



NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

April 25, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL WEEKEND WILL HONOR AND REMEMBER 226 FIREFIGHTERS

Twenty-four New York Fallen Firefighters Among Those Being Honored on May 4-5, 2024

EMMITSBURG, Md. – The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) will host the **43rd National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend** (Memorial Weekend) on May 4-5, 2024 in Emmitsburg, Maryland. This year's national tribute will honor 89 firefighters who died in the line of duty in 2023 and 137 firefighters who died in previous years. The honorees will include the following New York firefighters:

Firefighter Thomas Anderson Jr., age 61, of the Fire Department City of New York, died on 7/7/23, from illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter Jason Arno, age 37, of the Buffalo Fire Department, responded to a structure fire on 3/1/23 at a commercial building. While fighting the fire, there was a backdraft that sent flames and smoke into the street. The situation quickly deteriorated, and firefighters had to evacuate the collapsing interior. Firefighter Arno became trapped, and a mayday was called. He was found deceased in the building a short time later.

Fire Police Officer Edward "Red" Corrigan, age 83, of the North Patchogue Fire District, died on 2/26/2021 due to complications of COVID-19.

Firefighter Peter Dromms, age 77, of the North Syracuse Fire Department, responded to a residential structure fire on 1/13/2023. He reported that he was not feeling well to a fellow firefighter and was transported to the hospital where it was confirmed he was having a heart attack. He had surgery after his heart attack and was released from the hospital. Within days, he was readmitted to the hospital due to complications from the surgery. He remained in the hospital until he died on 3/25/2023.

EMMITSBURG

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Lieutenant/EMT Rebecca Eleczko, age 32, of the Millgrove Volunteer Fire Department, died on 1/4/2021 due to complications of COVID-19.

Firefighter Dennis A. Farrell, age 58, of the Fire Department City of New York, died on 2/23/21, from illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter Russell Feliciano, age 62, of the Fire Department City of New York, died on 1/10/22 from illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter John P. Fogarty, age 81, of the Fire Department City of New York, died on 8/25/20, from illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter Frederick "Freddy" H. Gallagher, age 61, of the Fire Department City of New York, died on 3/1/22, from illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter Michael Gebert, age 28, of the Fire Department City of New York, died on 9/11/22, from complications of cancer, deemed by the State of New York to be a line-of-duty death.

Firefighter Wayne Goehring, age 51, of the Fire Department City of New York, died on 7/19/21, from illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

2nd Assistant Chief Steven Harris, age 57, of the Fort Johnson Volunteer Fire Company, was responding to a structure fire on 2/13/23, when he began having breathing difficulties and went into cardiac arrest. He was taken to the hospital where he died due to multi-system organ failure.

Fire Marshal Robert Kelly, age 61, of the Fire Department City of New York, died on 11/20/20, from illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Battalion Chief David Lachenauer, age 61, of the City of Watertown, died on 3/23/18, from illness related to response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Lieutenant Leonard Llewellyn, age 82, of the Mattituck Fire Department, was responding to the station for an emergency medical call during the afternoon of 8/22/2023 when he was struck by a car. He was transported to the hospital where he died on 8/24/2023 due to the injuries sustained in the accident.

Firefighter James Mager, age 61, of the Fire Department City of New York, died on 4/8/23, from illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter Anthony Malfi, age 53, of the Fire Department City of New York, died on 6/8/21, from illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter Anthony Mauro, age 34, of the Fire Department City of New York, died on 1/27/23, from complications of cancer, deemed by the State of New York to be a line-of-duty death.

Lieutenant James F. McCauley Jr., age 64, of the Fire Department City of New York, died on 9/20/22, from illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Battalion Chief Brian O'Flaherty, age 80, of the Fire Department City of New York, died on 12/3/2022 from illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Battalion Chief James Redmond, age 69, of the Fire Department City of New York, died on 12/11/21, from illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter Karl Sederholt, age 74, of the Fire Department City of New York, died on 5/22/23, from illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Firefighter Christopher Viviano, age 53, of the Fire Department City of New York, died on 1/19/22, from illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. He was hospitalized due to COVID-19 at the time of his death. His death certificate indicates his official cause of death as interstitial lung disease which was from 9-11 WTC rescue and recovery.

Firefighter Patrick Whalen, age 62, of the Fire Department City of New York, died on 8/22/21, from illness related to his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Detailed information about each of the 226 firefighters being memorialized can be found on the [2024 Roll of Honor](#).

“National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend is a time for our nation to pause and reflect on the heroic efforts and selfless service of the fallen firefighters we are paying tribute to this year,” said NFFF CEO Victor Stagnaro. “We will always remember the bravery, commitment, and sacrifices of each of these 226 heroes—and their families.”

There are **two events open to the public** at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Park on the grounds of the National Emergency Training Center (NETC) during Memorial Weekend.

- The **National Fallen Firefighters Candlelight Service** is on May 4 at 7:30 pm ET and will be hosted by Fire Captain Garon Mosby of the St. Louis Fire Department.
- The **National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service** is on May 5 at 10:00 am ET and will be hosted by actor Jeremy Holm.

Fire service and government leaders are scheduled to address the thousands of attendees at the Memorial Service on Sunday, May 5. The NFFF will live stream both events on the NFFF's [website \(firehero.org\)](#), [YouTube channel](#), and [Facebook page](#).

There are additional events during Memorial Weekend provided exclusively for the families and fire departments of honored firefighters. These include small group sessions and other activities throughout Friday and Saturday; they are open to the families and coworkers of newly honored and previously honored firefighters.

Schedule

Saturday, May 4, 2024

Candlelight Service

Time: 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm ET

Streaming begins at 7:00 pm ET

Sunday, May 5, 2024

Memorial Service

Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm ET

Streaming begins at 9:30 am ET

The NFFF will provide live satellite feeds of both events. Technical support is being provided by VISTA Worldlink, Comcast Beltway, and INTELSAT. Satellite coordinates can be found at live.firehero.org. Images from the 2023 Memorial Weekend are [here](#).

Location

National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Park
National Emergency Training Center (NETC)
16835 S. Seton Avenue
Emmitsburg, MD 21727

Media Information

Members of the media who plan to attend Memorial Weekend are asked to RSVP in advance to gain access to the NETC.

Obtain credentials here: [For the Media - National Fallen Firefighters Foundation \(firehero.org\)](http://firehero.org).

How Communities Can Participate

Those not attending Memorial Weekend in person can also **pay tribute to this year's honored firefighters**. All can participate in [Light the Night for Fallen Firefighters](#) (May 1 – 5) by lighting their homes, businesses, landmarks, or fire departments with red lights. Other ways to remember include [Bells Across America](#), [Sound the Sirens](#), and by signing a virtual [Remembrance Banner](#).

In addition, the **American flag will be lowered to half-staff on all Federal buildings on Sunday, May 5**. The public is also encouraged to lower their American flags that day to recognize the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Public Access And Parking

Public parking for Memorial Weekend is at Liberty Mountain Resort (78 Country Club Trail, Fairfield, PA). Shuttles from Liberty Mountain Resort will begin at 3:30 pm on Saturday, May 4 for the Candlelight Service and at 7:30 am on Sunday, May 5 for the Memorial Service.

Memorial Weekend is supported by individual and corporate donors, a grant from the **Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance**, and in partnership with the **U.S. Fire Administration**, a component of the **U.S. Department of Homeland Security**.

Social Media: #FireHero2024 #NFFF

Website: weekend.firehero.org

LOCATION if inclement weather

PNC Stadium (ARCC)
Mount Saint Mary University
16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd
Emmitsburg, MD 21727

Media contact:

- NFFF Media Line: 202-938-6260 or Bill Delaney, bdelaney@firehero.org

ABOUT THE NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION (NFFF)

The United States Congress created the NFFF to lead a nationwide effort to honor America's fallen firefighters. The mission is to honor America's fallen fire heroes; support their families, colleagues, and organizations; and work to reduce preventable firefighter death and injury. The National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Park includes the National Fallen Firefighters Monument, the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Chapel, a brick Walk of Honor, a September 11th memorial sculpture, and the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Bell of Remembrance. Information about the NFFF and the Memorial Park can be found [here](#).

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