



# NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

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## **Four Georgia Fallen Firefighters to be Honored at National Memorial Service on October 7**

For live streaming information and satellite coordinates, along with video of events for downloading, go to [www.live.firehero.org](http://www.live.firehero.org)

EMMITSBURG, MD – The U.S. Fire Service will honor four firefighters, who died in the line of duty, from Georgia during the 37<sup>th</sup> National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service on Sunday, October 7, 2018. They are among the 80 firefighters who died in the line of duty in 2017 and 23 firefighters who died in previous years who will be remembered at the official national service at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Battalion Chief John Chester, IV, age 56, of the Whitfield County Fire Department, died on May 18, 2017, from an aortic aneurysm after responding to an emergency call for a possible natural gas leak.

Lieutenant Michael Scot Norton, age 38, of the Coweta County Fire Rescue Department, was found in medical distress within several hours of responding to a residential structure fire. He was transported to the hospital where he later died on March 2, 2017.

Firefighter Darrell L. Plank, age 29, of the Macon County Fire Rescue died at the hospital on May 23, 2017, several days after suffering a traumatic head injury at the scene of a residential structure fire.

Firefighter Michel Lance “Thorny” Thorne, age 45, of the City of Grovetown Fire Department, died from a heart attack on November 19, 2016, within 24-hours of responding to several emergency calls during a 12-hour overtime shift.

Their names will be added to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial on the Academy grounds. The national tribute is sponsored by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) and the Department of Homeland Security’s U.S. Fire Administration.

More than 5,000 people, including families, friends, members of Congress, Administration officials and firefighters are expected to attend on Sunday. Firefighter Honor Guards and Pipe & Drum units from across the U.S. will participate in this national remembrance.

For a complete list of fallen firefighters being honored and a widget to display their information on your website, along with Memorial Weekend related videos, photos, media and broadcast information go to [www.firehero.org](http://www.firehero.org).