Public service ran in the family. His uncle was a captain in the FDNY, and his father and a grandfather were both policemen.

*He lived and died with purpose.*

**Michael L. Bocchino**, 45, firefighter, FDNY, Battalion 48. His two decades of FDNY experience made him invaluable to the department. As a chief's aide, Bocchino helped deploy units at a fire scene. He valued the fact that his job allowed him to assist others, and he kept a scrapbook that described the fires he fought and the people he helped rescue. Bocchino was devoted to his parents, with whom he lived, and to his work.

**Frank J. Bonomo**, 42, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 230. A 17-year veteran of the FDNY, he spent his entire career at Engine 230. His friends there remember his great sense of humor. Bonomo was devoted to his wife and two young sons, and to his other love, golf. Family members joked about the time and care he invested in a putting green next to his home in Port Jefferson, N.Y.

*His family called him the "M & M."  
He was hard on the outside, but inside  
there was the biggest heart.*

**Gary R. Box**, 37, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 1. Box, who joined the FDNY in 1996, had been with Squad 1 for a year. He finished high school a year early and worked as a tiler and car mechanic before joining the FDNY. He was devoted to his wife and two children.

*If there was ever a dull moment, it meant that  
Gary had fallen asleep. He never stopped moving  
and doing and talking. He was continually  
expanding his mind and greeted all with a grand  
smile and those he knew with arms open wide.  
"Quite a wingspan!" he would say.*

**Michael Boyle**, 37, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 33. Boyle participated independently on many fire-safety projects, attending City Council meetings and political events, and worked part-time for the Uniformed Firefighters Association for which his father served two terms as president. He and his best friend, David Arce, were off the morning of September 11th but both responded and died at the World Trade Center.

*Michael had a unique way of touching  
the lives of everyone. He always tried to make  
a difference and he never failed to be there  
for anyone who needed him.*

**Kevin H. Bracken**, 37, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 40. Friends say the eight-year veteran was an optimistic person who had a ready smile. He loved sports, especially golf. His father had been a volunteer firefighter.

**Michael Emmett Brennan**, 27, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 4. Brennan, who joined the FDNY when he was 21, earned two citations during his career. A skilled tiler and plumber, he loved snowboarding,

skiing, and water sports. In July 2002, the street where he grew up was renamed Michael Brennan Way.

*He had a heart of gold and was always  
willing to help others.*

**Peter Brennan**, 30, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 4. A former New York City police officer, Brennan joined the FDNY in 1995 as a charter member of Squad 288, and served as a technical rescue instructor at the Fire Academy. Brennan was also a volunteer firefighter for 14 years. The Hauppauge Fire Department awarded Brennan its 2000 Medal of Valor and in 2001 named him Fireman of the Year for the heroic rescue of three fellow firefighters. He was pursuing a degree in fire service technology and awaiting the birth of his second child.

*He would engage any and all  
in conversation and then in friendship.  
He left an indelible mark on so many.*

**Daniel J. Brethel**, 43, captain, FDNY, Ladder 24. Brethel went off duty at 9 a.m. the morning of September 11th, but responded anyway. His greatest joy was taking his family on his boat for a day of swimming and exploring.

*Danny was born a fireman. This was all he ever  
wanted to be and he always said he was living his  
dream. Danny was even more dedicated to his family.  
There was nothing he wouldn't do for his girls,  
Kristin and Meghan.*

**Patrick J. Brown**, 48, captain, FDNY, Ladder 3. Mayor Giuliani called the 23-year veteran "a legend in the life of the Fire Department," during a mass honoring Brown at New York's St. Patrick's Cathedral. He was one of the best-known members of the department and served as a role model for many young firefighters. Brown returned from two tours of duty in Vietnam as a decorated Marine sergeant. He ran in six marathons and was a second-degree black belt.

*Men wanted to work for him  
because he lived his life so well.*

**Andrew Christopher Brunn**, 28, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 5. Brunn served 10 years in the New York Air National Guard and was a New York City police officer for seven years, reaching the rank of staff sergeant. He joined the FDNY in May 2001

as a probationary firefighter and received his diploma from the Fire Academy posthumously. His sense of humor was unflagging and he was a dedicated family man and friend.

*He was especially talented at computer science, a favorite hobby. He excelled at anything he tried. He loved surfing, snowboarding, skateboarding, fishing, and riding on rollercoasters, the bigger the better!*

**Vincent E. Brunton**, 43, captain, FDNY, Ladder 105 in Brooklyn. Brunton, known as Vinnie, received a medal for saving a handicapped woman from a fire in 1992. Because of his dedication to fire service training, Brunton's name will be inscribed on a pillar of a new Fire Academy. Brunton's brother Michael is also an FDNY firefighter.

**Ronald P. Bucca**, 46, fire marshal, FDNY, Rescue 1. A 23-year FDNY veteran, he was a fire marshal for the last nine years. Bucca was also in the military for 29 years, on active duty for two years with the 101st Airborne Division, and as a reservist with the 11th Special Forces Group and the Defense Intelligence Agency. Bucca, whose interests ranged widely from scuba diving to Spanish archaeology, was nicknamed the Flying Fireman after falling from a burning five-story building in Harlem and breaking his back in 1986. One year later he was back working.

*Wherever we go and whatever we do, his part of us, a legacy that we continue with pride and honor.*

**Gregory J. Buck**, 37, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 201. A Staten Island resident, he was an accomplished pianist and woodworker. He attended cooking school, often preparing special meals for his fellow firefighters, completed nursing school at the top of his class, and aced his FDNY exam. He and his father had a custom furniture business and had restored several homes. He and wife, Catherine Morrison-Buck, had planned to start a business together.

*He was the most talented guy I've ever seen.*

**William F. Burke Jr.**, 46, captain, FDNY, Engine 21. Burke, who was known as Billy, was with the FDNY for more than two decades, following in

the footsteps of his father, an FDNY officer. A natural leader and mentor, Burke was an instructor at the Fire Academy. He also spent many summers working as a lifeguard at Robert Moses State Park on Long Island. Burke loved Elvis Presley and Frank Sinatra. Civil War history fascinated him and he had visited Gettysburg several times.

*He always made everything better.*

**Donald J. Burns**, 61, assistant chief, FDNY, citywide tour commander. Burns had set up a command center in the World Trade Center's South Tower just minutes before it collapsed. Decorated five times during his 39-year career, Burns had been the commander of Tower 1 at the 1993 World Trade Center bombing. He was considered a "walking encyclopedia" because of his vast knowledge of New York City's streets and subway system. Service was in his genes: Burns' father retired as a battalion chief. A father of 3, he also volunteered with his hometown fire department.

*Every night he would go outside to watch the sun set over the Long Island Sound because every sunset and every day is unique. But mostly he loved taking long walks with his wife, Betty.*

**John Patrick Burnside**, 36, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 20. Burnside, a seven-year veteran, had previously worked as a police officer for three years. He was studying for the lieutenant's exam. Known to his friends as "Johnny the Gent," Burnside wrote songs and poetry.

*He loved music and creating it with his most prized possession, his guitar. He had a fanatic love for football and the Minnesota Vikings, and for history, geography, computers, and reading. He possessed a determination to always do the right thing and to treat others with respect.*

**Thomas M. Butler**, 37, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 1. A 12-year veteran with the FDNY, Butler had previously worked as a New York City police officer. He worked part-time as the bay constable in Smithtown, N.Y. He lived nearby with his wife, Martha, and three children. A military history buff, Butler also enjoyed outdoor sports with his wife, such as hiking, running, biking, skiing, and diving.



## Remembrances

**Patrick D. Byrne, 39, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 101.** He studied accounting and started his own roofing company before joining the fire department. Byrne, who graduated from the Fire Academy in 1994, was considered an excellent firefighter who knew his job.

*When asked what he did, he would reply –  
“Fighting fires, saving lives.”*

**George C. Cain, 35, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 7.** The son of 32-year FDNY veteran, the younger Cain loved skiing. He spent several years in Colorado before joining the department. A marathoner, he could always beat his friends at the firehouse in running up the stairs. He enjoyed playing golf and studying the Civil War.

*He was just an all around loving person.  
I'm proud to call him my son.*

**Salvatore B. Calabro, 38, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 101.** For Calabro, joining the FDNY was the realization of a lifelong dream. He had earlier worked in the gem industry and was a professional diamond setter. A sports enthusiast and history buff, Calabro was an avid weight lifter. His life revolved around his family. The YWCA South Shore Little League, where Calabro coached, has been renamed to honor him.

*He loved his country and the fire department.  
A father like no other, his boys were his life.*

**Frank J. Callahan, 50, captain, FDNY, Ladder 35.** When he joined the FDNY in September 1973, Callahan fulfilled his childhood dream of becoming a firefighter. After 24 years in the FDNY, he rose to captain and joined Ladder 35 a few months later. A quiet man, Callahan shied away from celebrations, preferring to relax at home, read about history, and, most importantly, spend time helping to raise his four children.

*That job was all he ever wanted.*

**Michael F. Cammarata, 22, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 11.** Having achieved a perfect score on the New York Fireman's Test, he eagerly awaited graduation from the Fire Academy so he could permanently join Ladder 11. Cammarata, who lived with his parents in Staten Island, had been an extraordinary student athlete. He played in the

Little League World Series and excelled at hockey. He is the first firefighter to be enshrined into the Little League Museum Hall of Excellence.

*Michael had many accomplishments and took on a lot of responsibility because he chose to put all of his effort into reaching them.*

**Brian Cannizzaro, 30, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 101.** Cannizzaro joined the department in 1999. He took the badge number of his father Sam, a retired FDNY firefighter. Brian's brother Craig, a probationary firefighter, now has that same badge number. Cannizzaro graduated from St. John's, where he was active in student government and served as president of his fraternity. In October 2000, he and his wife Jackie welcomed their son Christopher, whose birth was featured on The Learning Channel.

*Brian was the most amazing man I've ever known.*

**Dennis M. Carey, Sr., 51, firefighter, FDNY, Hazardous Materials 1.** A firefighter for nearly two decades, Carey loved to cook and was known by his friends, family, and fellow firefighters at the firehouse as a great chef. A loving husband and father of two, he had a great sense of humor.

*He loved traveling and the company of family and friends. Dennis will be remembered for his handsome face, his striking stature, which was matched only by the size of his heart*

**Michael Scott Carlo, 34, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 230.** A seven-year veteran, Carlo loved sailing and beach sports. He and his brother Robert, also an FDNY firefighter, played on a traveling indoor volleyball team that won a bronze medal at an Indianapolis competition in 2001. A commemorative plaque dedicated to Carlo has been placed on a bench on the boardwalk of his hometown of Long Beach.

*He loved being with the Fire Department. Michael and his brother Rob did everything together—sailing, playing, working, and living together.*

**Michael T. Carroll, 39, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 3.** A 16-year FDNY veteran, Carroll was the ladder company's chauffeur and was an inspiration to younger firefighters. He also had a few quirks, like taking the handles off all the coffee cups at the firehouse. Carroll enjoyed coaching his son in baseball and was devoted to his wife and their daughter.

**Peter J. Carroll**, 42, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 1. Having served 19 years with the FDNY, he was looking forward to retirement and moving to California with his wife. Last year, when she became ill, Carroll began cooking and taking care of her.

*There is only one word that explains Pete—irreplaceable. Pete was the greatest husband, soul mate, stepfather, and a friend to all. His humor and caring ways are never forgotten.*

**Thomas A. Casoria**, 29, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 22. Casoria, who had been with the FDNY for three years, was looking forward to his wedding on October 13, 2001. An all-star athlete at Holy Cross High School in Flushing, N.Y., he was a second baseman with the FDNY softball team. Casoria's brother Carl is also an FDNY firefighter. The two brothers were members of the same class at the Fire Academy.

*Firefighting was something he always wanted to do.*

**Michael J. Cawley**, 32, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 136. He was having breakfast at Rescue 4 when the call came in to go to the World Trade Center. A graduate of State University College in Oswego, Cawley always wanted to be a firefighter. After years of working second jobs, he had finally bought his dream house.

**Vernon Paul Cherry**, 49, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 118. During his 29 years on the job, Cherry made a name for himself. He was an outstanding vocalist who sang at official firefighter functions and joined his band to entertain at social events. Almost 50, he was planning to retire at the end of 2001. A father of three, he was also a longtime court reporter and well known in the halls of justice. As a black firefighter, he helped bridge racial barriers.

*He was just a terrific guy.*

**Nicholas P. Chiofalo**, 39, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 235. Chiofalo also served as the fire chief in Selden, N.Y. For a third job, he worked as a pyrotechnics engineer with Fireworks by Grucci, a company that sets off the Fourth of July fireworks display in New York City. The job resulted from a letter of condolence he sent to the company after an explosion killed several employees. Chiofalo married his wife in 1981 and they have a son, Nicholas Jr.

**John Chipura**, 39, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 219. Before joining the FDNY in 1998, Chipura was a member of the New York Police Department for 12 years. Nicknamed Chip by fellow firefighters, he also served in the U.S. Marine Corps and was stationed in Beirut when terrorists bombed the Marine barracks there in October 1983. Chipura, who was not injured in the attack, was honorably discharged.

**Michael J. Clarke**, 27, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 2. A three-year veteran with the FDNY, Clarke was on a 24-hour shift the morning of September 11. Clarke, who graduated from Susan Wagner College in 1996, played hockey for Ladder 2 and was a New York Rangers fan. He also enjoyed hunting and fishing.

**Steven Coakley**, 36, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 217. During his time at this busy firehouse in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Coakley saw a lot of action and delivered five babies—two to the same mother. Coakley, who began his fire-service career with the Wyandanch Volunteer Fire Company, often pulled double shifts so he could spend time at his home in Florida. He had just finished his shift when the alarm rang on September 11.

*His love was his waterfront home in Madeira Beach, and participating in every sport and all available contests. He always won. He was always happy.*

**Tarel Coleman**, 32, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 252. Coleman, who joined the FDNY in 1993, was nicknamed Prozac because of his intense style of play as a defensive back with the FDNY football team. A father of two, he also played softball for three teams and loved the Knicks and the Giants. His brother John is also a New York City firefighter.

**John Michael Collins**, 42, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 25, Manhattan. When he was a child, his father would take him to the local firehouse and a friend would put him up on a ladder truck and the impression stuck. Because there were no openings in the FDNY, Collins became a New York City police officer for four years. In 1990, he finally joined the FDNY. The oldest of five children, Collins was devoted to his family, and loved the Who and the Giants. His brothers and sisters used to say, "When Johnny arrives, the party begins."

**John Michael Collins** (continued)

*When asked by his family about the dangers of his job or the fires he battled, John always tried to change the subject. His family joked that he was the only fireman who never went to a fire!*

**Robert J. Cordice**, 28, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 1. Cordice had been stationed at Engine 152 on Staten Island, but wanting more action, had transferred to Squad 1 just weeks before the World Trade Center attack. A handsome man, he had made the cut to appear in the 2002 Fire Department Hunks calendar. Cordice served as a New York City police officer for three years before joining the FDNY.

*He was proud to be a New York City firefighter.*

**Ruben D. Correa**, 44, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 74. The 13-year FDNY veteran loved riding his mountain bike and fishing. Correa was married to his wife 21 years and had three daughters.

**James J. Corrigan**, 60, FDNY, WTC. A retired fire captain, Corrigan was director of fire and life service for the management of the World Trade Center. He was not in his office in the North Tower when the first plane hit it but was last seen assisting with rescue operations in the lobby of Tower One. Corrigan spent 23 years with the FDNY after serving as a police officer for six years.

**James Raymond Coyle**, 26, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 3. Coyle was on vacation on September 11th, but he joined his fellow firefighters to help anyway. He lived 25 hours in every day, enjoying hockey, baseball, and football in his time away from the job. He was also a Star Wars lover.

*James loved being a fireman. If you were James's friend, you were in his family for life.*

**Robert J. Crawford**, 62, firefighter, FDNY, Safety Battalion 1, Randalls Island. A 32-year FDNY veteran, Crawford often talked about retiring but could never bring himself to do it. Off duty Crawford enjoyed tinkering in his workshop and fund-raising for the cancer hospital St. Rose's Home. Crawford and his wife have five grown children, two of whom are police officers.

**John A. Crisci**, 48, lieutenant, FDNY, Hazardous Materials 1. A 23-year veteran, Crisci was also a fire marshal and a teacher at the Fire Academy. He received the Chief John J. McElligott Medal in 1989 for the rescue of a little girl in a tenement building fire in Harlem.

*Not only was he a great firefighter but also a great dad to his three sons. His wife and family will never forget John's heroism.*

**Dennis A. Cross**, 60, battalion chief, FDNY, Battalion 57. He joined the FDNY in 1963 after a two-year tour of duty in Vietnam, where he served in an Army communications unit. Cross served on a Commissioner's committee to draft new firefighting regulations and trained upcoming chiefs in a mentoring program. Known as Captain Fearless, he followed in the footsteps of his father who was a New York firefighter, as is Cross's son. Cross was devoted to his wife, three daughters, and three grandchildren.

*He had a saying that he loved.*

*"Take care of men, and men will take care of you."*

**Thomas Patrick Cullen III**, 31, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 41. A Staten Island resident, he enjoyed scuba diving and playing football. Married to his wife for five years, Cullen also loved to play with model trains with his young son. He had already decided to go to law school if he didn't get into the FDNY.

**Robert Curatolo**, 31, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 16. A six-year FDNY veteran, he had just gone off duty when the World Trade Center call came in, and he responded anyway. A fellow firefighter captured the courage of Curatolo and Lieutenant Ray Murphy on film after the first tower collapsed as they walked, covered with dust, toward the other tower. Two of Curatolo's brothers are firefighters, and another brother is a New York City police officer. Curatolo had been married only a few weeks before September 11th.

**Edward D'Atri**, 38, lieutenant, FDNY, Squad 1. A firefighter since 1984, he said that the FDNY was "in his blood." D'Atri was a bodybuilder who won the title "Mr. Staten Island" in 1987. He cherished time with his two sons. He managed their Little League team and took them on many



father-son trips. The boys especially looked forward to nights they spent at the firehouse with their dad.

*Eddie had a lot of energy and much courage.*

*He certainly earned his hero status that day.*

*He will be missed by many.*

**Michael D. D'Auria, 25, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 40.** D'Auria was sworn into the FDNY just four months before September 11th. He attended culinary school and was a chef at several restaurants before becoming a firefighter.

*Michael was a caring, giving person. He literally would give the shirt off his back to someone in need. Michael was a hero to many people over the years, but now he's a hero to all.*

**Scott Matthew Davidson, 33, a firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 118.** A member of the FDNY since 1994, he called it "the greatest job in America." Davidson graduated from the College of Staten Island, where he was captain of the basketball team. A father of two, he also worked as a bartender and a substitute teacher in middle school. Davidson loved coaching his son in football and baseball, and watching his daughter perform in dance recitals.

*Scott's acts of heroism are not surprising. He was a brave and fearless man, and a devout patriot. He was a friend to many, and will be sorely missed.*

**Edward J. Day, 45, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 11.** Day was a third-degree black belt in karate, and taught young children about his mental and physical benefits. He had a keen sense of humor and hated grumpiness. The grouchiest of his pals at the firehouse got smiley-face stickers on their helmets.

**Thomas P. DeAngelis, 51, battalion chief, FDNY, 8th Battalion.** A 27-year veteran, DeAngelis was known as "Chuckles" around the firehouse because of his sunny disposition. He liked the flexibility of his hours, which allowed him time to work out at the gym or attend school functions with his daughter Nicole. He liked sailing, cooking, and carpentry.

*Tommy loved life. He met life's challenges bravely, confidently, and honestly. Whatever the outcome, he embraced it with a smile, believing that it's the way things were meant to be. He was an avid reader and also enjoyed writing short stories in his spare time. His dream was to one day have a book published.*

**Manuel Del Valle, Jr., 32, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 5.** He was posthumously promoted to lieutenant. Del Valle, a graduate of the University of Maryland, loved sports. He ran track and played basketball and softball in the FDNY leagues. He was a skilled moguls skier and an advanced salsa dancer as well. He persuaded his fellow firefighters at Engine 5 to participate in the Puerto Rican Day Parade.

*He was loved and respected by his friends, family, and coworkers.*

**Martin N. DeMeo, 47, firefighter, FDNY, Hazardous Materials 1.** He served for many years as a volunteer in Port Washington, N.Y., and as a paramedic before joining the FDNY. DeMeo was a nature lover and enjoyed camping, hiking, and trips to Montauk with his wife and two teenage children.

*Marty was a kind and compassionate individual. He enjoyed helping others. He took pleasure in spending time with his family, including camping, baseball, and trips to Montauk.*

**David DeRubbio, 38, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 226.** In 1998, DeRubbio joined his three brothers when he became a member of the FDNY. DeRubbio loved the Rangers, the Yankees, and NASCAR; was an ace at fixing cars; and was always willing to help out no matter what the job entailed. He was also a collector of everything from stamps to baby toys.

*David was the funniest person alive. His presence, his smile, and his laughter could brighten the darkest of rooms. There was never a time when he wasn't laughing or sharing a story.*

**Andrew J. Desperito, 43, lieutenant, FDNY, Engine 1.** Desperito served as New York City police officer for three years before joining the FDNY, where he was a 14-year veteran. He was also a member of the Hagerman Volunteer Fire Department, where he often shared his firefighting skills during drills and classes. He coached his son's Division 1 soccer team to a first-place championship twice.

*Of everything that Andrew tried to accomplish in his short lifetime, the underlying goal was to always stay true to yourself and always follow your dreams*



**Dennis Lawrence Devlin**, 51, battalion chief, FDNY, 3rd Division. He had served in the FDNY since 1980, and was the NYC Special Events Coordinator. He was also Chairman of the 1127 Committee, which worked with officers and firefighters to repeal a "condition of employment" tax placed on uniformed city workers. A father of four, Devlin was in New York City volunteering for the primary election when he responded to the World Trade Center call.

*He loved his music and watching sunsets from the deck of his home. His smile and zest for life were contagious and will live on in the hearts he has touched.*

**Gerard P. Dewan**, 35, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 3. Dewan, a five-year FDNY veteran, was originally from Boston. He moved to New York because there weren't any fire department positions open in his hometown. He had firefighting in his blood. His father and grandfather were both firefighters. Four brothers had also served as public safety officers. Dewan planned to return to Boston one day and raise a family.

**George DiPasquale**, 33, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 2. Quiet and serious, DiPasquale was an elder in the Mariner's Harbor congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses in Staten Island. His fellow firefighters nicknamed him "Holy Man" because he often shared his faith and hope with others. DiPasquale, a seven-year veteran, was studying for the October 2001 lieutenants' exam.

*Friends and family could rely on him because he was a man of his word. He was our "Gentle Giant."*

**Kevin W. Donnelly**, 43, lieutenant, FDNY, Ladder 3. A 22-year veteran who was honored for bravery, Donnelly was modest about his accomplishments. As a teenager on Long Island he worked as a lifeguard, and he carried a love of the water through his life. He always kept a swimsuit, a towel, and goggles in his car.

*He knew his job inside and out and lived by a code of honor that seemed like a throwback to a more genteel time.*

**Kevin C. Dowdell**, 47, lieutenant, FDNY, Rescue 4. Dowdell joined the FDNY in 1981 after serving for a year as a New York City police officer. He collected a bravery medal and 20 citation bars during his career. Although he worked two jobs, he spent a lot of time with his family. Married for 21 years, Dowdell thought it important to take his teenage sons to work with him to instill within them a strong work ethic. When they took up playing bagpipes and snare, he joined them on bass.

**Raymond M. Downey, Sr.**, 63, deputy chief, FDNY, Special Operations Command. A 39-year FDNY veteran and one of the FDNY's most decorated firefighters, he was affectionately known as "God" and "Master of Disaster." He served on the presidential committee on terrorism, pioneered the FEMA Urban Search & Rescue Team network and was operations chief at the Oklahoma City rescue and several major hurricanes. He wrote and lectured widely on collapse operations. After his death, he received the Department of the Navy Distinguished Public Service Award, the Congressional Fire Services Institute Mason Langford Award, and the Medal of Courage Award when inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. His home community named a local road and the post office in his honor. President Bush called him "the bravest of the brave, a fireman's fireman."

*His family, especially his wife Rosalie, was the center of his life.*

**Gerard J. Duffy**, 53, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 21. He is survived by two brothers, Thomas and Robert.

**Martin J. Egan, Jr.**, 36, captain, FDNY, Division 15. Egan joined the FDNY when he was 21 and was promoted to captain in May 2001. He enjoyed skiing, running, and weightlifting and ran in the 2000 New York City Marathon. He also enjoyed renovating his 90-year-old colonial house on Staten Island. Being a father to his two young children was his greatest accomplishment and joy. Egan's two brothers are also firefighters.

*He was very proud to be a firefighter and often called it the greatest job in the world.*

**Michael J. Elferis**, 27, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 22. Before joining the FDNY, he was a New York City police officer. Elferis attended John Jay College. The three-year veteran of the FDNY was a sports enthusiast and Yankees fan.

**Frankie Esposito**, age 32, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 235 and assigned to Ladder 79. Esposito, who graduated from the Fire Academy on November 4, 1999, had a passion for good food, skiing, hunting, boating, playing billiards, and riding his Harley. He took his responsibilities very seriously and was annoyed by those who didn't.

*Whatever he set out to do, he mastered to the point of perfection. He was a friend who could be relied upon any day, any time. He was a quick wit with a great sense of humor and a beautiful smile.*

**Michael A. Esposito**, 41, lieutenant, FDNY, Squad 1. Esposito was posthumously promoted to captain. His fellow firefighters nicknamed him Mel, after an average guy in a Rodney Dangerfield movie, but Esposito was frequently honored for bravery by the FDNY and New York City. He assisted with the search and rescue operations after the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing and during the 1998 ice storm in upstate New York. He was honored on Staten Island's Finest and Bravest Day. He was very involved in the sports activities of his sons.

**Robert E. Evans**, 36, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 33. Evans, a seven-year veteran, was known as the "Jerry Lewis" of the firehouse because of his sense of humor and practical jokes. An avid sports enthusiast, he was named "Fighter of the Night" when he competed in the 1986 Golden Gloves boxing tournament.

*His greeting upon meeting people or upon saying goodbye-which proved to be most prophetic-was, "Is there anything I can do for you? Please let me know."*

**John J. Fanning**, 54, battalion chief, FDNY, Hazardous Materials Operations. The son of a firefighter, he joined the FDNY in 1969. He worked in all five boroughs and received numerous medals. On September 11th, Fanning quickly set up a command post in one of the towers at the World Trade Center. A nationally-recognized expert on

terrorism, Fanning was among the first to respond after the 1993 World Trade Center bombing. Two of Fanning's five children are autistic, and he had planned to set up a trust to build a home for autistic children on Long Island. His family is setting up the trust in his memory.

*In spite of his medals and credentials, he was a very humble person, a regular guy. The proudest accomplishments of his life are his love for his wife Maureen and his five children. His easy way and smiling face are what we remember.*

**Thomas J. Farino**, 37, captain, FDNY, Engine 26. Farino was posthumously promoted to battalion chief. The youngest of six boys, Farino's father was a New York City police officer. With his wife of 20 years, he had two children.

**Terrence P. Farrell**, 45, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 4. In 1993, Farrell donated bone marrow to save a young girl, Chantyl Peterson, from the blood cancer that was killing her. He rarely spoke of the transplant, but in October 2001 Chantyl flew to New York to read a prayer at Farrell's funeral. A New York donor program organized by a fellow firefighter was renamed in Farrell's honor. A father of two, Farrell also served as an assistant chief with the Dix Hills Fire Department.

**Joseph D. Farrelly**, 47, captain, FDNY, Division 1. A 22-year FDNY veteran, Farrelly was posthumously promoted to battalion chief of Engine 4. He had responded to the 1993 World Trade Center bombing and was hospitalized for smoke inhalation. Children at a Staten Island Public School knew him as "Fireman Joe" who taught fire safety. He and his wife had three children of their own, and for many years they served as foster parents to drug-addicted babies.

**William M. Feehan**, 71, first deputy fire commissioner, FDNY. A 42-year FDNY veteran, he held almost every title within the FDNY. He had served as first deputy fire commissioner since 1992 and briefly held the post of acting fire commissioner in 1993-94. Feehan graduated with a degree in education from St. John's University and worked for 10 years as a substitute in the New York City schools. Before joining the FDNY, he served in the U.S. Army and

**William M. Feehan** (continued)

received many medals for his service during the Korean War. A father of four, one of his sons is a member of the FDNY. Feehan enjoyed reading, especially books on history, and spending time with his six grandchildren.

**Lee S. Fehling**, 28, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 235. Fehling was a New York City police officer for five years before transferring to the FDNY, where he worked for over two years. He loved to play bagpipes and performed with the American Legion Pipe Band in Wantagh, N.Y., where he served in the volunteer fire department for 10 years. Fehling adored his young daughter and was proudly awaiting the arrival of her little sister who was born on October 18, 2001.

*He was a kind, loving, and giving man.  
He would help anyone at any time.*

**Alan David Feinberg**, 48, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 54. A 17-year veteran, Feinberg served as a battalion chief's aide. He used his flexible hours as a firefighter to take his children to school and to coach school sports. A great car lover, he held a second job, delivering new cars to members of the automotive press for evaluation and review.

*To know him was to love him. Our Hero.*

**Michael C. Fiore**, 46, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 5. Fiore, who earned a bachelor's degree in business at Wagner College, worked as an insurance broker before joining the FDNY in 1982. Decorated three times, he was a member of the FDNY's Columbia Association and the Holy Name Society. Fiore was an outstanding basketball player. He had played on the FDNY All Star Team since 1985, and he won four MVP awards in the FDNY Staten Island Basketball League.

*He just liked people. He was very quiet,  
very low-key, but was always there for everyone.*

**John R. Fischer**, 46, lieutenant, FDNY, Ladder 20. Fischer, an 18-year FDNY veteran, was posthumously promoted to captain after the World Trade Center attack. A dedicated family man, Fischer was very active in the lives of his three children, coaching them in sports and attending their games. Fischer was known around the firehouse as a skilled chef, and he also enjoyed running several miles a day.

**Andre G. Fletcher**, 37, firefighter, Rescue 5. Fletcher, who joined the FDNY in 1994, was posthumously promoted to fire marshal. Fletcher was scheduled to be off duty on September 11th, but worked because of a manpower shortage. A top athlete, he played football and baseball for the FDNY. Fletcher's twin brother Zackary is also a New York City firefighter. Fletcher and his wife have a teenage son.

**John J. Florio**, 33, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 214. He attended Nassau Community College for a few years before joining the FDNY. An athletic person, Florio pumped iron and he played halfback on the FDNY football team. A father of two, he also coached his son's Little League team and his football team. A huge fan of the band Metallica, Florio corresponded with the group's lead singer, James Hetfield. An emotional letter from the rocker was read at Florio's funeral.

**Michael N. Fodor**, 53, lieutenant, FDNY, Ladder 21. Before joining the FDNY in 1973, Fodor studied chemical engineering and science at the University of Maryland and transferred to the former Richmond College in Staten Island. Fodor was passionate about learning and owned a collection of antique history books. A father of three who had been married for 28 years, he was an assistant Scoutmaster with a local Boy Scout troop.

**Thomas J. Foley**, 32, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 3. Irish America Magazine honored him for helping rescue construction workers hanging from a broken scaffold 12 stories high. TV coverage of his rescue led to a developing career as a model and actor, with bit parts on "Third Watch" and "The Sopranos." He is featured in the FDNY Firefighters 2003 Calendar of Heroes. Foley enjoyed rodeo bull riding, hunting, fishing, skydiving, and his Harley-Davidson. His brother Danny is also a New York City firefighter.

*His adventurous spirit and helpful nature led him to a career in firefighting, which was his true passion.*

**David Fontana**, 37, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 1. Father of a young son, Fontana was to celebrate his 8th wedding anniversary with his wife Marian on September 11. He had chosen this date because he liked to tell people he was married on 911.

Since his death, Marian has taken a leadership role in an advocacy group, the Sept. 11 Widows' and Victims' Families Association.

*Dave was an amazing person who loved so many different things—rugby and Ireland, the ocean and history. He loved tying knots and fighting fires, kayaks and hiking. He loved pine trees and bows, reading and yoga. He loved playing practical jokes, climbing mountains and helping people.*

**Robert J. Foti**, 42, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 7. A 12-year veteran with the FDNY, Foti previously worked for the United Parcel Service. He attended LaSalle Academy High School and Pace University. He loved to hunt, fish, and scuba dive.

*He loved life and will be sorely missed.*

**Andrew A. Fredericks**, 40, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 18. A 21-year FDNY veteran, Fredericks was co-author of the FDNY's Engine Company Operations Manual. He was a New York State-certified fire instructor, an instructor for the New York State Association of Fire Chiefs, an adjunct lecturer at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and taught at fire service training meetings across the country. The father of two had bachelor's degrees in political science, and public safety and fire science, and a master's degree in fire protection management.

**Peter L. Freund**, 45, lieutenant, FDNY, Engine 55. Freund, a 23-year veteran, loved stargazing and built a 10-foot by 10-foot wooden observatory in the backyard of his home. He also coached youth football, baseball, and softball.

*Peter was a caring, gentle man who always thought of others before himself. He loved fighting fires and raising his children.*

**Thomas Gambino, Jr.**, 48, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 3. Before his assignment to Rescue 3, Gambino, worked at Ladder 163 in Queens, where he was a union delegate. A 17-year FDNY veteran, Gambino was a deeply religious person and attended Latin mass every week. He became interested in weightlifting before it became popular and founded the weightlifting club at Farmingdale High School.

*He was a devoted husband and father to his sons.*

**Peter J. Ganci Jr.**, 54, chief of department, FDNY. The department's highest-ranking uniformed officer, Ganci had served in the FDNY for 33 years. He received the B.C. Frank Tuttlemondo medal in 1982 for performing an act of bravery when he rescued a child from an apartment engulfed in smoke and flames. Ganci never put on airs, and when asked what he did, he would say simply, "I'm a fireman in the city." Ganci lived on Long Island and loved to golf and go clamming in Great South Bay.

*Although Pete will always be recognized for his distinguished accomplishments in the FDNY, his greatest legacy will live on through his family. Pete Ganci will be remembered for his quick wit, his zest for life, and his unforgettable smile.*

**Charles W. Garbarini**, 44, lieutenant, FDNY, Battalion 9 in Manhattan. Garbarini and his wife of five years have two children. He was nicknamed "The Comedian" because of his great sense of humor. He developed it growing up in a family with nine children.

**Thomas A. Gardner**, 39, firefighter, FDNY, Hazardous Materials 1. A 17-year FDNY veteran, he spent 12 years with Engine 59. A father of two children, Gardner was also a master instructor for the International Association of Fire Fighters and taught courses at several colleges. He shared his deep love of science and the environment on family camping trips, and as a volunteer at the Bronx Zoo and Queens Hall of Science.

*His wit and bright smile will be remembered by all who knew him.*

**Matthew D. Garvey**, 37, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 1. Garvey, who joined the FDNY in 1995, had been a member of the military for 10 years, and served in Beirut and in Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield, receiving numerous medals. He had recently been accepted to law school and was an active Marine reservist. He loved to read, take photographs, play guitar, and was a fire department rescue instructor.

*Matthew's life was dedicated to the service of the people of America.*

**Bruce H. Gary**, 51, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 40. He received a commendation for helping in the rescue at the World Trade Center bombing in 1993. Gary, who also worked part-time as a plumber, raised his three children after his divorce in 1991. He also found time to serve as vice-president of the Bellmore, N.Y., Little League for 12 years.

**Gary P. Geidel**, 44, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 1. Geidel, a Staten Island resident, is survived by his wife of 15 years and their daughter. The Staten Island firefighter died two weeks before his scheduled retirement.

**Edward F. Geraghty**, 45, battalion chief, FDNY, Battalion 9. Following in the family tradition, Geraghty joined the FDNY shortly after graduation from St. John's University. On the job, he had been head of the training academy and, on September 11th, oversaw several firehouses that responded to the disaster. A father of three, he was a dedicated family man, an avid runner, a eucharistic minister, and a key organizer for hometown charities. As he rose through the ranks, friends recall that the 23-veteran was always a fireman at heart.

**Denis P. Germain**, 33, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 2. In his seven-year career, Germain received three citations for bravery. He also volunteered with Tuxedo Fire District Co. 2. Known for an infectious laugh and magical smile, he was one of the FDNY's best skiers. A ski instructor, Germain helped train high school racing teams and encouraged young children to ski. Germain's brother, Brian, is also an FDNY firefighter.

*He was the role model you want your child to grow up to be.*

**Vincent F. Giammona**, 40, lieutenant, FDNY, Ladder 5. Giammona, who marked his 40th birthday on September 11, 2001, followed in the footsteps of his father, Vincent, who is a retired FDNY captain. Giammona, father of four, was known as Captain Fun at the firehouse because of his irrepressible humor and pranks.

**James A. Giberson**, 43, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 35. Giberson celebrated his 20th anniversary with the FDNY on September 5, 2001. The father of three girls, Giberson enjoyed cooking, gardening, golfing,

and fishing, but would pass up any of those activities to cheer on his daughters at their swim meets.

**Ronnie E. Gies**, 43, lieutenant, FDNY, Squad 288. The 13-year veteran took the lieutenant's test but never knew he passed. After September 11, his wife learned of his promotion. A carpenter, Gies built a new home in six months after the family's Merrick, Long Island, house burned down a few years ago. Gies served 25 years in his hometown volunteer fire department, twice holding the rank of chief.

*Nothing was more important to Ronnie than his family. That's what he lived for—sports, vacations, just hanging out with his three teenage sons.*

**Paul J. Gill**, 34, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 54. A carpenter and a gifted artist, Gill joined the FDNY in 1999. Firefighting was a career that seemed to choose him. In between completing his exam and being called to serve in the FDNY, Paul rescued a woman and her baby from an apartment fire. Once he began with FDNY, he continued to work as a carpenter to pay for the medical care that his two sons required. His artwork is part of his legacy with the FDNY. He designed the beautiful Maltese cross for the front of the Engine 54 firehouse.

**John F. Ginley**, 37, lieutenant, FDNY, Engine 40. After 13 years as a firefighter with Ladder 37 in the Bronx, and three as a lieutenant in Manhattan, Ginley was on the list for promotion to captain. His steady rise in the FDNY was a tribute to his own integrity and a credit to his family's calling. His father served 20 years with Engine 8 in Manhattan. Three of John's brothers are also with the FDNY.

**Jeffrey J. Giordano**, 45, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 3. A highly-decorated 14-year veteran, Giordano was honored for bravery in the spring of 2001 for rescuing a woman from a burning building. He was also a tireless fundraiser for the New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation. This year, New York Hospital's burn center named a new children's playroom for Giordano. A father of 3, he made time to run 14 marathons.

*Jeff's greatest asset was his mental strength. It allowed him to have physical, moral, and ethical strength. He carried this with him in everything he did.*

**John J. Giordano**, 47, firefighter, FDNY, Hazardous Materials 1. Prior to this assignment, Giordano worked at Engine 37. He is survived by his wife and their three children.

**Keith A. Glascoe**, 38, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 21. An outstanding football player, Glascoe was invited to the New York Jets training camp following his graduation from Delaware State. His second year at Jets' camp was cut short by injury, although he next played professionally for a year in Italy. Glascoe was also an actor with extensive TV credits and a role in the movie *The Professional*. Once he became a husband and father, he was drawn to jobs that required compassion, and found his way to Ladder 21, where he worked for 3? years.

**James M. Gray**, 34, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 20. Gray left a job as a bus driver to become a firefighter in 1996, following his father to the FDNY where he retired as a lieutenant. Passionate and committed to his job, he was studying for his lieutenant's test while working with his brothers at "SOHO Trucking" as they referred to their Lafayette Street firehouse. A member of the Emerald Society and the Knights of Columbus, Gray was a devoted husband to his wife and a doting father to his two girls.

**Joseph Grzelak**, 52, battalion chief, FDNY, Battalion 48. During his 28-year career with the FDNY, he received two citations for rescues. Grzelak served in Vietnam from 1968-69 as a Marine, receiving an honorable discharge in 1970 with the rank of sergeant. A trivia buff, Grzelak was affectionately called "Joe Knows" because of his extraordinary ability to recall bits of arcane knowledge.

*He was a voracious reader, absorbing every bit of information he read, whether it be from a newspaper, research article, or a Tom Clancy book. Joe was a sports freak and loved the New York Yankees and the Giants.*

**Jose A. Guadalupe**, 37, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 54. Guadalupe was known as a mentor in his Jamaica, Queens, neighborhood, encouraging the young men he knew to study hard and improve themselves. Active as a skier, basketball

player, and sketch artist, he himself proved to be their best role model. An avid reader in all fields from history to physics, he had recently begun to teach himself the guitar.

**Geoffery E. Guja**, 47, lieutenant, FDNY, Battalion. He was also a registered nurse at Mercy Hospital in Rockville Center. Guja spent every summer on his houseboat and surfing on Long Island's Gilgo Beach with his wife and two daughters. Renowned for his love of a good time, he lifted the spirits of everyone with whom he associated. Recovering from an injury, he was on light duty when the alarm for the World Trade Center sounded. He got on the subway and geared up with another company to respond to the emergency.

**Joseph P. Gullickson**, 37, lieutenant, FDNY, Ladder 101. A 13-year veteran, Gullickson was known to look out for his men. He enjoyed playing basketball in the FDNY league, reading about World War II, and doting on his wife and his two young daughters.

*Joe had a style and grace that brightened your day, a laugh and a smile that could win your heart. He is terribly missed.*

**David Halderman**, 40, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 18. Fire service was in his blood: Halderman's father retired after 30 years' service and his brother is a battalion chief. Halderman, who was with the department for nine years, was on the promotion list when he died and was posthumously made a lieutenant.

*He is truly an American hero. He would be slightly embarrassed at any attention given to his heroism, though, as he mostly preferred to be out of the limelight.*

**Vincent G. Halloran**, 43, lieutenant, FDNY, Ladder 8. A veteran of 20 years, he served as a firefighter with Engine 262 in Queens and with Engine 43 in the Bronx. A father of five children, Halloran and his wife were expecting their sixth child. The same calm manner he brought to the firehouse served him well at home. He included his children's friends on family trips, and every summer he and his wife had kids from Ireland come to stay with the family.



**Robert W. Hamilton**, 43, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 41. The son of an FDNY firefighter, Hamilton spent his entire career with Squad 41. Although he grew up in Ridgewood, Queens, Hamilton chose to work in the Bronx. It was there that he thought he could be of the most service. Committed to the community, Hamilton organized many events, including the firehouse's annual Christmas party.

*He worked hard to help others. Everybody knew him. He was bigger than life.*

**Sean S. Hanley**, 35, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 20. Hanley came from a family of firefighters. Both his grandfathers, his father, and his brother were firefighters. Described as a sensitive, just man, he overcame the loss of three friends in the line of duty to persevere in his family's calling. Sean had just finished the night shift when he heard the World Trade Center was burning and rushed to the scene.

**Thomas P. Hannafin**, 36, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 5. A 10-year veteran, Hannafin was a great athlete, who brought home a gold medal in the three-on-three basketball competition at the 2001 World Police & Fire Games in Indianapolis. A standout basketball player on Staten Island, where he grew up and led his college team to a city championship, he was known as the Floor General. Hannafin's brother Kevin is also an FDNY firefighter.

**Dana Rey Hannon**, 29, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 26. Hannon had two great passions: firefighting and hunting. After high school, he became a volunteer firefighter in his hometown of Wycoff, N.J., rising to the rank of captain. In 1998, he joined the fire department in Bridgeport, Connecticut, where he earned a Medal of Valor. Two years later, he began his FDNY career at Ladder 34, a place he came to consider home. Hannon and his fiancée, to whom he proposed atop the Sydney Harbor Bridge in Australia, were to be married in Fall 2002.

*Dana was handsome, funny, caring, protective, compassionate, and handy. He could fix anything.*

**Daniel E. Harlin**, 41, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 2. He joined the NYPD in 1986 and served as a police officer for three years before transferring to the FDNY. During his 12 years with the department, he enjoyed branding people with his own personal nicknames.

*Danny loved his job, the firehouse, and the camaraderie he shared with his colleagues. And he couldn't have been a better father. Because of this the children loved and adored him.*

**Harvey L. Harrell**, 49, lieutenant, FDNY, Rescue 5. Harrell joined the FDNY in 1979, rose to lieutenant in 1994, and was studying to be a captain. His can-do attitude on the job spilled over into his private life. He was always trying to make things better—in the firehouse, at home, or in the garden. Harrell lived in Staten Island with his wife and two daughters. He was an avid skier and scuba diver. His brother, Stephen, also died in the tragedy.

*He was the best husband anyone could ever have. He was a devoted father, son, sibling, and friend.*

**Stephen G. Harrell**, 44, lieutenant, FDNY, Ladder 10. Harrell's 15-year career included stints in Brooklyn with Ladder 122, Engine 255, and Ladder 157. An accomplished musician and composer, he played saxophone, clarinet, horns and the piano. Before the birth of his daughter, he played in rock and roll bands. He was also a member of the New York City Skyliners Drum and Bugle Corps. His brother, Harvey, also died at the World Trade Center.

**Thomas Haskell Jr.**, 37, battalion chief, FDNY, Ladder 132. Haskell, a St. John's University graduate, was a 16-year FDNY veteran. A great football fan, he played on an FDNY team. Haskell and his two brothers were second-generation FDNY firefighters: Their late father also served in the FDNY. Haskell's brother Timothy also died in the World Trade Center collapse.

*Tommy spent much of his free time with his family, planning vacations and throwing family get-togethers.*

**Timothy Haskell**, 34, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 18. Haskell, a former Nassau County corrections officer, had served with the FDNY since 1993. Haskell's brother Thomas also died in the September 11th attack. Their late father also served in the FDNY, and another brother is a New York City firefighter as well. A scuba diver and extreme-sports enthusiast, Haskell toured schools with his Dalmatian Blaze to teach fire safety.

*Timmy loved everything about life—he loved to laugh and make sure everyone else did as well. He rose to every occasion.*



**Terence S. Hatton, 41, captain, FDNY, Rescue 1.** A 20-year veteran, he was decorated many times. As a FEMA task force leader, Hatton was deployed after the Oklahoma City bombing and the TWA Flight 800 plane crash off Long Island. At his funeral service, Mayor Rudolph Guiliani described Hatton, whose wife, Elizabeth, was a mayoral aide, as City Hall's "resident hero. He reminded me of Joe DiMaggio: quiet, self-determined, confident."

*He was one of the most decorated people in the Fire Department, and he was captain of the most prestigious company in New York, Rescue 1. He had a booming voice and hearty laugh. He truly cared about people, especially family and friends. He left me with a very special and precious gift, our baby girl.*

**Michael H. Haub, 34, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 4.** A dedicated father and firefighter, Haub's life revolved around his family and the firehouse. Haub joined the FDNY in 1999, but he wasn't a newcomer to firefighting. A 13-year veteran and captain with the Roslyn Highlands Fire Department, Haub had participated in the 1990 Avianca plane crash rescue. Proud of his German heritage, he often spoke in German to his two children and cooked up sauerbraten and goulash in the firehouse kitchen.

**Philip T. Hayes, 67, FDNY, WTC.** A retired member of the FDNY, Hayes worked as safety director at the World Trade Center. On September 11th, he rescued children from a day care center and then ran back into the South Tower to assist.

*Loving, kind compassionate, heroic. Just a few of the words that could describe him. Always happy, always giving of himself.*

**Michael K. Healey, 42, lieutenant, FDNY, Rescue 41.** Healey, an 18-year veteran of the FDNY, grew up in Massapequa Park, where he and his wife met as teenagers. Married for 20 years, the couple have three children. When Healey wasn't fighting fires, he coached lacrosse, ran distance races, and never minded handling the household chores at the family's Long Island home.

*On September 11, he wouldn't have wanted to be anywhere else. That's what he did. "That's our job," he would have said.*

**John Heffernan, 37, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 11.** When Heffernan wasn't fighting fires, he played rhythm guitar in a punk rock band, the Bullies. His brother, Michael, is also a firefighter and his brother, Brian, is a New York City police officer.

*John played guitar in a punk rock band, and he was a devoted father to his daughter Samantha. John loved his band, his job, and his family.*

**Ronnie L. Henderson, 52, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 279.** A courageous firefighter and dedicated father of four, Henderson moved to Brooklyn as a teenager. A Marine veteran, he attended Alexander Hamilton High School and John Jay College before becoming a longshoreman and then joining the FDNY. He was active in his Newburgh, N.Y., community and a member of the Church of God by Faith.

**Joseph P. Henry, 25, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 21.** For Henry, becoming a firefighter was an easy choice. He was following in the footsteps of his two firefighter brothers; an uncle, who was a captain; and his father and grandfather, both of whom were battalion chiefs. Henry, a former EMT, had been in the FDNY for just under a year. An avid Yankees fan, he loved baseball and continued to play as an adult.

*He had a great sense of humor and was compassionate to all the people he came across. His greatest achievement was the day he was sworn in as a New York City Firefighter.*

**William L. Henry Jr., 49, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 1.** Known as Buddy to his friends, the personable two-decade FDNY veteran spent his free time traveling, playing paddle tennis, and lending a hand to others. While at Ladder 24, he volunteered in the nearby St. Francis of Assisi Church soup kitchen. His off-hours work as a contractor also came in handy on the job, where he often solved electrical problems at the scene of a rescue.

*He loved every part of the job—the rescues, fighting fires, being with the fellows. He never went to work late. It was what he did best.*

**Thomas Hetzel**, 33, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 13. Hetzel was a five-year veteran of the FDNY and 15-year member of the Franklin Square Volunteer Fire Department. He studied liberal arts at Nassau Community College. He played golf, softball, and was a superb skier, taking to the slopes of Colorado each year with his wife.

*Tom was proud of his German heritage and often prepared traditional German meals at home and at the firehouse. He proudly played his German music, danced the polka, and attended German festivals.*

**Brian C. Hickey**, 47, captain, FDNY, Rescue 4. During his 20-year FDNY career, he worked in Harlem, the Bronx, and Woodside and South Jamaica in Queens. In 1998, he was promoted to captain. Dedicated to his wife and children as well as to his fellow firefighters, Hickey kept a photo of his family inside his helmet, along with the Mass cards of the three firefighters who died in the Father's Day tragedy. Hickey was also an instructor in the Nassau County Fire Academy. As a fire commissioner in Bethpage, he worked to increase cooperation among all Long Island fire departments.

**Timothy Brian Higgins**, 43, lieutenant, FDNY, Squad 252. At 21, he began a 22-year career with the FDNY. Higgins was awarded a medal for bravery as well as many other citations. He was highly trained in many different FDNY operations, serving as an instructor and cofounder of the Rescue School and FDNY Dive Program Coordinator. Firefighting was in his blood: Higgins' father, Ed, and brother, Michael, are retired firefighters, while his brothers, Bob and Joe, are still firefighters. His brother, Matt, is a police officer.

*He was a person who had a song in his heart that he could often be found singing out loud. He never missed an opportunity to laugh hard or to just simply have a good time. Although proud of his work, Tim Higgins lived more for the moments in his life that involved his friends and family, a cold beer, good food, and, lastly, a good song.*

**Jonathan R. Hohmann**, 48, firefighter, FDNY, Hazardous Materials 1. Hohmann and his squad, who were trained for events like the tragedy that occurred, arrived at the World Trade Center just 18 minutes after the planes hit. A 13-year veteran, Hohmann was a skilled mechanic and worked at a second job for a trucking company. A deeply religious man, he was active in the youth ministry of Bethel Evangelical Free Church on Staten Island.

*I found this verse in his wallet: "The Lord is Good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him."*

**Thomas P. Holohan**, 36, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 6. As a child, Holohan was inspired by stories of the grandfather he never knew, who was an FDNY battalion chief. With the FDNY, Holohan was respected as an experienced, knowledgeable firefighter who had a consummate trust in his colleagues. He was studying hard for the promotional exam for lieutenant. Holohan lived in Chester, N.Y., with his wife and three children. In his spare time, he was an amateur beer maker who loved nature and enjoyed camping and fishing with his family at Cayuga Lake.

*What you should remember about Tom is that there are three things he held dear to his heart—love, family, and loyalty.*

**Joseph G. Hunter**, 32, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 288. He became a member of the South Hempstead Volunteer Fire Department at the age of 18, and joined the FDNY in 1995. Hunter handled the hydrant on the South Hempstead Fire Department's drill team during hose competitions. The conference room of the South Hempstead firehouse has been renamed the Joseph Hunter Meeting Room in his honor.

*Joe showed early signs of his fascination with the Fire Department. At the age of four, Joe would race his Big Wheel to the corner in hopes of catching a glimpse of the fire truck. As he grew older, he would follow the trucks as far as he was allowed to go on his bicycle.*

**Walter Gerard Hynes, 46, captain, FDNY, Ladder 13.** A 23-year veteran, Hynes graduated from John Jay College of Criminal Justice and put himself through law school at St. John's University at night. He was a devoted husband and father of three.

*He enjoyed family time, vacations, and golf. Known for his generosity with time, money, and help to all. His smiling blue Irish eyes will always be with us.*

**Jonathan L. Ielpi, 29, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 288.** For Ielpi, the son of an FDNY veteran, firefighting was priority number one. A longtime hockey player, Ielpi gave up his favorite sport after joining the FDNY, worried that an injury could interfere with his work. His North High School team recently retired his jersey. Like his father before him, Ielpi served as chief of Great Neck's Vigilant Volunteer Fire Department. A six-year FDNY veteran, Ielpi is survived by his wife and two sons.

**Frederick J. Ill, Jr., 49, captain, FDNY, Ladder 2.** Few worked harder than Ill when it came to helping others. Many New Yorkers found out about Ill in 1999, when he made a well-publicized rescue of a man who was pushed in front of a subway train. Fewer knew that Ill watched over the victim's physical rehabilitation, or that he helped find scholarships for the victim's children. Ill put in the same effort to raising his own three children—and coaching those of others in basketball and baseball. He was also a reservist in the Army Corps of Engineers.

**William R. Johnston, 31, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 6.** Johnston graduated from the Fire Academy with the first class of 2000. He was an outstanding athlete, and as soon as he became a firefighter, he joined the FDNY football, softball, and basketball teams. He was the kicker for the football club and leftfielder for the softball team. Before joining the FDNY, Johnston was an ironworker with the New York City Transit Authority.

*Billy spent his last weekend doing what he loved: playing ball with his FDNY brothers in a softball tournament in Maryland. He was not only known for his athleticism, he was very loyal to family and friends.*

**Andrew Brian Jordan Sr., 36, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 132.** Fellow firefighters remember Jordan, a six-year FDNY veteran, as someone who was always smiling, always laughing. A devoted family man, he was the father of four children, the youngest of whom was born on September 26, 2001.

**Karl H. Joseph, 25, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 207.** A probationary firefighter, Joseph was described by fellow firefighters as "having the right stuff." He is survived by his parents.

**Anthony Jovic, 39, lieutenant, FDNY, Ladder 34.** On September 11, the 12-year FDNY veteran Jovic was assigned to Engine 279 in Brooklyn. He was studying for the captain's exam, which he planned to take in October 2001. Jovic, father of two, enjoyed miniature golf, bowling, and swimming with his family in their backyard pool.

**Angel L. Juarbe Jr., 35, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 12.** A 7-year FDNY veteran, Juarbe was chosen as one of 12 firemen to be in the "Firehouse Hunks 2002" calendar. Just a week before the September 11 tragedy, he was the winner of a Fox network reality show, *Murder in Small Town X*, in which the contestants vied to solve a fake murder. Juarbe won a Jeep and \$250,000. An animal lover, Juarbe had turned the firehouse into a place neighborhood kids could hang out but only after they had completed their homework.

**Fr. Mychal Judge, 68, chaplain, FDNY.** Often called Father Mike, Judge counseled and assisted firefighters, but his compassion extended far beyond the firehouse. He provided care to AIDS victims and the poor, and worked on the peace efforts in Northern Ireland. In 1996, he consoled the families of TWA Flight 800 victims. Judge lived in the friary of the St. Francis of Assisi church, where he had served as a pastor since 1986. Often, he took his meals at nearby Engine 1/Ladder 24.

*His interests were the poor, firefighters, counseling, and the AIDS ministry.*



**Vincent D. Kane, 37, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 22.** Kane, a graduate of Marist College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., became a volunteer firefighter at 17. He was a New York City police officer before joining the FDNY. Kane was a guitar player who liked the Grateful Dead and the Beatles.

*He loved New York culture—the museums, restaurants, concerts, coffeehouses, and cultural affairs. He really loved Central Park. He was a good guy!*

**Charles L. Kasper, 54, deputy chief, FDNY, Special Operations Command.** Kasper began his 28-year FDNY career with Ladder 1. Later, he served as captain at Rescue 1 and chief of Battalions 23 and 21. Kasper loved rescue and special operations, and was a “big fire” veteran. He had responded to one of the first-ever fire calls at the World Trade Center, as well as to the 1993 bombing. He was devoted to his wife and three children and took special joy in his grandson.

*He was always on duty for his family. We know that Charlie's circle will always encircle us.*

**Paul Hanlon Keating, 38, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 5.** Shortly after Keating graduated from the Fire Academy in 1995, he rescued a drowning man in the ocean in Spring Lake, N.J. Keating was off duty at his apartment near the World Trade Center when the first plane hit. He called his sister and told her, “I’m going to the World Trade Center to help my brothers.” Keating, who was known as Paulie, played softball on FDNY teams.

*We had a wonderful family get-together on Sept. 4 -his birthday—with his two brothers and three sisters, his mom and dad, and nieces and nephews. We are so happy we did it.*

**Richard J. Kelly, Jr., 50, FDNY, Ladder 11.** The senior member of his company, Kelly had just completed his 24th year with the FDNY. He had worked as a bond clerk with the New York Stock Exchange before joining the department. Known for his fun-antics, Kelly enjoyed listening to music. He also spent his spare time fishing with his son and other family members.

**Thomas Richard Kelly, 39, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 105.** Kelly was promoted posthumously to lieutenant. After obtaining a bachelor's degree from Baruch College in Manhattan, Kelly worked as an emergency medical technician before joining the FDNY. His father, Emmet Kelly, and his brother, Robert, are also firefighters; his brother, James, recently retired as a New York City police detective. He rode twice in a New York-Boston fund-raising bike-a-thon for AIDS research.

*Thomas enjoyed life and helping people was always a priority for him. He is missed dreadfully, but we imagine him in heaven as an angel doing good works.*

**Thomas W. Kelly, 50, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 15.** Kelly, a 17-year veteran, spent his entire career with Ladder 15. He was known as Mr. Dependable by his colleagues and often used his experience to mentor young firefighters. A former steamfitter, Kelly had helped build the World Trade Center before joining the FDNY. Kelly is survived by his wife and two sons.

**Thomas J. Kennedy, 36, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 101.** Kennedy followed his father's lead when he chose the FDNY as his career. He loved to ski and looked forward to taking his sons with him.

*He was studying for the lieutenant's test because he wanted to advance the career that he loved. Even more, he loved his children, Michael and James.*

**Ronald T. Kerwin, 42, lieutenant, FDNY, Squad 288.** A 20-year veteran, Kerwin was promoted to lieutenant in September 1997, and a year and a half later he was assigned to the Special Operations Command. Kerwin became a volunteer firefighter in 1982 with the Jericho Fire Department. In 1985 he joined the Levittown Fire Department where he served as chief of department.

*Ron was a loving husband and father of three beautiful children. He had a wonderful sense of humor and a spontaneous personality. Ron will be remembered as a hero for giving up his life to save others, but he will also be remembered for the way he lived. He dedicated his life to saving others.*

**Michael Vernon Kiefer**, 25, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 132. Kiefer, who became an FDNY probationary firefighter in December 2000, had previously worked as an FDNY paramedic for a year and a half. He studied in the fire-cadet program at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. He also served as a volunteer firefighter in Freeport, N.Y., and with Hempstead's South Side Ladder Company.

**Robert C. King, Jr.**, 36, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 33. King, a nine-year FDNY veteran, was a master craftsman who made beautiful furniture. For the firehouse, he built a trestle table, at which the men ate every day, as well as a desk for the watch room.

*He was always kind, generous, and helpful to others. He enjoyed four-wheeling, fishing, and barbecuing for everyone—he was a great cook.*

**Scott Michael Kopytko**, 32, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 15. Kopytko, an honors graduate of St. John's University was one semester away from a master's degree in finance when he left commodities trading—at a firm in the World Trade Center—for firefighting. He joined the FDNY in 1998. He was a man known for his "quiet confidence" by his peers and superiors at his South Street firehouse.

*His interests varied from world history to the arts, science to pop culture, finance to Ford Mustangs. He loved sports. He felt the FDNY was his true calling and his lifelong career.*

**William E. Krukowski**, 36, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 21. Krukowski, who was with the FDNY for about three years, attended Nassau Community College and previously worked in construction and with the New York Department of Sanitation. He enjoyed working on cars and racing them on a drag strip. However, he preferred to bike to work from his home in Bayside.

**Kenneth B. Kumpel**, 42, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 25. A 10-year FDNY veteran and former New York City police officer, Kumpel was posthumously promoted to fire marshal. Kumpel and his wife of 18 years lived in Cornwall, N.Y., where he was a member of the Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department. An avid craftsman, he built his family's home there.

**Thomas J. Kuvcikis**, 48, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 252. A 24-year FDNY veteran, Kuvcikis had been a member of Squad 252 for five years. He studied architecture at SUNY Farmingdale and the Pratt Institute before joining the FDNY in August 1977. Kuvcikis pursued carpentry in his spare time. Kuvcikis' brother, Tim, is also a member of the FDNY.

**David J. LaForge**, 50, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 20. LaForge was off duty when he responded to the World Trade Center call. A 24-year veteran, LaForge drove 18-wheel rigs for North American Van Lines while waiting to join the FDNY. That prepared him well, for he was a swift and admired driver of the company's ladder truck. His other great love was driving his black Pontiac Firehawk. A skilled handyman, he often helped family, friends, and neighbors.

*Dave was the take-charge, know-how guy who cared. He was the one who barbecued the meat and carved the Thanksgiving turkey, the one who was called when there was a need, the guy with the great grin.*

**William D. Lake**, 44, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 2. On the day before September 11, Lake celebrated his 20th anniversary with the FDNY. Lake also worked for FEMA, assisting after the Oklahoma City bombing and the TWA Flight 800 disaster.

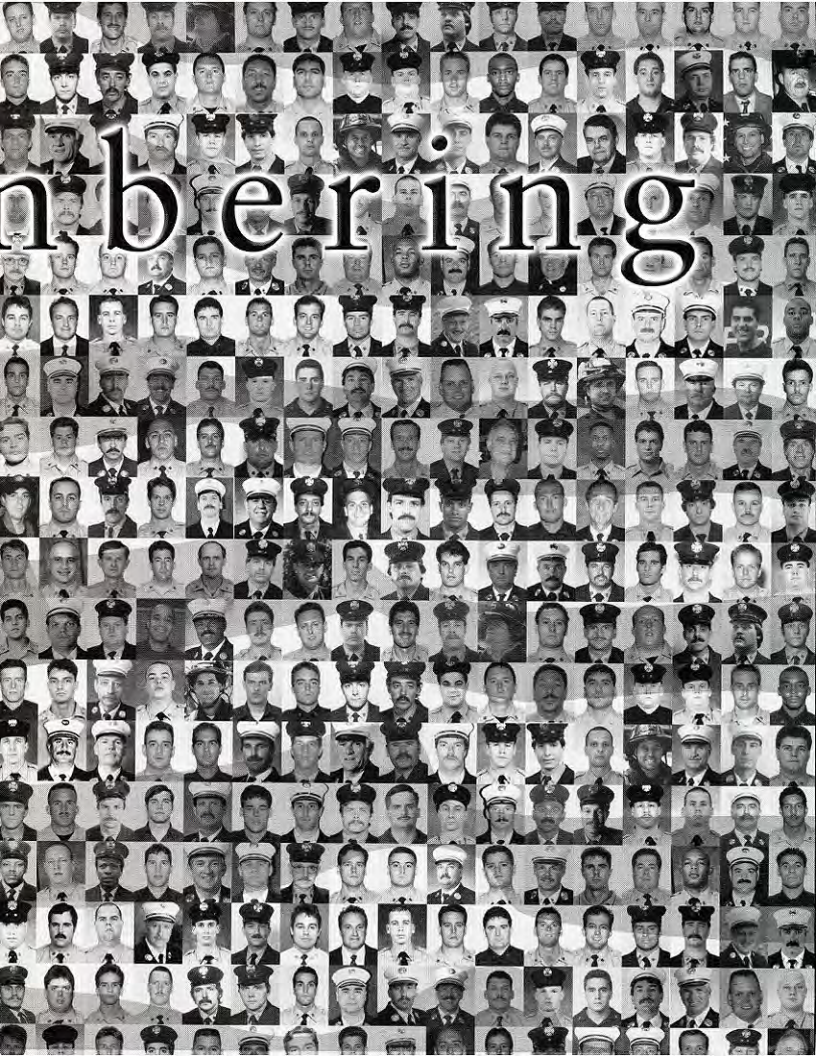
*He was a member of the Brooklyn Harley-Davidson motorcycle club. He loved going to Brooklyn Cyclones baseball games with his son.*

**Robert T. Lane**, 28, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 55. Before joining the FDNY in 1998, Lane worked at a variety of jobs, including school bus driver, chef, and bartender. Lane was a self-taught mechanic who was souping up a 1983 Pontiac Grand Prix that he hoped to race on a track in New Jersey.

**Peter Langone**, 41, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 252. Langone, a 14-year FDNY veteran, was a New York City police officer before joining the Fire Department. Langone's father, Paul, was a volunteer firefighter in Roslyn, N.Y., for many years. Langone was a volunteer with the same department as was his brother, Tommy, a police officer with New York City's Emergency Service Unit, who also died in the World Trade Center attack. Langone enjoyed swimming with his two daughters.



# Remember



**Scott Andrew Larsen, 35, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 163.** On September 11th Larsen was on rotation working at Ladder 15; he was assigned to Ladder 163. He and his wife were awaiting the birth of their fourth child. August Thomas was born on September 13.

*Scott loved to spend all of his free time with his wife and children—they were the most important part of his life. He always took them to the beach or park to skate or ride their bikes.*

**Joseph G. Leavey, 45, lieutenant, FDNY, Ladder 15.** Leavey graduated from Manhattan College's School of Engineering and pursued a career as a civil engineer. However, his true aspiration was to be a firefighter. He joined the department in 1982. A resident of Pelham, N.Y., and a father of three, he was very involved in his community and was sometimes called the "Mayor" of Pelham.

*Joe loved New York City and all of its many skyscrapers. He considered the World Trade Center an engineering marvel. How ironic that a building he loved so much would be a target of such hate.*

**Neil Joseph Leavy, 34, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 217.** Leavy attended New Jersey City University and graduated in 1996 with a B.S. in finance, going on to work as a commodities trader at the New York Mercantile Exchange. Leavy earned two citations for bravery from the FDNY. His father is a retired New York City police officer.

**Daniel F. Libretti, 43, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 2.** A 19-year FDNY veteran, Libretti had been with Rescue 2 since 1999. Libretti was also a graduate of the New York Restaurant School and an assistant pastry chef at the top-rated French restaurant La Caravelle. Off duty, he worked as a private contractor and enjoying making wine at home.

**Carlos Lillo, 37, paramedic, FDNY, Battalion 49.** Lillo worked for the FDNY EMS for 16 years. He trained to be a paramedic at Booth Memorial Hospital, now called New York Hospital, in Queens. Lillo's wife was working for the Port Authority on the 64th floor of the North Tower when it was attacked but she made it out safely.

**Robert T. Linnane, 33, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 20.** Linnane, who was a probationary firefighter, had previously worked on the ground staff for Delta Airlines for nearly eight years. He had taken the FDNY physical and passed it after he turned 30. Linnane traveled extensively and enjoyed visits from friends from around the world.

**Michael F. Lynch, 30, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 32.** On September 11, Lynch was on rotation to Engine 40. Lynch, a graduate of Iona College, joined the FDNY in 1999. Lynch was the seventh of 10 children. He was a quick-witted, compassionate man who volunteered as a children's soccer coach and deejay at charity events. Lynch, who liked fishing and music, was to be married on Nov. 16, 2001.

*While waiting to be admitted to the FDNY, Michael worked at Dean Witter at the World Trade Center. His former colleagues said that Michael promised to return to save them as a firefighter if there was another incident.*

*Michael kept that promise.*

**Michael Francis Lynch, 33, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 4.** Lynch was posthumously promoted to lieutenant. Six-foot-five and weighing 230 pounds, Lynch loved to play toy dinosaurs with his older son. Lynch was the youngest in a family of eight children.

*My husband took me to Emmitsburg and I'll never forget how moving it was.*

**Michael J. Lyons, 32, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 41.** Lyons, a seven-year veteran, obtained a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering from Manhattan College. He turned down several engineering job offers to stay with his squad. His wife had a second child on Nov. 2, 2001.

*Michael loved his job and everything about it—the responsibility, the training, the service to others. His humor and enthusiasm carried throughout his life, and he will be missed dearly.*

**Patrick J. Lyons, 34, lieutenant, FDNY, Squad 252.** Lyons, who joined the FDNY in 1990, was also owner of a limousine business. He attended the New York Institute of Technology on a baseball scholarship and played quarterback on the FDNY football team. Lyons' father is a retired FDNY lieutenant. His wife had their first child on October 7, 2001. Lyons enjoyed fishing and clamming with his brother.



**Joseph Maffeo**, 30, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 101. He graduated with a bachelor's degree from SUNY-Albany in 1994. When not fighting fires, Maffeo also worked in housing construction. Maffeo, whose father is a retired FDNY captain with 40 years on the job, enjoyed scuba diving with his wife on their annual Caribbean vacations.

**William J. Mahoney II**, 37, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 4. A 15-year FDNY veteran, Mahoney had previously worked as a New York City police scuba diver; he used his underwater skills with the FDNY, assisting with the recovery effort after the crash of TWA Flight 800. Mahoney, father of four, also coached baseball with the Connetquot Youth Association, which dedicated a baseball field in his memory. He also worked as a volunteer firefighter with the Lakeland Fire Department.

**Joseph E. Maloney**, 46, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 3. Maloney earned a bachelor's degree at State University College at Old Westbury. Known as Big Joe at 6 foot 3 and 270 pounds he spent hours pumping iron. He earned a bachelor's degree at SUNY-Old Westbury. A father of two, he willingly shared parenting duties with his wife, a nurse.

*Loving husband, father, son, brother, and friend.*

**Joseph R. Marchbanks Jr.**, 47, battalion chief, FDNY, Battalion 12. Marchbanks, a 22-year FDNY veteran, took and passed the tests for the New York City Police Department and Fire Department, but chose the FDNY for his career. The father of two, Marchbanks coached his daughter's softball team and regularly attended his son's soccer and baseball games.

**Charles J. Margiotta**, 44, lieutenant, FDNY, Battalion 22. The 240-pound, 20-year FDNY veteran had a degree from Brown University and worked as a stuntman in dozens of feature films, including Hannibal. He was also a private investigator, a substitute teacher, and a soccer coach. On September 11, he heard the news about the World Trade Center on his truck radio and rushed to the nearest firehouse in Staten Island to join the rescue efforts.

**Kenneth J. Marino**, 40, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 1. Marino was a firefighter for more than two decades, starting out as a volunteer at 18. He served with the FDNY for more than 10 years. His wife and his two young children surprised him with a visit at the firehouse the morning of September 11. On that day, the kids got to sit in the seat of their father's fire truck.

*He was always busy, and he fit so much into his 40 years. He enjoyed playing softball, Strat-O-Matic, taking care of his house and home, and worked other jobs as a disc jockey, school bus driver, and construction worker, and did some automobile detailing. However, it will never be enough.*

**John D. Marshall**, 35, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 23. A resident of Congers, N.Y., Marshall worked at Ladder 27, near where his father had served as a police officer. He was doing a rotation at Engine 23 on September 11. He is survived by his wife and two children.

**Peter C. Martin**, 43, lieutenant, FDNY, Rescue 2. A 22-year FDNY veteran, Martin was decorated many times for bravery and assisted in the search and rescue operation in Oklahoma City after the bombing of the federal building. Martin, a St. Johns University graduate with a B.S. in criminal justice, was an avid collector of antique rifles. Most important in his life, however, were his three sons.

**Paul Richard Martini**, 37, lieutenant, FDNY, Engine 201. Martini, a 13-year FDNY veteran, was studying to take the promotion exam in October 2001. A plumber before joining the FDNY, he followed in the footsteps of his father, Joseph, who served 33 years in the FDNY. Martini's passions were his family, his garden, fishing, and skiing.

**Joseph A. Mascali**, 44, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 5. Mascali worked in construction for years before joining the FDNY in 1987. He was assigned to Ladder 122 for 10 years, where he and his fellow firefighters earned a unit citation for saving civilians from a building collapse. Mascali later joined the elite Rescue 5 unit and became a certified EMT First Responder and confined space and high-angle rope rescuer. He was a family man who took tremendous joy in traveling with his family.

**Joseph A. Mascali** (continued)

*Joe is a hero because of his sincerity, his caring, his love, his generosity, and his courage—because of the simplicity of his day-to-day unconditional love for his wife and children, family and friends.*

**Keithroy Marcellus Maynard**, 30, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 33. Soon after becoming a firefighter in 1999, Maynard joined the Vulcan Society, where he became sergeant-at-arms. He visited black neighborhoods to encourage others to take the FDNY test. Maynard, whose father was an FDNY firefighter for 36 years, graduated in 1995 from the Borough of Manhattan Community College, where he was president of the Caribbean Club.

*His son meant everything to Keith; he had even started to recruit him to the fire department at the age of 4!*

**Brian G. McAleese**, 36, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 226. Service was in his genes. His father, John, was an FDNY firefighter for 25 years, his brother, John, is a firefighter with Engine 219, and his brother, Kevin, is a New York City police detective. McAleese, who joined the FDNY in 1994, did charity work for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, having lost his father to the disease just seven months before September 11.

*Brian valued and treasured life. He knew that life was not a dress rehearsal; it is what we make of it. Note: Might use attachment as long quote for readings.*

**John K. McAvoy**, 47, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 3. McAvoy, a 24-year veteran with the FDNY, was the kind of man who, when he saw a burning building, would run in to rescue the people and then go back in for their pets. An excellent skater, he coached hockey on Staten Island, where he lived, and was known as an extraordinary cook.

**Thomas J. McCann**, 46, firefighter, FDNY, Battalion 8. In addition to fighting fires, McCann worked for Exhibition Employees Union Local 829, and had recently been appointed a trustee. A father of two, McCann was an avid golfer and passed his love of athletics on to his children.

**William E. McGinn**, 43, lieutenant, FDNY, Squad 18. An 18-year FDNY veteran, McGinn was deeply involved with his community and the Riverdale school attended by his two children. On September 11, he had planned to attend a charity event for the New York-Cornell burn center—an event that he had helped organize.

**William J. McGovern**, 49, battalion chief, FDNY, Battalion 2. Someone who genuinely loved his profession, McGovern considered himself “one of the men” even as he rose through the leadership ranks. Friends described him “as about as perfect as you get.” In 1988, he risked his own safety to rescue two children trapped in a burning building. A Yankee fan who loved music and boating, McGovern also took pride in his Irish heritage.

*He was an outgoing, fun-loving man with strong values and passions who knew how to enjoy life and bring enjoyment to all whose lives he touched.*

**Dennis P. McHugh**, 34, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 13. A three-year veteran, McHugh had a career in finance before joining the FDNY. A father of three, he ran in the New York City marathon and played Gaelic football. His brother Tom is a fire marshal with the FDNY. Friends describe him as “about as perfect as you get.”

**Robert Dismas McMahon**, 35, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 20. A nine-year FDNY veteran, McMahon was working toward a bachelor's degree in fine arts. McMahon was a photographer, golfer, carpenter, landscape painter, and chef. His recipe for lasagna, which his firehouse often enjoyed, was printed in a GQ magazine article on “guy food.” McMahon also volunteered at a camp for sick kids, where he met his wife, the mother of his two children.

**Robert William McPadden**, 30, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 23. McPadden was continuing his family's proud tradition of public service when he joined the FDNY. His father had served the department for almost 40 years, and his brother and sister are both police officers. While he waited for an opening in the FDNY, he earned a graduate degree in criminal justice and played a lot of Jeopardy. He and his wife had just bought a home in Pearl River so they could be closer to family and friends.

**Terence Augustine McShane**, 37, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 101. McShane was a New York City police sergeant before joining the FDNY in 1999. McShane, who studied at Sienna College, used to be a lifeguard on Long Island, played rugby for many years, and approached every venture with gusto. At the time of the tragedy, the McShane family was living at a relative's house while McShane and his father-in-law renovated the family home. After September 11, friends, relatives, and complete strangers joined in and helped to finish the job.

**Timothy Patrick McSweeney**, 37, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 3. McSweeney joined the FDNY in 1987, and won six awards for heroism. Known as the Big Guy or the Gentle Giant, the 6 foot-3-inch tall McSweeney loved to spend time with his family—his wife and their three children. Firefighting was a family affair: McSweeney's father, Dennis, is a retired FDNY battalion chief, as was his first cousin, Peter Freund, who also died on September 11th.

**Martin Edward McWilliams**, 35, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 22. McWilliams' need to assist others didn't end when he left the firehouse. A jack-of-all-trades, McWilliams often lent a hand using his skills at car repair, carpentry or landscaping. He loved skiing and golf and participated in charity rounds with his firefighter friends. McWilliams became a first-time father just five months before he died.

*Martin was not afraid to try anything, including flying lessons and skydiving. He almost mastered making an apple pie, just like Mom*

**Raymond Meisenheimer**, 46, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 3. Meisenheimer, who had been looking forward to retiring at the end of 2001, began his fire-service career as a volunteer firefighter, paramedic, and EMT instructor in East Farmingdale, N.Y. He was a leading technical rescue expert and a member of the FEMA Urban Search & Rescue Team. Meisenheimer was in charge of the curriculum at the Suffolk Fire Academy, and a captain at the Hauppauge Fire Department.

**Charles R. Mendez**, 38, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 7. When he wasn't working, Mendez, known as Chuck, devoted himself to renovating the home he and wife owned. The nine-year FDNY veteran loved volleyball, skiing, and playing with his puppy, Bailey.

*He was just a wonderful, wonderful person. He was my best friend.*

**Steve J. Mercado**, 38, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 40. An 11-year FDNY veteran, Mercado was president of the Emperor's Strickball League in the Bronx, where he was born and raised. Mercado, who earned the MVP award on several championship teams, was also trying to establish a strickball and baseball league for children under nine. The father of two also enjoyed playing softball with his fellow firefighters.

**Douglas C. Miller**, 34, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 5. Miller served in the FDNY for nearly six years and as chief of the Miller Rift Fire, Pennsylvania volunteer department. Miller, father of three daughters, was an instructor at the FDNY Fire Training Center and an avid scuba diver.

*Doug was warm, sincere, and full of life, and gave fully of that life to save others. Doug was a man born with great concern for others. He lived his dream of service to community within the FDNY.*

**Henry A. Miller Jr.**, 51, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 105. Miller drove his company's fire truck to the Twin Towers just as he did during the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, at which he suffered from smoke inhalation. A gentle and friendly man, Miller, who served 28 years with the FDNY, beat cancer nine years ago. He began studying accounting at Manhattan's City College, but decided to follow in the footsteps of his father, a 38-year veteran of the FDNY.

*Although he could have retired three different times, he loved his job too much to do it! He was a loving son, brother, father, and grandfather as well as being a wonderful husband.*

**Robert J. Minara, 54**, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 25. Minara served in the U.S. Navy in Vietnam. He received many medals including the National Defense Service Medal and the Vietnam Service Medal with three Bronze Stars. Minara served with the FDNY for 24 years, and worked for St. Vincent's Hospital in Harrison, N.Y., as safety and security supervisor for 20 years. In 1997, he graduated summa cum laude from John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

*He will always be remembered for his love of life, compassionate heart, witty sense of humor, his infectious laugh, and his beautiful smile and the twinkle in his eyes.*

**Thomas Mingione, 34**, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 132. He was a beloved husband, cherished son, loving brother, fond nephew, special uncle, and adored cousin and friend. He was also the proud father of daughter Amanda, who was born in December 2001. His family's nickname for him is "Topshelf Tommy," because he always wanted the best and had the best.

*There are those who have an inner gift that makes them very special. The gift to be blind to the flaws and imperfections of those around them. The gift to see only the good. The gift to make others feel love, compassion, and hope. [He was] one of those people to whom God has given that special inner gift.*

**Paul Thomas Mitchell, 46**, lieutenant, FDNY, Battalion 1. Off duty the morning of September 11, he had stopped by for a cup of coffee, but he heard the call and joined his brothers at the World Trade Center. A 15-year veteran, Mitchell received three citations for valor. Six-feet, four-inches tall and known for taking probes under his wing, he was nicknamed "Big Daddy." The father of two daughters, he coached girls' soccer and basketball for eight years, and high school golf for four years.

**Louis Modafferi, 45**, battalion chief, FDNY, Rescue 5. His courage and ability led to a steady series of promotions over 19 years in the FDNY. The Federal Emergency Management Agency asked for his assistance during hurricane relief efforts in the Caribbean. Modafferi's rescue work

never detracted from his role as a fulltime father to his three children, and he always found time for a monthly game of softball.

**Dennis Mojica, 50**, lieutenant, FDNY, Rescue 1. A graduate of the rigorous Aviation High School, Mojica was in the U.S. Navy for six years before joining the FDNY, where he was a 29-year veteran. On his days off, he enjoyed skiing and bicycling with his fiancée. Mojica is survived by a teenage daughter.

**Manuel Mojica Jr., 37**, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 18. Mojica was a family man who loved being with his wife of ten years and their two children. Mojica also enjoyed working out at the gym.

**Carl E. Molinaro, 32**, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 2. He studied at Staten Island University and worked as a carpenter and cabinetmaker before beginning his service with the FDNY. He and his wife welcomed their second child just a few weeks before September 11.

*"Overboard Carl" became his nickname among his family and close friends because he would always give much more than what was expected, no matter what it could be. Carl was a well-rounded person with many interests, including football, motorcycle racing, hunting, and music.*

**Michael G. Montesi, 39**, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 1. From the time he got his first fire helmet at age five, Montesi knew the career he wanted to pursue. He was a volunteer firefighter in his hometown for 13 years. When he joined the FDNY in 1988, he made the most of it. A small air pack he developed for emergency situations became part of his company's standard equipment. The Daily News named him hero of the month in August 1999 for rescuing a man from the Hudson River. As much as he loved the fire service, he cherished his three sons most.

*Mike was very smart, cautious, and level-headed. Whenever he was around, you felt safe. If something went wrong, everybody turned to him.*

**Thomas C. Moody, 45**, captain, FDNY, Division 1. Moody, who held a bachelor's of science from SUNY-Buffalo and a professional

engineering certification from the state of New York, was working on a course to teach firefighters how to handle hazardous materials. On hand to respond to the first terrorist attack on the World Trade Center, in 1993, Moody had firefighting in his genes. His father, Charles, and uncle William were both New York City firefighters, and his brothers, Frank and Michael, are also with the FDNY.

**John M. Moran**, 43, battalion chief, FDNY, Battalion 49. Moran, a 22-year FDNY veteran with a law degree from Fordham University, had finished his shift at the Special Operations command on Roosevelt Island when the World Trade Center call came in, and he went along to help. A big man, Moran played the piano and the guitar and loved to sing Irish songs. He also regularly rode in an Iowa biking tour popular among police and firefighters. Moran's father was a firefighter, and his brother, Michael, is an FDNY firefighter.

**Vincent S. Morello**, 34, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 35 in Manhattan. Morello, who was a mechanic before joining the FDNY, followed in the family tradition. His father, John, is a retired chief, and his brother Marc is also a firefighter. Morello is survived by his wife and two children.

**Christopher M. Mozzillo**, 27, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 55. Mozzillo took the FDNY exam when he was 18, then earned an environmental science degree at St. John's University before becoming a firefighter at 25. Mozzillo was nicknamed "The Bull" because of his strength and courage. He was an avid skier and started doing the toughest slopes soon after learning to ski.

*Every once in a while someone bigger than life comes along. Chris was full of life. He never wasted a minute. He hardly slept. It was if he knew that he only had 27 years.*

**Richard T. Muldowney, Jr.**, 40, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 7. As a child, Muldowney and his friends would fight mock blazes. At 18, Muldowney joined the Freeport Volunteer Fire Department Company, and, nine years later, the FDNY. Outside the firehouse, he was a spectacular carpenter and could build almost anything. He was also a Long Island

bayman who enjoyed fishing, crabbing and clamming.

*Richie adored his entire family.*

*He always knew he wanted to be a firefighter and was the best at his job.*

**Michael Dermott Mullan**, 34, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 12. Mullan, a black belt in karate, also worked as an R.N. in the emergency room at Mercy Hospital and was a captain in the U.S. Army Reserve.

*He was a great "piano man," had a silly sense of humor, and told horrendous jokes. He was respected by his friends, neighbors, and coworkers.*

**Dennis M. Mulligan**, 32, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 2. With the FDNY for nearly eight years, Mulligan was off-duty the morning of September 11 but responded to the World Trade Center call anyway. He had formed a trucking business with some of his fellow firefighters and was pursuing real estate with "the gang" from Ladder 2. A lover of practical jokes, his firehouse brothers recall his "fine Irish smile."

*Dennis was undoubtedly the center of his family's universe. He was kind, beautiful, and generous in every way. His life was rich with love and friendship, yet nothing would have prevented his heeding the call to duty on September 11.*

**Raymond E. Murphy**, 46, lieutenant, FDNY, Ladder 16. Murphy, a former salesman, took a pay cut when he joined the FDNY, but he didn't seem to mind. Firefighting, unlike sales, meant being able to save lives. As with everything else that Murphy did, he threw himself into firefighting with a passion. In his spare time, he dedicated himself to home improvement, using his carpentry skills to turn an old house into a dream home.

**Robert B. Nagel**, 55, lieutenant, FDNY, Engine 58. Nagel, an Army veteran who served in Vietnam, spent 28 years with the FDNY. He grew up in Richmond Hill, Queens, and attended Archbishop Molloy High School. He earned his undergraduate degree at St. John's University. Nagel, who lived in Manhattan, was a history buff who enjoyed reading science fiction in his spare time. He is survived by his wife and daughter.

**John P. Napolitano**, 33, lieutenant, FDNY, Rescue 2. Napolitano began his firefighting career at age 17 as a Junior Volunteer with the Lakeland Volunteer Fire Department. Over 16 years of service, he became its youngest chief and, eventually, its commissioner. In his 10 years with the FDNY, Napolitano became a certified paramedic and was scuba-trained for water rescue. Despite the seriousness with which he approached his work, Napolitano was known for his smile and his sense of humor. Outside the firehouse, his life revolved around his wife and two young daughters.

*John received a great many awards and citations.*

*But more important, he was an excellent husband, father, and the greatest son a father could ever hope for.*

**Peter A. Nelson**, 42, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 4. A 15-year veteran, he was also a third assistant chief in Huntington Manor, N.Y., where he had volunteered since the age of 18. He and his wife were expecting their first child. She was born on October 5, three hours after her father's Memorial Service.

**Gerard T. Nevins**, 46, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 1. An 18-year veteran, he received many awards for heroism. When not working as a firefighter, Nevins lived on a small farm with his wife and two children in Campbell Hall, N.Y., where he raised pigs, goats, and chickens.

*Gerry's gentle, caring nature touched everyone who knew him. He possessed courage and bravery in amounts far greater than those Towers that touched the sky.*

**Dennis P. O'Berg**, 28, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 105. Just six weeks out of the Fire Academy, O'Berg had left a job as a certified accountant at Ernst and Young to become a firefighter. His father was a lieutenant and 30-year veteran of the FDNY. A graduate in accounting from the State University of New York-Geneseo, O'Berg was known for having the talent to do anything. He had found his true calling as a firefighter with the FDNY. He had been married for less than a year.

**Daniel O'Callaghan**, 42, captain, FDNY, Ladder 4. His dedication to the FDNY knew no boundaries. When he was on duty, he always walked around the firehouse in his thick bunker pants, even if it was stifling hot outside, because he wanted to be ready when the alarm sounded and the truck rolled out. Before beginning a 24-hour shift, this devoted family man would leave messages all over the house for his wife and two children.

*He was a dedicated firefighter—truly a hero.*

**Douglas E. Oelschlager**, 36, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 6 and Ladder 15. On September 11th, he reached Ladder 15-his day detail, just in time to respond. Though he had only 16 months with the FDNY, the former Navy Seabee had served nearly two decades as a volunteer firefighter on Long Island. Oelschlager worked with the Oyster Bay Volunteer Fire Department and was a captain with the St. James Eagle Volunteer Hook and Ladder Co. A dedicated family man, Oelschlager took an active role in raising his two children.

*Firefighting was a calling with him.*

*He was always helping people. He died the way he lived his life.*

**Jay Ogren**, 30, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 3. Ogren received a degree in criminal justice from St. John's University and served in the Manhattan District Attorney's office for several years. In 1998, he followed his father, Robert, and his twin brother, Lance, to the FDNY. Ogren was to be married in 2002.

*Jay embraced all that life had to offer.*

*He ran in the New York marathon several times and partied at the New Orleans Jazz Festival. He was always at the ready and lit the room up with his dynamite smile.*

**Thomas G. O'Hagan**, 43, lieutenant, FDNY, Engine 6. A 20-year veteran who came to Engine 6 after his promotion to lieutenant, he was a long-time member of Engine 52 in Riverdale. He was known as a superb cook and bartender. O'Hagan had given up his second jobs bartending and running a cookie route to devote himself to his family when his wife gave birth to their twin boys.

**Samuel Oitice, 45, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 4.** A life-long Peekskill resident, Oitice worked there as a policeman before joining the FDNY. He was also a member of the Peekskill Volunteer Fire Department. A devoted father of two children, Oitice was active in the local schools. He gave fire safety talks and founded a roller hockey team for teenagers. The Peekskill school district has established a scholarship fund in Oitice's name.

**Patrick J. O'Keefe, 44, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 1.** A resident of Oakdale, New York, he was married and the father of two children.

**William O'Keefe, 48, captain, FDNY, Division 15.** A lifelong resident of Staten Island, O'Keefe had a bachelor's degree from the former Richmond College. The 22-year veteran had been promoted to captain in May 2001. O'Keefe passed on his passion for running to both of his children and regularly attended their track meets. O'Keefe played the guitar, loved his two beagles, and vacationed every year at the shore.

**Jeffrey J. Olsen, 31, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 10.** He was decorated for bravery for the rescue of a family from an apartment fire. Such acts of heroism came naturally to Olsen, who had donated bone marrow to a 15-year-old boy he didn't even know. He was a devoted father to his two children, as well as to his stepson. He enjoyed fishing and loved to camp with his family.

**Eric Taube Olsen, 41, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 15.** An 11-year veteran, Olsen had just finished his shift the morning of September 11, but joined his company to respond. Olsen was a member of the Vikings Association. He attended Polytechnic University in Brooklyn, enjoyed air-brush painting and working in stained glass, and loved to collect and restore classic cars. He excelled at sports.

*His first love was being a fireman—after that he loved being a carpenter. He was good at anything he did.*

**Steven J. Olson, 38, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 3.** A 12-year veteran, Olson was a role model for 'probies' and a leader to all. Known as the Rock, he displayed a constant confidence and ability that his fellow firefighters came to rely upon. When he could find the time, Olson read and worked crossword puzzles. He was a devoted father to his two young daughters.

**Kevin O'Rourke, 44, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 2.** The two things that O'Rourke loved more than anything else were family and his work. Neighborhood kids often got a lesson in fire safety when they stopped by to get their bikes fixed at the Rescue 2 firehouse—where his locker was known as "Kevin's Bike shop." O'Rourke lived with his wife and two daughters in Hewlett, N.Y.

*He had wanted to be a firefighter since he was a little boy, and we couldn't imagine him being anything else. He taught his daughters, Corinne and Jamie, to always try their hardest at whatever they chose to do.*

**Michael J. Otten, 42, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 35.** Michael was the third generation of Ottens to become a firefighter. His family was his joy. Described as 'just a big kid' by his wife, Marion, Otten turned the front lawn of their home in East Islip, N.Y., into a stadium, where he and his three boys played football and soccer.

**Jeff Palazzo, 33, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 5.** Palazzo spent five years with Brooklyn's Ladder 109 before transferring to Rescue 5. With both companies he showed his passion for saving lives and was always working to improve his skills. A former Coast Guard member who was in the Reserves, Palazzo had just completed his scuba training. He lived in Staten Island with his wife and two daughters. In his free time, he loved to indulge his skills as a handyman.

*He was a loving son, husband, father, and brother. He loved the outdoors—hunting, fishing, boating, and scuba diving.*

**Orio Joseph Palmer, 45, battalion chief, FDNY, Battalion 7.** Palmer, a 20-year veteran of the FDNY, began his career at Engine 46 in the Bronx. He rose steadily through the ranks at firehouses in Brooklyn, Queens, and Manhattan before becoming battalion chief. Colleagues knew him as a determined firefighter and a talented instructor; he taught firefighters studying for promotional exams and authored numerous articles on fire safety. Palmer lived in Valley Stream, N.Y., with his wife and three children. Called the Music Man by his family, Palmer loved listening to music, taking neighborhood kids fishing, and promoting the lost art of stickball.

**Frank Anthony Palombo, 46, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 105.** Palombo was a firefighter dedicated to his colleagues and his principles. Trained in the priesthood and armed with a degree in philosophy, Palombo would always argue for doing the right thing: in the firehouse, at a prayer group, or as a union delegate. Palombo joined the FDNY in 1979. He was the father of ten children and loved to play and pray with them.

*Frank loved his job of saving people's bodies from fire but loved even more the call he felt to save souls from fire.*

**Paul J. Pansini, 34, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 10.** Pansini was a member of the U.S. Naval Reserve, and a former New York City police officer. He spent his entire 11-year FDNY career with Engine 10, but on September 11, Engine 26 called for an extra man, and Pansini volunteered. He was a Judo Shodan and won a bronze medal at the 1991 Police and Fire games and a silver medal at the 1992 games. Pansini helped to raise money for the N.Y.C. Burn Foundation. His time off was always spent with his wife and children.

*I don't think he knew how much he meant to so many people. He always made you laugh. He was my high school sweetheart, the love of my life, the best father to his children. He was always our hero.*

**John M. Paolillo, 51, deputy chief, FDNY, Special Operations.** Two words describe Paolillo's commitment to saving lives—relentless dedication. Paolillo, who joined the FDNY in 1977, spent many sleepless nights studying for his lieutenant's test. A jogger and marathoner, Paolillo prided himself on keeping in shape—though helping others sometimes interfered. Once, he interrupted a jog to rescue the driver of a crashed car. Paolillo lived in Glen Head, Long Island, with his family. His dedication to the job was matched only by his commitment to his wife and two children.

**James N. Pappageorge, 29, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 23 in Manhattan.** Pappageorge became a firefighter just six weeks before September 11th, but he had already devoted his adult life to service. In 1993 he became an EMT, and two years later joined the FDNY EMS division. After graduating from LaGuardia Community College in 1999, he became a paramedic.

*As a paramedic, Jimmy loved driving the ambulance at high speed. He would rush to jobs to be there first because he knew he was able to save someone's life. If Jimmy was able to work 24 hours a day he would.*

**Robert E. Parro, 35, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 8.** When it came to being a fireman, Parro simply loved the job. The eight-year FDNY veteran was a lifelong Long Island resident. He grew up with his five siblings in Levittown. As an adult, he continued to live there with his wife and young son. Friends and neighbors appreciated Parro's skills as a handyman. On his days off he would often help them out with home projects.

**Durrell "Bronko" Pearsall, 34, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 4.** An imposing man, Pearsall was a firefighter's son who loved the job and the friends it brought him. Pearsall began firefighting with the Hempstead Volunteer Fire Department where he earned two medals of valor. In 1993, he joined the FDNY. A football player in college, Pearsall was co-captain of the Bravest Football Club. He loved music, especially Irish music, and played snare drum for the FDNY's Emerald Society Pipe and Drums. The band gathered outside his funeral at St. Patrick's to "pipe him to heaven."

*He is remembered for his zest for life and his comical personality.*

**Glenn C. Perry, 41, lieutenant, FDNY, Ladder 25.** For Perry, life revolved around his family and the firehouse. In 1990, after eight-years with the NYPD, Perry joined his father and brother in the FDNY. He covered his locker with photos of his wife and three children. Perry rose to lieutenant in 1999 and taught at the Fire Academy for one year. On September 11, he had been with Ladder 25 for just a few months.

*Glenn's personal interests included golf, cooking, reading, but more importantly, spending time with his family. One of his personal achievements was completing the New York City Marathon in 1991.*

**Philip S. Petti, 43, lieutenant, FDNY, Battalion 7.** While growing up in Brooklyn, Petti dreamed of being a firefighter. After trying a variety of other jobs, he joined the FDNY, and, for 18 years, lived his dream. He enjoyed every part of



the job, particularly treasuring the friendships he made in the firehouse. Petti was also a music fan and an athlete—he played nearly every team sport, coached his children's soccer and baseball teams, and rooted fiercely for the Giants, Mets, and Rangers.

**Kevin J. Pfeifer**, 42, lieutenant, FDNY, Engine 33 in Manhattan. Pfeifer joined the FDNY in 1990 after working as a paramedic for New York Hospital and Saint Vincent's Hospital in Manhattan. He was known for his quiet manner and his ability to help younger firefighters learn the job. When he wasn't at the firehouse, Pfeifer enjoyed spending time with family and indulging a taste for adventure. A licensed pilot and expert sailor, he frequently took his nieces and nephews on catamaran trips. Pfeifer's older brother, Joseph, is an FDNY battalion chief.

*Kevin always wanted to be like his brother, Deputy Chief Joseph, and he adored his sister, Mary Ellen.*

**Kenneth J. Phelan, Sr.**, 41, lieutenant, FDNY, Engine 217. Phelan's dream became reality when he joined Engine 217, his father's firehouse, in 2000. A former policeman and life-long Maspeth resident, Phelan had been with the FDNY since 1989. He spent 11 years with Engine 16 and Ladder 7 before his promotion to lieutenant. Phelan's life centered around his family, his community, and sports. He coached many young basketball players at Our Lady of Hope Grammar School—including his younger brother Lenny and later his own children.

*Kenny will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and the community.*

**Christopher James Pickford**, 32, firefighter, Engine 201. Before joining the FDNY in 2000, Pickford was a paralegal for the Queens District Attorney's office. Pickford was a musician—he was called "the rocking firefighter" in several newspaper articles after September 11—and a CD of his music was distributed at his memorial service.

*Chris was a "gentle giant" known to his friends at "Super Chris." He stood 6'5" with a heart to match. He was a writer, composer, musician, and poet.*

**Shawn Edward Powell**, 32, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 207. Keeping busy came naturally for Powell, a U.S. Army reservist and former architecture student. Powell was also an artist who built props and volunteered at New York City theaters. When things grew dull, he always found a way to lift his fellow firefighters' spirits. Powell lived in Brooklyn with his wife and young son.

*Shawn loved music, family, friends, the theater, arts, creating, learning, teaching, helping people, and being the jack-of-trades. He loved life and he lived it to the fullest.*

**Vincent A. Princiotta**, 39, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 7. Princiotta treasured the knowledge that being a firefighter allowed him to help others. In the firehouse, colleagues enjoyed his Italian cooking and stayed alert for his practical jokes. He was a devoted husband and father who adored his young daughter. Princiotta enjoyed fishing, sailing, skiing, and surfing.

*He was a caring, generous person with a great sense of humor. He touched the lives and hearts of all who knew him.*

**Kevin M. Prior**, 28, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 252. In addition to serving with the FDNY, Prior was deeply committed to his Bellmore, N.Y., community. Prior was a member of the Bellmore Volunteer Fire Department and the Bellmore Knights of Columbus.

**Richard A. Prunty**, 57, battalion chief, FDNY, Battalion 2. Prunty was a soft-spoken, unassuming leader who served the FDNY for 33 years as firefighter, lieutenant, captain, and battalion chief. An Army veteran, Prunty had served during the Vietnam War, maintaining the radars and radios within the demilitarized zone, or "Freedom's Frontier," as he referred to it in jest. In November 1968, he joined the FDNY. Prunty graduated cum laude from the New York Institute of Technology. He and his wife lived in Sayville, where they raised their two children. His appearance was somewhat gruff at first glance, but Rich was always there to lend help and kindness—to anyone.

**Lincoln Quappe, 38**, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 2. The 16-year FDNY veteran was an aggressive firefighter who always strove to improve his lifesaving skills, even going so far as to weld new additions onto the firehouse training tower so he could practice specialized techniques. At home in Sayville, Long Island, he was a member of the Sayville Volunteer Fire Department, and served as a Cub Scout leader and baseball coach. Quappe was a longtime member of the Brookhaven Volunteer Fire Department.

**Michael T. Quilty, 42**, lieutenant, FDNY, Ladder 11. Quilty, a Staten Island resident, celebrated his 20th anniversary with the FDNY on September 5, 2001. He had moved to Ladder 11 after nearly two decades in Brooklyn with Engine 282 and Ladder 148. In 1997, he received a medal for his rescue of a woman from a Brooklyn fire. Off the job, Quilty headed for the sky or the sea. He was a licensed pilot and certified scuba diver, and enjoyed kayaking, fishing, and water-skiing with his wife and two children.

**Ricardo J. Quinn, 40**, paramedic, FDNY, Battalion 57. On light duty on September 11th, Quinn responded to the World Trade Center call. A nine-year EMS veteran, Quinn was also a paramedic instructor and received a Certificate of Appreciation for his training work with the Army Airborne Division at Fort Bragg. Quinn was a gifted artist who loved going to the beach with family on warm summer days. The life-sized sand sculptures he made there always attracted a crowd.

*He was a warm, loving, protective, and strong husband and father. His heroic actions saved the lives of countless individuals.*

**Lenny J. Ragaglia, 36**, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 54. Ragaglia was a New York City police officer for nine years before joining the FDNY, where he served for eight years. He received many citations for his service in both departments.

*Lenny was the ideal father and husband. He was a generous and loving man. He loved being with his sons, Lenny Jr. and Anthony. Lenny was an avid sports fan, runner, and bodybuilder.*

**Michael Paul Ragusa, 29**, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 279. Ragusa joined the FDNY in 1999 after being on the waiting list for seven years. Just a few weeks before September 11, he was the nozzle man in charge of putting out a paint fire in a warehouse in Brooklyn, which he did successfully.

**Edward J. Rall, 44**, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 2. Rall began his FDNY career at Engine 232/Ladder 176. There, and at Rescue 2, he was known as a dedicated firefighter who took pride in keeping the firetruck ready to roll. He was also the proud father of three teenage boys. In his spare time, Rall was a fitness enthusiast who also coached baseball with the Sachem Youth Athletic Group and the North Shore Royals.

**Adam David Rand, 30**, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 288. A six-year FDNY veteran, he was also chief training officer for the Bellmore Volunteer Fire Department in his hometown, where he had served since he graduated from high school. Rand was engaged to be married and loved children. His five nieces and nephews looked forward to boating and hiking with him and listening to his ghost stories. Rand owned a boat and enjoyed fishing, scuba diving, skiing and hunting.

*He had a great sense of humor and made everyone laugh. He lived a full life.*

**Donald J. Regan, 47**, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 3. The 17-year FDNY veteran earned several citations and a medal for bravery. An air conditioner installer before joining the FDNY, his fellow firefighters depended on his skills whenever a major appliance needed fixing. When his four children were young and playing on four different baseball teams, he tried to make at least one inning of each game. When they were old enough to join the adult league, Regan played on the same team with them.

**Robert M. Regan, 48**, lieutenant, FDNY, Ladder 118. Regan spent 16 years with the FDNY. A former civil engineer, Regan loved to build. He often lent his skills to family and friends, fixing appliances and repairing homes. Deeply dedicated to his family, Regan treasured the time he could spend with his two children.

*His children were given a foundation into which he poured his love of a simple life, his sense of humor, his dedication to family and friends, and, most of all, his example of doing for others before doing for himself.*

**Christian Michael Otto Regenhard, 28,** firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 131. Regenhard, a former Marine, was just six weeks into an FDNY career. In five years with the Marine Corps, he had risen to sergeant and earned 12 medals and awards for excellence in service, including the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and the Navy Achievement Medal. Contemplative, yet daring, Regenhard enjoyed traveling, rock-climbing, and scuba diving, and had studied art at San Francisco State University. Regenhard's mother, Sally, founded the Skyscraper Safety Campaign to reform building codes and investigate the World Trade Center collapse.

*A beautiful person in body, mind, and spirit, his charm, good looks, humor, bonded people to him wherever he went.*

**Kevin O. Reilly, 28,** firefighter, FDNY, Engine 207. When Reilly joined Ladder 40 in Harlem, his first FDNY assignment, a picture hanging on the firehouse wall made him feel right at home. It was a snapshot of a young Reilly with his father, who had served with the same firehouse. Very athletic, he backpacked through Europe, earned a black belt in Tae Kwon Do, finished the 1999 New York City Marathon in four hours and 17 minutes, and played softball for the FDNY.

**Vernon A. Richard, 53,** captain, FDNY, Ladder 7. An Army veteran, Vernon joined the FDNY in 1977. In 1994, he was promoted to lieutenant and was assigned to Ladder 7. Vernon was a certified CPR instructor for the New York Fire Academy and completed six New York City Marathons. His deep baritone voice rang out in the choir of Spring Valley's First Baptist Church, where he was an ordained deacon and youth council advisor. Devoted to his wife and two children, he often indulged his passion for roller coasters on family trips.

*Vernon loved his family and friends. His love, devotion, and loyalty were evidenced by the use of his time, talent, and treasure. His life was a tribute to humanity. He let his good works speak for him.*

**Jimmy Riches, 29,** firefighter, FDNY, Engine 4. Riches would have celebrated his 30th birthday on September 12, 2001. The personable former Brooklyn police officer had been a firefighter for 18 months. On weekend nights, Riches tended bar and kept an arsenal of jokes at the ready to amuse his customers. The oldest of four brothers and a former All-City basketball star, Riches attended Belmont Abbey College on a basketball scholarship. His father, James, is an FDNY battalion chief.

*Always with a smile on his face, tall, strong, handsome, with a kind and generous heart. He lived life to the fullest.*

**Joseph R. Rivelli, Jr., 43,** firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 25. As a child, Rivelli would make neighborhood kids pretend there was a fire, just so he could come to the rescue and put it out. As an adult, he realized his childhood dream, saving lives and extinguishing blazes with the FDNY. He had many interests outside the firehouse-building computers, training to be a pilot, and, most importantly, being a loving husband and a caring father to his two stepchildren.

**Michael E. Roberts, 31,** firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 35. When Roberts' father, an FDNY captain, placed his small son inside a fire truck, the four-year-old boy found his calling. Twenty-three years later, Roberts was admitted to the FDNY academy. In the Ladder 35 firehouse, Roberts became known as the "Psychologist" for his attentive listening skills. It was an apt nickname as Roberts had earned a degree in psychology at SUNY-Buffalo before becoming a firefighter. Roberts still lived in Pearl River, N.Y., the town where he grew up.

**Michael Edward Roberts, 31,** firefighter, FDNY, Engine 214. Roberts practically grew up in a Brooklyn firehouse. He treasured his badge-No. 6611—which was passed down by the seasoned FDNY firefighters in his family, belonging first to his uncle, Robert; then to his father, John; then to him. Roberts, a 4-year veteran of the FDNY, had been with Engine 214 for 6 months.



### **Michael Edward Roberts** (continued)

*Michael was caring, happy, energetic, inquisitive, and determined to learn as much as he could about firefighting. He was responsible and respectful and he always had a smile on his face.*

**Anthony Rodriguez**, 36, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 279. Rodriguez had served as a U.S. Navy radioman for 10 years and was barely six months into his FDNY career. Although his tenure was brief, Rodriguez considered it the best job in the world. On the way home to his Staten Island family when the World Trade Center was attacked, Rodriguez called to tell them he was headed back to work. Three days later, his wife gave birth to their sixth child.

**Matthew S. Rogan**, 37, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 11. Wary of attention, Rogan's FDNY work sometimes forced him to endure the spotlight anyway. In 1997, television crews focused on him after a frigid East River rescue dive. Rogan became a firefighter in 1994, having spent eight years with the New York City Police Department. He was following in the footsteps of his father and brother, both FDNY veterans. Rogan was born and raised in West Islip, N.Y., and continued to live there with his beloved wife and children. He enjoyed clamming, gardening, backpacking, practical jokes, and dreaming about the future.

**Keith M. Roma**, 27, Fire Patrol Officer, New York Fire Patrol. The Patrol is a firefighting assistance organization run by the New York Board of Fire Underwriters. Roma's supervisors say he led three different groups safely out of Tower One before returning one last time. A scholarship has been established in his name at Monsignor Farrell High School on Staten Island. His father is a retired Port Authority police officer and volunteer firefighter.

*Keith was a sports enthusiast, playing on softball and basketball teams. He was an avid Yankees fan. He could always be counted on when needed, as he proved on September 11th.*

**Nicholas Rossomando**, 35, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 5. For Rossomando, life was about learning. The oldest of four children, Rossomando

helped care for his younger siblings. The five-year FDNY veteran continued to do the home improvement work that had been his career before becoming a firefighter. Rossomando earned a black belt in karate in 1997. He also earned his FDNY certificate in diving just prior to September 11th.

*He involved himself in everything and gave everything his all.*

**Paul G. Ruback**, 50, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 25. He graduated from Syracuse University, where he studied psychology and sociology. He loved soccer, basketball, history, and playing the guitar. A father of six, he was also a foster father to many children over the years.

*Paul was a compassionate man. He will always be remembered for the way he would just listen and offer calm advice.*

**Stephen P. Russell**, 40, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 55. A skilled carpenter, Russell built many pieces of furniture for the firehouse, including a workbench, an activity center, and an award and memorial display case. His picture and those of his fellow firefighters who also perished on September 11 were the first to be placed in the cabinet. If he wasn't putting out fires, he was either in the water, on the water, or under the water. He had a boat for water skiing, a wave runner, and a kayak. He was also a master scuba diver.

*He had a sparkle in his smile and a glint in his eye that immediately drew you to him.*

**Michael T. Russo**, 44, lieutenant, FDNY, Squad 1. A two-decade FDNY veteran, Russo also served with Rescue 5 in Staten Island. He enjoyed golfing, skiing, restoring old cars, cooking and sailing with his wife in Long Island Sound. The couple's young son was born on his father's birthday. Russo had recently obtained his LPN.

*He had a happy-go-lucky personality and was known for his jokes and stunts. He had that fabulous smile.*

**Matthew L. Ryan**, 54, battalion chief, FDNY, Battalion 4. Ryan served 18 years of his 28-year FDNY career with Engine 280 in Brooklyn. At the scene of a fire, his experience and character gave confidence to his fellow firefighters. A proud

Irishman who was devoted to his family, Ryan enjoyed spending free time with his beloved new grandson. He loved hockey, playing 26 years in the FDNY Leagues. He was also a Viet Nam veteran.

*He was most often found, even in the heat of a big fire, whispering in a younger fireman's ear, giving him instructions and keeping him calm. But his favorite time was Sunday evening, sitting in the living room- watching hockey on TV, listening to his favorite radio show, and reading his newspaper.*

**Thomas E. Sabella, 44, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 13.** Quietly heroic, Sabella never boasted about his firefighting exploits, even when the city honored him for a courageous 1998 tenement rescue. When off duty, he loved skiing and snowboarding, gardening, making wine, and building things. He could duplicate the construction of almost anything just by looking at a picture of it.

*He was a loving husband and father of two beautiful children. He enjoyed everything about being a firefighter, the wonderful friends he made there and the people he would meet on the job.*

**Christopher Alexandar Santora, 23, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 54.** Santora came from a family of teachers and firefighters, and he pursued both professions. After majoring in history at Queens College, he taught at the elementary and middle school levels. A street and a new elementary school in his community have been named for him. Santora's father is a retired deputy chief. His family has established an educational scholarship in his honor.

*All those who knew Christopher remember his sense of humor, his laughter, his honesty, his love of sports, his patriotism, and his beautiful smile.*

**John August. Santore, 49, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 5.** Whether volunteering at his daughters' school or helping to save and restore a Staten Island maritime museum, Santore was always the first to step up when someone needed a hand. A 21-year veteran of the FDNY, Santore was the most senior firefighter at Ladder 5. He enjoyed surprising his wife and two daughters with wildflowers or an early morning breakfast. Santore loved antiques and looked forward to spending his retirement restoring antique cars.

*John was a loving, giving, caring, honest, "do the right thing" type of guy. He always had a smile on his face.*

**Gregory Saucedo, 31, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 5.** A 10-year FDNY veteran, Saucedo was the youngest of four brothers, one of whom is also an FDNY firefighter. Saucedo was a relentless weightlifter and tireless runner. On the day of the World Trade Center attack, his running skills were put to the test as he sprinted up and down the North Tower's stairs, aiding victims. Saucedo was an extremely social person. He relished the camaraderie of the firehouse and was known for his free-spirited personality and candor.

**Dennis Scauso, 46, firefighter, FDNY, Hazardous Materials 1.** Scauso flew as a commercial pilot before joining the FDNY. Spirited, passionate, and generous, Scauso would go to any length to help family and friends. He once spent a month repairing his sister's car so she could drive back and forth to college and he went to great lengths to rescue injured animals. Above all else, Scauso was devoted to his wife and his four children.

**John A. Schardt, 34, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 201.** In 1999, Schardt was seriously injured in a Sunset Park fire. The lengthy six-month recuperation couldn't deter his enthusiasm for the job he loved. Schardt spent his entire seven-year career at Engine 201. In his free time, he enjoyed fishing, weightlifting, and carpentry.

*He was always willing to lend a hand to anyone who asked. He was the most loving husband, proud father of three beautiful boys, the best son any parents could ask for, and a wonderful brother.*

**Fred C. Scheffold, 57, battalion chief, FDNY, Battalion 12.** For 32 years, Scheffold fought fires in every corner of the city. Off duty, he was always on the lookout for people in need of aid. A "news junkie," he read voraciously and could converse on any topic. Scheffold, a painter and sculptor, decorated the family home and yard with works made of metal and wood. An avid runner, skier, and golfer, he inspired his three daughters to reach their highest goals and set them higher once again. A scholarship fund has been established at his alma mater in the Bronx.

**Fred C. Scheffold** (continued)

*He inspired his daughters to reach their highest goals and set them higher once again. He had the unique ability to make you feel like you were the only one in the room when you were talking to him. He was a magnificent human being and a beautiful soul.*

**Thomas G. Schoales**, 27, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 4. Schoales, a former member of the NYPD, began his FDNY career with Engine 83 in the Bronx. After his first year, he was transferred to Engine 4, but the first firehouse always remained in his heart. Schoales, whose father is an FDNY battalion chief, was the much-loved brother of his five siblings.

*He was a loving son, brother, uncle, and friend. He was intelligent and athletic. Tommy lived as heroically and nobly as he died.*

**Gerard Patrick Schrang**, 45, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 3. It was Schrang's childhood dream to be able to say that he was "on the job" as an FDNY firefighter, and he lived that dream for two decades. Schrang, who had a reputation as a practical joker around the firehouse, was an avid hunter and fisherman. He was married 26 years. He and his wife just recently bought their dream house in upstate New York. They spent weeks at a time there just enjoying life.

*Daddy- you'll always be my hero.*

**Gregory R. Sikorsky**, 34, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 41, in the Bronx. Sikorsky, a five-year veteran, served with the U.S. Marine Reserves in the Persian Gulf War. He was a volunteer with the Hillcrest, N.Y., Fire Company for 16 years. Sikorsky was a licensed pilot, a skydiver, a scuba diver, and a Harley-Davidson rider. He was working to restore a 1939 Mack fire truck, a mission his fellow firefighters in Hillcrest are fulfilling to honor all the victims of September 11th.

*Greg had a zest for life and lived each day to the fullest. Greg's greatest love was his family, and his proudest moments came from times spent with his son.*

**Stephen Gerard. Siller**, 34, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 1. Siller was on his way to play golf with his three older brothers when he heard about the

World Trade Center attack. He called his wife, turned around, and headed back to the firehouse to collect his gear. He loved playing sports, reading, talking, watching the Mets, and helping people. A devoted husband, Siller was the father of five beloved children.

**Stanley S. Smagala, Jr.**, 36, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 226. Smagala, the youngest of seven children, joined the FDNY with his brother, Jim. Jim also responded on September 11th, and escaped the North Tower just before its collapse. At the firehouse, Smagala was known for his high spirits and competence on the job. He enjoyed golf and softball and was a whiz at ping-pong. Smagala and his wife were eagerly anticipating the birth of their first child. Born on January 9, 2002, she is a beautiful blue-eyed, blonde, just like her Daddy.

*Stan enjoyed life and he helped others enjoy theirs. He was simply someone people wanted to be around. Always touching other people's lives, making them laugh and smile, finding the light among the darkness—that was Stan.*

**Kevin J. Smith**, 47, firefighter, FDNY, Hazardous Materials 1. A former Marine, Smith brought military discipline to everything he did. On September 11, he had hoped to use his anti-terrorism training to help at the World Trade Center. A charter member of Hazmat from its 1984 inception, Smith was present at many major disasters. When a disaster occurred, he always called his wife so she wouldn't hear about it first on the news. He was the father of eight. The entire Smith family volunteered with the East Farmingdale Fire Department, the Mastic Fire Department, and the Mastic Ambulance Company.

**Leon Smith Jr.**, 48, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 118. Before joining the FDNY in 1982, Smith worked for the New York City Department of Transportation and the Department of Sanitation; he was also a mental health therapist. He played in charity basketball games and was a member of the Vulcan Society. Smith was cast as an extra firefighter on the television series *Third Watch*. He was nicknamed "Express" because he believed his firetruck, which he called his "girlfriend," should always be among the first to arrive at a fire.

*Leon loved helping others and knew by the early age of nine that he would become a fireman. He was often chastised for disappearing from the park, only to be found hanging out at the local firehouse. His father urged his mother to just "let him be. At least you know he's safe there."*

Robert W. Spear, Jr., 30, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 26. Spear took the FDNY exam about a decade ago, but was wait-listed until February 2000. In the meantime, he served in the U.S. Army, 82nd Airborne Division, as a forward observer. Married in 1999, he was a godfather to four and an uncle to seven. Spear was looking forward to having children of his own.

*Robbie had the ability to make everyone feel loved and special. Any one of his friends will tell you that Robbie was their best friend. He was the life of the party, the comedian, the daring one and the one you would turn to when you needed him most.*

Joseph P. Spor, Jr., 35, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 3. Spor joined the FDNY in 1994 and worked at Engine 88/Ladder 38 for 7 years before being assigned to Rescue 3 just three weeks before the World Trade Center attack. He was thrilled by the move because his father, Joseph Sr., had worked at the same firehouse before him. Spor also had a contracting business for home renovations and additions, specializing in woodworking and cabinetry.

*He was known for his sense of humor and quick wit, accompanied by his easy-going demeanor and ever-present smile.*

Lawrence T. Stack, 58, battalion chief, FDNY, Safety Operations. Stack was devoted to two families: his beloved wife and children and the FDNY. The two overlapped—Stack's father, brother, and brother-in-law were all firefighters and his two sons are current FDNY members. During three decades with the FDNY, Stack amassed an encyclopedic knowledge of the city's buildings. At large fires, he made the call, deciding if a building was safe to enter. His expertise saved firefighters' lives. Stack, a Navy veteran, joined the FDNY in 1968. In 1990, he was promoted to battalion chief.

*To his men, Chief Stack was a second set of eyes. He was their sixth sense. He had their backs! But most important to Stack was his family, his wife of 34 years, Teri, and their sons, Michael and Brian.*

Timothy M. Stackpole, 42, captain, FDNY, Division II. When a floor collapsed during a 1998 five-alarm fire in Brooklyn, two of Stackpole's fellow firefighters were killed and he, then a lieutenant, suffered severe burns. He underwent many surgeries and months of rehabilitation. He returned to full duty in the spring of 2001 and was promoted to captain the week before Sept. 11. Last year, Stackpole was named Irishman of the Year at the Great Irish Fair in Brooklyn.

*Timmy had a huge heart and shared his faith and compassion and love with everyone he met. He was a loving husband and friend, an adored father, and a loving, trusted son and brother.*

Gregory M. Stajk, 46, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 13. Stajk was just three months shy of 20 years on the job. He played baseball at C.W. Post College, where he obtained a degree in fine arts along with trophies for his pitching, and tried out for the Cincinnati Reds. He continued to play ball with the FDNY, and his team won the city softball championship in 1986. He had a prized butterfly collection, held a private pilot's license, and was a trivia expert. He did the best John Wayne impression you could ever hear.

*He was intense and quiet, intellectual, yet he could be the life of the party.*

Jeffrey Joseph Stark, 30, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 230. The youngest of five children, Stark followed in the footsteps of his two older brothers when he joined the FDNY, in 1999, after working in business for a few years. Stark walked into the firehouse with a love for biking, fishing, hunting, camping, and playing guitar. He soon began honing new skills, like carpentry, cooking, and a golf swing that rapidly improved.

*He will always be remembered for his loving kindness and deep caring and as a wonderful man who gave his life as an American hero.*

Benjamin Suarez, 34, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 21. Open, generous, brave, and caring, Suarez was motivated in life by his two great loves—firefighting and his wife, Sally. His wife's name was tattooed on one arm, the FDNY emblem on the other. Always romantic, it was Suarez who sometimes had to remind his wife of the couple's anniversary. Suarez was also devoted to his children. He often brought groups of fellow firefighters to attend their school events.



**Daniel T. Suhr**, 37, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 216. For Suhr, firefighting was a family tradition. His father was a career firefighter and his brother became a firefighter as well. Born and raised in Brooklyn, Suhr was the captain of both the James Madison High School baseball and football teams. As an adult, the 16-year FDNY veteran was nicknamed Captain America because he was always watching out to keep everyone safe, particularly his beloved 2-year old daughter. The South Shore High School football team, which Suhr helped to coach, dedicated its 2001 season to him.

**Christopher P. Sullivan**, 39, lieutenant, FDNY, Ladder 111. Sullivan was a family man who loved teaching his two sons, Brian and Sean, about the things that he enjoyed—kayaking, camping, hiking, fishing, skiing, and cooking.

*He was a wonderful husband and an amazing father. He was big, strong, and athletic with a heart of gold. He loved being a fireman.*

**Brian E. Sweeney**, 29, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 1. When Sweeney joined the FDNY in 1995, he was following a path blazed by his father, a retired FDNY captain. Sweeney rotated to Engine 263, Ladder 8, Engine 214, and Squad 288 before being called to the elite Rescue 1. He took extra training classes on his own time and taught training courses in several firefighting disciplines. He was preparing for the lieutenant's exam scheduled for October 2001. Sweeney loved outdoor activities including snowboarding, skiing, mountain biking, scuba diving, rafting, and rock-climbing.

*Brian wanted to be the very best he could be. His big blue eyes and crooked smile will always be remembered by those who knew and loved him.*

**Sean Patrick Tallon**, 26, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 10. Tallon, just a few weeks away from completing his probationary period, was a corporal in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves and a former EMT in the Bronx. He was nicknamed "Hard-charger" not just because he was a Marine but for the intensity and enthusiasm with which he charged head-on into the events of his life. He loved Irish music and played reels, jigs, and hornpipes on his button accordion.

*For such a strong tough guy, Sean felt deeply for others. He always made sure that he thought enough about a person's problem so that he could give them some good simple advice. Sean somehow managed to be a "tough guy" with a very sensitive heart.*

**Allan Tarasiewicz**, 45, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 5. For Tarasiewicz, an 11-year FDNY veteran, becoming a member of Rescue 5 was the culmination of a life spent looking for new challenges. A former Marine, he had worked as a coalminer and honed his skills as a scuba specialist. At home in Staten Island, Tarasiewicz was working with his wife on the complete renovation of a 100-year old home, bought so he would be close to his firehouse.

**Paul A. Tegtmeier**, 41, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 46. Tegtmeier became a New York City fireman at the age of 40 in 2000, after working as a field technician for Verizon as he waited for his name to climb the wait list. He served for 24 years as a volunteer at the Roosevelt, N.Y., Fire Department, where he met his wife, Catherine, also a volunteer firefighter.

*Paul was always smiling and willing to help his neighbor. At age 40 he was able to fulfill a lifelong dream of becoming a firefighter with FDNY. Paul was the happiest he had ever been at the time of his death.*

**John Patrick Tierney**, 27, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 9. Although his shift had already ended, he jumped on a World Trade Center-bound fire truck that was so crowded he had to sit on another firefighter's lap. John enjoyed playing the guitar, and he especially liked the music of Bob Dylan and the Beatles.

*His quiet, friendly, easygoing manner made him liked by everyone he met. Firefighters from Ladder 9 could tell right from the start that John would some day be a brave and courageous firefighter.*

**John J. Tipping II**, 33, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 4. A six-year veteran and the son of a retired firefighter, Tipping and his father shared a love of snow and skiing. Lately, the younger Tipping had taken up snowboarding. He was a carpenter, a cook, and a ladies' man.



*John found his passion as a NYC firefighter. From our point of view, he was caring, loving, and a perfect son.*

**Hector L. Tirado, Jr.**, 30, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 23. A former EMT and Army veteran, Tirado was drawn to the FDNY by the opportunity to help people. He was used to challenges and the responsibility of caring for others. After his parents died when he was a teenager, Tirado cared for and eventually became legal guardian to his three younger siblings. Later, he worked hard raising his own children. Good-looking as well as hardworking, Tirado was a part-time model.

**R. Bruce Van Hine**, 48, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 41. A 12-year FDNY veteran, Van Hine had always wanted to be a firefighter. He waited seven years to be called from the list. An enthusiastic outdoorsman, he loved camping and hiking, and left Bibles behind in the trailside shelters he stayed in as he completed the Tri-State section of the Appalachian Trail. A devoted husband and father, Van Hine treasured the memory of a five-week camping trip he and his family took together.

*Bruce loved God and "his girls" as he called his two daughters and his wife. He loved being a real firefighter— an FDNY firefighter.*

**Peter Anthony Vega**, 36, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 118. Before joining the FDNY in 1995, Vega was in the U.S. Air Force for six years, serving in the Gulf War. After his honorable discharge, he was employed as an iron worker with Local 40 in New York. Vega also went to night school at City College of New York and obtained a B.A. in liberal arts.

*He was a wonderful husband to Regan and a terrific dad to Ruby. He was the best son and brother anyone could ask for.*

**Lawrence Veling**, 44, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 235. He worked at a second job, as a high school custodian in Manhattan, to make extra money. His free time, however, was devoted to his three children. He was surprised to discover he had a

gift for drawing the characters from Blue's Clues for his son Kevin, who was delighted by his dad's artwork.

*Larry was a proud man who was a devoted husband and father, a loving son and brother, a friend and brother to his fellow firefighters, and a kind and peaceful person to all.*

**John T. Vigiano, II**, 36, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 132. The son of a retired FDNY captain, Vigiano was an honor student and Eagle Scout who went on to earn a bachelor's degree. His younger brother, Joseph, a New York police officer, was also killed in the World Trade Center attacks. Vigiano was a good son, a great father, and an endearing husband who loved his family, especially his wife daughters. He was a sports enthusiast whose favorites were golf and hockey.

*John was a man who enjoyed life. He was always there for people, willing to help and always with a smile. The smile was his trademark.*

**Sergio G. Villanueva**, 33, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 132. Villanueva, who was engaged to be married, had spent eight years as a New York City police officer before joining the FDNY. On the job, colleagues respected his skills and looked forward to his stints in the firehouse kitchen. Villanueva had honed his culinary expertise at his father's Bayside, Queens restaurant. A native of Argentina and a member of the FDNY's soccer team, Villanueva had a passionate love for Argentine soccer. He would be hoarse for days after watching a match.

**Lawrence J. Virgilio**, 38, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 18. Though he had bachelor's degrees in two other disciplines, Virgilio chose firefighting. He had a physical therapy degree from New York University, minored in dance at Queens College, and performed in community theater. The 13-year FDNY veteran excelled, as an advanced rescue specialist with Squad 18. He had recently been bestowed the honor of training to join the elite FDNY team that responds to disasters outside New York City.



**Robert F. Wallace, 43, lieutenant, FDNY, Engine 205.** Wallace served in the FDNY for 21 years and was married for 21 years. He and his wife years had four children. Wallace followed in his footsteps of his father, Eugene, who was a retired FDNY lieutenant.

*Bob was born in New York, but acted like a tourist, always looking up and pointing to the sky. That was his trademark. It was just like Bob to be there when someone was in need. His family will always hold that picture of Bob pointing to the sky and saying, "I'll see you in Heaven some day. I'll be the one with the wings on backwards."*

**Jeffrey P. Walz, 37, firefighter, FDNY, Ladder 9.** A Staten Island native who lived in Tuckahoe, N.Y., Walz was a fireman's son who left a successful career in engineering to follow in his father's footsteps. When he was off work, Walz treasured the time he could spend with his own son. On his days off, he and his son went somewhere special: to the park, a baseball game, or the zoo.

**Michael P. Warchola, 51, lieutenant, FDNY, Ladder 5.** Warchola was a 24-year veteran and was planning on retiring when his last tour of duty ended on September 13, 2001. His brother Dennis is also a retired firefighter. Michael held a bachelor's degree in English from SUNY-Buffalo as well as a teaching certificate. He was an avid reader and loved to travel to the exotic places he'd read about. Michael also enjoyed gardening and hiking and was planning a trip to Australia after his retirement.

*We are so proud of him!*

**Patrick J. Waters II, 44, captain, FDNY, Special Operations.** Waters worked hard to become a member of the Special Operations Command and served as a lieutenant and then captain in all the Rescues, Squads, and Marine Companies. When a pier collapsed in 1998, Waters leaped into the East River and held a woman afloat until she could be hauled in. On September 11, Waters and four firefighters from HazMat 1 were having routine physicals when they heard about the attack. They ran out of the medical office and across the Brooklyn Bridge to the site of the disaster.

*He always had a cup of coffee, he always made me laugh, and he loved our boys wholeheartedly.*

**Kenneth T. Watson, 39, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 214.** Before he joined the FDNY, Watson built skyscrapers, spending eight years as a New York City ironworker. Eventually, however, the call of the firehouse proved irresistible, and he became a firefighter like his father. When not working, Watson enjoyed softball and the outdoors. He went hunting and horseback riding and took his family on camping trips, often with other firefighters and their families. Watson lived in Smithtown, N.Y., where he attended high school and met his wife.

**Michael Thomas Weinberg, 34, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 1.** Weinberg was a gifted athlete who played baseball for St. John's University where he earned 1988's Big East Conference MVP Award. He went on to play minor league baseball with the Detroit Tigers organization. He also worked as a personal trainer, professional model, and as a volunteer for the New York Burn Center. Weinberg, who joined the FDNY in 1994, was on vacation on September 11th. He returned to his firehouse and drove FDNY Chaplain, Father Mychal Judge and Capt. Daniel Brethel to the Towers; all three died that day.

*Michael can best be described as a kind-hearted, soft-spoken gentleman with an air of quiet confidence.*

**David M. Weiss, 41, firefighter, FDNY, Rescue 1.** Weiss excelled with the elite Rescue 1 team, which he joined after receiving the Emily Trevor / Mary B. Warren Medal for Heroism for a daring 1997 East River rescue attempt. In 1993, he was the Fire Fighter's Quarterly Man of the Year. He was also given a New York City Transit Award. Weiss was born and raised in Freeport, N.Y. and was a member of the Freeport Volunteer Fire Department. He was the devoted father of two teenage children.

**Timothy M. Welty, 34, firefighter, FDNY, Squad 288.** An eight-year FDNY veteran, Welty was known for his athleticism, energy, and aggressive firefighting. When he finished his shift, he would channel his energy into activities like bungee jumping, ski racing, mountain climbing, and parachuting. He also played hockey and volleyball for the FDNY. When he became a father, Welty devoted the same enthusiasm to raising his kids. Welty, who lived in Yonkers, renovated his mother's home and had recently started his own construction company.

**Eugene M. Whelan**, 31, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 230. Whelan, who joined the FDNY in 1995, was called “the king of fun” by his captain, but when the alarm sounded, he was all business—a cool professional. Whelan, the ninth of 10 children, loved kids and was Mr. Fix-it in the firehouse’s neighborhood, where many of the children brought their broken bikes to him for repair.

*With his family and friends, he was called “The Hugger.” If you put your hand out to shake his, he would bypass that and give you a big bear hug. Eugene’s big heart brought him to the Twin Towers, and that’s where he died serving others.*

**Edward J. White III**, 30, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 230. White, who was known as Teddy to family and friends, was a firefighter for three years. He was always involved in sports, playing softball or golf, watching football or coaching baseball and basketball in his community. He was an avid baseball fan, especially of the Yankees, and loved collecting baseball cards and other sports memorabilia.

*He was a devoted husband, father, son, brother, and friend.*

**Mark P. Whitford**, 31, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 23. Whitford, who graduated from the Fire Academy in 1998, learned shortly before September 11th that he was to be transferred to Rescue 5. A captain in the U.S. Army Reserve, he was also an accomplished wrestler. He qualified for the NCAA championships while competing for Seton Hall University, and in May 2002, he posthumously received the Medal of Courage from the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. In his free time, Mark loved to go hiking and climbing at Bear Mountain.

*He was a rugged man who always loved a challenge. That’s why being a firefighter came so naturally to him. Nothing made him happier than spending time with his family.*

**Glenn E. Wilkinson**, 46, lieutenant, FDNY, Engine 238. Wilkinson, a 14-year FDNY veteran who was studying for the captain’s test, had set a personal goal of retiring as a chief. Known in the firehouse as a kind, fair man, Wilkinson relished his free time with his family, looking forward to helping with his children’s homework, going out for a jog, or taking bike rides. He played football and lacrosse for Hofstra.

*Glenn was a favorite uncle, a treasured friend, a wonderful brother and son, a loving and supportive husband, and, above all, a phenomenal daddy to his three children. He was a hero to his family long before September 11th.*

**John P. Williamson**, 46, battalion chief, FDNY, Battalion 6. Williamson was dedicated to his job and rose steadily through the ranks during his 23-year FDNY career. He lived in Warwick, N.Y., in a home he had designed and built himself. Williamson was the father of two teenage children. He loved spending his free time with his family, meeting his mother for lunch, golfing with his son, or watching his daughter’s basketball games.

**David T. Wooley Sr.**, 54, captain, FDNY, Ladder 4. Wooley was both an accomplished firefighter and a busy interior decorator. He spent 31 years with the FDNY, earning the respect and admiration of his colleagues. In his spare time, he turned a talent for wallpapering and painting into a profitable hobby and business, often working with his son, brother, and cousin. A warm family man, Wooley took a special joy in playing with his three-year-old grandson.

**William Wren**, 61, FDNY, WTC. A retired member of the FDNY, Wren was the World Trade Center’s fire safety director. He served in the U. S. Army for three years before joining the FDNY. The father of two sons, he retired after a quarter century with the department and began his fire safety job at the World Trade Center.

**Raymond R. York**, 45, firefighter, FDNY, Engine 285. After nearly two decades of service, an injury forced him into light duty. On September 11th, he was assigned to the Fire Zone at Rockefeller Center, where he had found his second calling, teaching children about fire safety. There he was “Fireman Ray” to the kids. When he heard the news, York grabbed his gear, hitched a ride from a television crew and headed downtown. He was a Cub Scout leader and Little League coach. His enjoyed kayak trips with his fellow firefighters, whom he dubbed “The Blazing Paddles.”

*Raymond York went at life full-tilt. In the words of his 9-year old son Michael, “He was a lifesaver. He was a good firefighter. He was a good man. His friends liked him. He was good at everything. He was the best person in the world.”*

## NORTH CAROLINA



**James Henry Haigler**, 44, career driver/operator, Sanford Fire Department, died January 19, 2001, after working a 24-hour shift and responding to calls. Known as "Big Jim," he served with the department for 20 years and had recently taken

the captain's exam. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and telling stories.



**Eddie Dean Mathis**, 45, lieutenant, Dallas Volunteer Fire Department, died July 16, 2001, from injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident while responding to the scene of another accident. He served with the department for 24 years. He was a mechanic and motorcycle enthusiast, a member of the Carolina Cycle Association and TarHeel Rod-tiques.

*He was one of a kind—a loving, caring man who would do anything for anybody. The fire department, Harley-Davidson, and his family were everything to him.*

## OHIO



**William A. Ellison, III**, 38, career firefighter/paramedic, Miami Township Fire Department, Cleves, died March 20, 2001, from complications of burns sustained earlier when a floor collapsed during a house fire. In addition to his part-time work with Miami Township,

he worked full-time for the Anderson Township Fire Department. He spent hours reading to expand his paramedic and firefighting knowledge, a practice that earned him the nickname "Doc."

*He was the type of person who never looked for the spotlight, yet he was always there ready to lend a hand. His keen insight and exceptional abilities earned him the highest respect from his peers.*

**Cynthia J. Verburg**, 47, part-time paid firefighter/EMT, Clayton Fire Department, died July 10, 2001, from injuries sustained on duty. She served the department for 18 years. For most of her life, she was self-employed in retail bicycle

sales and service. She worked with at-risk children and was a driving force in building a BMX track, which was later named in her honor. She was an advocate for bicycle helmet safety and trained fire and police personnel on helmet fitting and safety.



*In her 47 years, she reached out and touched a lot of people. This world was left a better place because of how she lived her life.*

## OREGON

**John Robert Hazlett**, 52, volunteer firefighter, Odell Fire District, died August 19, 2001, from injuries sustained in an accident while driving a tanker truck back to the station after servicing. An Oregon Department of Transportation employee for 23 years, he was an avid hunter and fisherman who loved the outdoors.



*He was a happy, uplifting person who made the best of every situation.*

## PENNSYLVANIA

**Richard C. Canouse**, 69, volunteer firefighter, Milford Fire Department, died April 9, 2001, after responding to the scene of a reported structure fire. He served the department for 46 years, including twice as chief. He also served as the Pike County Firemen's Federation's fire coordinator for over 25 years. He was a hunter and outdoor enthusiast.

*He loved being a volunteer firefighter.*

**Anthony V. Murdick**, 25, assistant chief, Unionville Volunteer Fire Company, Inc., Butler, died April 8, 2001, while attempting to recover the body of a kayaker trapped in a swift-moving current. He and firefighter Scott Wilson, who also died in this incident, joined the department's Junior Firefighter Program together when they were both 16. The father of a young son, Murdick was an advanced diver who was only a few months away from qualifying as a dive master.

*He once said that having a child was the best thing he ever did with his life.*



**Donald L. Nester, 56**, volunteer chief engineer, Amity Fire Company, Douglassville, died February 19, 2001, from injuries sustained in a fall at the firehouse. He was a life member of the department who served on the department's Board of Directors and

as a trustee for 10 years. A machinist by trade, he coached baseball from the time his sons played T-ball until they stopped playing. His wife and two sons are also active members of the department.

*He was well known in his community as a caring and loving husband and father.*



**Richard David Shoaf, Jr., 43**, volunteer firefighter/EMT, Swarthmore Fire and Protective Association, died August 18, 2001, after responding to an emergency call. He served with the department for 26 years and was one of the top responders for 15 years. As the department's Fire Prevention Officer, he often led tours of the firehouse for children, who called him "Fireman Rick." He also served with the South Media Fire Department for 21 years, was active with the Rutledge Fire Company, and was a past member of the Parkside Fire Company.

*He was an incredibly selfless individual who spent most of his adult life serving the residents of his community.*



**Andrew J. White, 27**, lieutenant, Rocky Grove Volunteer Fire Department, Franklin, died January 11, 2001, from burns suffered while battling a house fire. A construction worker by trade, he joined the department as a junior firefighter at age 14. In high school, he served with the school's Fire/Safety Patrol. A member of a firefighting family, his father is assistant chief, his wife is an EMT, and his mother, sister, and uncle are also active with the department. White enjoyed camping, collecting baseball hats, and Harley-Davidson memorabilia.

*He will be deeply missed by his wife, family, close friends, and fire department.*

**Scott B. Wilson, 25**, firefighter/paramedic, Unionville Volunteer Fire Company, Inc., Butler, died April 8, 2001, while attempting to recover the body of a kayaker trapped in a swift-moving current.

Wilson had served as Dive Team Coordinator for the department. He had recently graduated from Pennsylvania Municipal Police Academy and was a corrections officer. A State Fire Academy instructor, he taught at the county vocational-technical school, area hospitals, and local colleges.

*He lived for his family. He died the way he lived —giving his all!*

**Robert J. Winner, 54**, firefighter, Perrysville Volunteer Fire Department, Pittsburgh, died March 16, 2001, after responding to the scene of a structure fire in his neighborhood. He served the department for 37 years, following in the footsteps of his father, a life member, and his grandfather, a charter member of the department. He owned Win-Son, Inc. for over 30 years. Through his business, he committed his life to properly equipping fire departments in western Pennsylvania with fire trucks and equipment.

*He was known as a dedicated family man, a loving husband and caring father. He will always be remembered as a man who dedicated and ultimately gave his life to the safety of others in need.*

## RHODE ISLAND

**Ralph Warren Blackmar, 66**, firefighter, South Foster Volunteer Fire Department, died August 1, 2001, while driving a fire engine to a fire. A longtime volunteer with the department, he was a very dedicated and dependable firefighter who responded consistently during daytime hours when fewer volunteers are available. He was a founder and past president of the Foster Ambulance Corps. A graduate of the Territorial College of Guam and the University of Rhode Island, Blackmar was also an Air Force veteran.



## SOUTH CAROLINA



**Jeffrey Vaden Chavis**, 22, career firefighter, Lexington County Fire Service, died July 12, 2001, from burns sustained while fighting a house fire a month earlier. He became a volunteer firefighter on his 18th birthday, trained as an EMT, and later became a career firefighter. He received awards for excellence in training and was named Firefighter of the Year twice. Built with donations given in his honor, the Jeffrey Vaden Chavis House, on the grounds of the Southeastern Firefighters Burn Foundation, will house families of burn victims free of charge.

*The first day you put on your gear, that's when you become a hero. He became a hero at age 18, and he lived his dream until his death.*

## TENNESSEE



**Debra Sinard**, 43, volunteer firefighter, White Pine Fire Department, died December 12, 2001, after completing airpacc training. She was the first woman to serve with the department. Instrumental in establishing the department's Junior Fire Cadet Program, her son became the first Junior Fire Cadet. She coordinated the Toys for Tots program each year and was active with fundraising, prevention, and the annual Christmas dinner.

*Her positive attitude and her determination, enthusiasm, and desire to help others will always be felt at the station.*



**Hairold Junior Strode**, 46, seasonal forester, Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry, died November 10, 2001, as a result of burns while fighting a wildfire. A fulltime state employee, he loved the outdoors and enjoyed fishing, hunting, and working with wood. He was known for pulling practical jokes on family and friends.

*He enjoyed the simple things in life—just being with family and friends and having a good time.*

## TEXAS

**David Butler**, 43, firefighter, Spring Branch Volunteer Fire Department, died December 24, 2001, while driving a fire truck to a fire.

**Jim Clingenpeel**, 38, volunteer captain, Rosehill Fire Department, died June 20, 2001, following a department training exercise 10 days earlier. He had become ill, underwent surgery and remained in the hospital until his death. Clingenpeel was co-leader of the department's Explorers program and treasurer of the Board of Directors. He worked as a mechanic's helper.

*He was one of the department's most dedicated members and was a "character" who loved to tell jokes and stories.*

**Gerald Wayne Fields**, 53, career driver/engineer, Dallas Fire-Rescue, died March 10, 2001, while on duty at the station. He served 32 years with the department. A Lions Club building was named in his honor because of his efforts to raise money and help with construction. He was a Life and National member of the PTA and was active with scouting programs.

*He was a person who put others first and loved being a firefighter.*

**Jay Paul Jahnke**, 40, career captain, Houston Fire Department, died October 13, 2001, while trying to rescue residents from a high-rise apartment fire. He served with the department for 20 years and was a member of the Houston Medical Strike Team, Swift Water Rescue, and was haz-mat certified. He also served with the Cy-Creek Volunteer Fire Department, where he was the chief safety officer. He was an instructor at Texas A&M Fire School and the Houston Fire Department Citizens Fire Academy.

*We will miss his loving generosity, his goodness, and his unselfishness. His legacy of heroism and our fond memories of him will guide us in all we do.*



## WASHINGTON



**Jeremy D. Chandler**, 27, volunteer firefighter, Grant County Fire District #5, Moses Lake, died June 18, 2001, after a brush fire. This married stepfather of three was chosen Firefighter of the Year in 1996 and again, posthumously, in 2001. He

loved four wheelers, remote control cars, camping, swimming, golfing, and kids.

*He was full of energy, excited about everything, simple and straightforward. Life was a joy to him—one adventure after another.*



**Tom L. Craven**, 30, crew chief, U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, died July 10, 2001, while fighting the Thirtymile Fire. Three other firefighters also died in this incident. Craven began working with the U.S. Forest Service as a

seasonal firefighter while still in high school and became a permanent employee in 1999. He was an accomplished athlete who earned 11 varsity letters in high school and went on to play football for both College of the Redwoods and Central Washington University.

*His enthusiasm, sense of humor, and strength of character made him a person no one will ever forget. We were fortunate to have known him.*



**Karen Lee FitzPatrick**, 18, seasonal firefighter, U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, died July 10, 2001, while fighting the Thirtymile Fire. She had just graduated from high school, where she was an honor student, athlete, photographer,

and musician known for her beautiful voice. A devout Christian, she served as the Music Director at the small church she attended. She planned to enroll in college to study fire science in preparation for a career as an EMT.

*The spiritual seeds she planted in so many lives continue to grow and flourish.*

**Jessica L. Johnson**, 19, seasonal firefighter, U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, died July 10, 2001, while fighting the Thirtymile Fire. She was a Food Science and Nutrition major at Central Washington University and a volunteer firefighter with West Valley Fire District. She was raised in the country and loved nature, animals, camping, fishing, water skiing, boating, hiking, swimming, and running.

*It meant everything to her to help other people. She was the sunshine of her family's life for 20 years.*



**Allan McCrae Marriott**, 46, volunteer firefighter/engineer, Port Townsend Fire Department, died September 8, 2001, after responding to the scene of a false alarm. He was a firefighter for 23 years and was the top responder for his district for five consecutive years. A father and foster parent, he also volunteered at the fair and coached Little League. At his job as a water quality manager, he loved interacting with people and always did outstanding work.

*He never hesitated to give back to his community. Time with his family was a treasure to him.*



**Devin A. Weaver**, 21, seasonal firefighter, U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, died July 10, 2001, while fighting the Thirtymile Fire. A Little League All-Star, he played high school varsity baseball team and at Yakima Valley Community College. He planned to study electrical engineering at the University of Washington in the fall of 2001. Weaver loved the outdoors and was described by family as intelligent, courageous, thoughtful, and kind.

## WEST VIRGINIA

**Clifford A. White, Jr.**, 21, firefighter, Cameron Volunteer Fire Department, died November 19, 2001, from injuries sustained while responding to a fire call. He had been a member of the department for less than a year, having previously volunteered with the



**Clifford A. White, Jr. (cont.)**

Roberts Ridge and Dallas Fire Departments. He lived with his grandparents and could often be found fishing with his grandfather.

*He loved working and playing with kids. His main goal was to help people. He always had a smile for anyone he would meet.*

**WISCONSIN**

**Dennis A. Dart**, 62, firefighter, Sugar Camp Volunteer Fire Department, died November 2, 2001, at the scene of a vehicle fire. He was a charter member of the department with more than 33 years of service. He was on the town board for over 20 years and was an

active member of the Sugar Camp Lions Club. He worked for the Rhinelander Telephone Company for 44 years. In 1993, he was chosen Sugar Camp Community Volunteer of the Year.

*He spent most of his free time with his three grandchildren.*

**James Izzie Isberner**, 60, paid on-call firefighter, Montello Joint Fire District, died February 19, 2001, after collapsing a week earlier while fighting a

structure fire. He served with the department for over 37 years and was a past assistant chief and training officer. His son is a captain with the department and was working at the same fire. Isberner worked as a master plumber and was an avid golfer, hunter, and bowler.



*He was a great grandfather and dad and loving husband.*

**Dana R. Johnson**, 46, assistant chief, Grantsburg Volunteer Fire Department, died February 26, 2001, from injuries sustained the day before when he was trapped as he fought a structure fire. During the last 10 years, he was very active with the fire department and often stopped at the station early in the morning after working the night shift at his job at a manufacturing company. An active first responder, he was particularly proud of his Firefighter of the Year award.



*He was a devoted family man. He was always cheerful, always had a smile, and never had a bad word to say about anyone.*





## FIREFIGHTERS FROM PREVIOUS YEARS BEING HONORED IN 2002

## CALIFORNIA



C. Allen Donelan, III, 34, career firefighter, Orange County Fire Authority, Orange, died September 13, 1998, as a result of complications from a back injury he suffered while returning after an emergency response.

He shared his love of the fire service through his work as the Explorer Post advisor at his fire station. His interests ranged from herding cattle to playing roller hockey to collecting Disney memorabilia.

*He sought out new adventures constantly. His animated and lighthearted spirit infected those around him with the energy, persistence, and joy of life that was within him.*

## NEW YORK

Charles E.H. Lauber, Jr., 55, volunteer firefighter, Smithtown Fire Department, died December 24, 2000, from injuries sustained earlier in a fall. He served with the department for 35 years and was a fire commissioner and former chief. He was responsible for the design, development, and installation of the district's Board of Fire Commissioners.

*He was a caring, compassionate person whose absence leaves a tremendous void.*

Marshall S. Schulman, 43, volunteer firefighter, Haverstraw Fire Department, died January 7, 1998, from complications related to exposure at a hazmat incident several years earlier. Schulman worked on the emergency response team at Lederle Laboratories, where he was employed for 18 years.



Richard L. Van Wert, 58, volunteer chief, Schaghticoke Fire Department, died December 10, 1999, when an explosion occurred during the controlled burning of fireworks residue. He served for 43 years with the department, holding numerous

offices over the years. He was chosen Rensselaer County Fire Chief of the Year in 1998 and 1999. His son is also a member of the department. Van Wert served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam.



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*Special thanks for the continuing support from our Federal partners:*

- Bureau of Justice Assistance, U. S. Department of Justice*  
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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 rebuilding their lives.

#### **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 that include 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 survivors 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 Fire Service Survivors 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 including a Lending Library. Our Web site provides information on Federal, State and local survivor benefits and other resources.

#### **AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS TO SURVIVING SPOUSES AND CHILDREN**

Spouses, children and stepchildren of fallen firefighters are eligible for scholarship assistance for education and job training costs.

#### **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 receive pre-incident planning support through the Foundation. Our Web site provides information on steps to follow when a tragedy strikes. Immediately after a loss, a Chief-to-Chief Network provides professional and personal support from another chief who "has been there."

#### **ASSIST AFTER WORLD TRADE CENTER TRAGEDY**

Immediately after the disaster, the Foundation coordinated resources from across the country to provide support to FDNY's Counseling Services Unit. Mounting an unprecedented response effort, the Foundation helped families and coworkers through the critical early days. The Foundation is now providing long-term emotional support for the fallen firefighters' families.

#### **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.



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*And the thousands of others who have helped in so many ways.*

# National Memorial Service



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