



NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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25 New York 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

EMMITSBURG, MD – The U.S. Fire Service will honor 25 firefighters, who died in the line of duty, from New York during the 37th 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.

Lieutenant Ronald D. Biller, age 78, of the Fire Department of New York, died on September 18, 2016, from an illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter David E. Carr, age 62, of the Brasher-Winthrop Volunteer Fire Department died at home on November 4, 2017, of a heart attack within 24-hours of responding to and assisting with extinguishing a large wood pellet industrial fire inside a metal warehouse building.

Firefighter Virginia Culkin-Spinelli, age 57, of the Fire Department of New York, died on December 19, 2011, from an illness related to her response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Battalion Chief George D. Eysser, age 75, of the Fire Department of New York, died on June 13, 2015, from an illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter Robert A. “Fitchie” Fitch, age 60, of the East Herkimer Fire Department, died on November 28, 2017, from a heart attack after responding as part of a technical rescue crew to extract a citizen who became stuck on some cliffs while trying to rescue their pet.

Firefighter William J. Gormley, age 53, of the Fire Department of New York, died on June 14, 2015, from an illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Captain John R. Graziano, Sr., age 63, of the Fire Department of New York, died on March 13, 2015, from an illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter Walter E. Hauser, age 62, of the Rochester Fire Department, died on July 2, 2011 from injuries he sustained on February 11, 1981, while rescuing fellow firefighters during a department store fire at the Midtown Plaza. Exposed to toxic fumes, he suffered severe damage to his lungs. He eventually endured a heart and lung transplant and cancer.

Firefighter Daniel Heglund, age 59, of the Fire Department of New York, died on September 22, 2014, from an illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter Ronald W. Hinkle, age 71, of the Loch Sheldrake Fire Department, died on October 17, 2017, after he was found unresponsive at home several hours after responding to assist at the scene of a motor vehicle accident.

Firefighter David L. Jahnes, age 58, of the Nyack Fire Department, died of a heart attack on December 18, 2017, while at the scene of an investigation into an odor at a bank which turned out to be an overheating battery in the alarm system.

Firefighter Richard Kaplan, age 80, of the Jericho Volunteer Fire Department, was found deceased at home on January 23, 2017, after responding to four emergency calls in the prior 24-hours.

Firefighter James J. Lanza, age 71, of the Fire Department of New York, died on April 6, 2017, from an illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter Brian C. Malloy, age 52, of the Fire Department of New York, died on March 28, 2011, from an illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Battalion Chief Richard E. McGuire, age 65, of the Fire Department of New York, died on December 9, 2012, from an illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Fire Marshal Martin "Woody" McHale, age 50, of the Fire Department of New York, died on December 2, 2012, after suffering a heart attack a few hours after responding to and investigating a suspicious fire in a stairwell at a residential, multi-story public housing facility.

Firefighter Robert E. Newman, age 70, of the Fire Department of New York, died on February 9, 2017, from an illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter Michael R. O'Hanlon, age 59, of the Fire Department of New York, died on June 14, 2017, from an illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter Joseph "Toolie" O'Toole, age 61, of the Fire Department of New York, died on December 12, 2016, from an illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter Raymond J. Pfeifer, age 59, of the Fire Department of New York, died on May 28, 2017, from an illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Lieutenant Steven Sorger, age 62, of the Fire Department of New York, died on March 11, 2017, from an illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter Lawrence J. Sullivan, age 54, of the Fire Department of New York, died on August 20, 2012, from an illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter Charles S. Szoke, age 44, of the Fire Department of New York, died on December 1, 2014, from an illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter William N. Tolley, age 42, of the Fire Department of New York, died on April 20, 2017, while attempting to access the roof of a five-story apartment building to conduct ventilation operations during a structure fire, when he fell from the bucket of the ladder truck.

Firefighter William "Woody" Woodlon, age 66, of the Fire Department of New York, died on August 20, 2016, from an illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

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.