

Memorial 2004

Larry Russell
Athens, Alabama
January 2, 2004
Age 42

Larry was shot and killed when he was ambushed while responding to a call. The suspect had called police asking to speak with FBI agents. When Larry and his officers arrived at the scene they were ambushed and shot several times. Larry was a Sergeant; with the Department for 19 years and leaves behind his wife and five children.

Tony Mims
Athens, Alabama
January 2, 2004
Age 40

Tony was shot and killed when he was ambushed while responding to a call. The suspect had called police asking to speak with FBI agents. When Tony and fellow officers arrived at the scene they were ambushed and shot several times. Tony was with the Department for 15 years. He leaves behind his wife, four children and a grandchild.

Captain Jim Baugh
Putnam County, Indiana
January 2, 2004
Age 62

Jim was killed while responding to a minor traffic accident. His patrol car left the road and overturned into a creek, trapping him inside for over 15 minutes. Jim was a Captain; had served with the Putnam County Sheriff's Office for over 30 years and had previously served as sheriff. He leaves behind his wife and two sons.

Deputy Sheriff Kenneth R. Burton
Richmond County, Georgia
January 4, 2004
Age 46

Kenneth died from injuries two days prior when he was struck by a vehicle. He was working an accident scene directing traffic around an overturned tractor-trailer when he was struck and thrown 35 feet. Kenneth was with the Richmond County Sheriff's Department for 13 months. He leaves behind his wife, son, and daughter.

Stephen Smith
University of California Irvine Police Department, California
January 6, 2004
Age 32

Stephen suffered a fatal heart attack while on bike patrol. He passed away four days later. Stephen was with UCI Police Department for 3 years and had previously served with the UCI Riverside Police Department for 7 years. He leaves behind his wife, two children, stepson, parents, and two brothers.

Deputy Sheriff Sidney A. Zaffuto
Orleans Parish, Louisiana
January 8, 2004
Age 50

Sidney was shot and killed during a bank robbery moonlighting as a security guard at a bank. Three suspects entered the bank, disarming Sidney while holding him at gunpoint. A second deputy, in the rear of the bank, saw what was happening and confronted them. A shootout started, Sidney was shot in the chest, the second deputy was struck in the leg. Two suspects were wounded, the third fled the scene. A plainclothes detective saw the suspects fleeing, called for backup and he and responding officers took two of the suspects into custody. Two U.S. Coast Guard petty officers, took the third suspect into custody. Sidney was with the Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's Office for 21 years. He leaves behind his wife, son, two step-children, and two grandchildren.

Clinton Earl Walker
Prattville Police Department, Alabama
January 14, 2004
Age 26

Clinton was accidentally shot and killed by a fellow officer during a training exercise. They were using mock weapons during the exercise. After the exercise, one of the other officers began carrying his service weapon again. Clinton was shot in the stomach standing on the loading dock at the post office. He died 8 hours later. Clinton was with the Prattville Police Department for 3 years. He leaves behind his wife.

Sergeant Ronald H. Phillips
Polk County, Nebraska
January 26, 2004
Age 56

Ronald died from a fatal heart attack trying to remove his patrol car while being stuck in a snow storm. He did call for a tow truck. but when it arrived 8 minutes later the driver found Ronald suffering from cardiac arrest inside his patrol car. He was transported to the hospital where he died a short time later. He was with the department for 5 years and had served in law enforcement for 20 years. He had previously served as chief of police of Syracuse PD, Ainsworth PD, and Minden PD. Ronald leaves behind his wife and two sons.

Steven Phillips
Westminster, California
January 29, 2004
Age 46

Steven was killed in a motorcycle accident when the driver of a car failed to stop at a stop sign. His motorcycle struck the driver's side door of the car. The driver of the car also died in the accident. Steven was with the department for 18 years. He leaves behind his wife.

Nick Sloan
St. Louis, Missouri
January 30, 2004
Age 24

Nick was shot and killed in a narcotics operation. Nick and another officer were searching a suspect after a drug deal when the man grabbed Nick's gun, opened fire, striking both officers. Nick's partner returned fire and killed the suspect. Nick was department for just over 2 years. He leaves behind his 13-month-old child. Nick's father is a sergeant with the police department.

Sergeant Keith Ferguson
New York City, New York
January 31, 2004
Age 38

Keith died when he had a heart attack while running to assist an officer. He was on patrol when he heard the call for assistance, attempting to arrest the suspect. Keith's vehicle got stuck in heavy traffic. He left his vehicle and began to run to the location where the officer needed assistance. As he arrived with several other officers responding to the call, he collapsed on the trunk of a car, gasping and clutching his chest. His partners removed his bullet resistant vest and gave him mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and chest compressions while racing to the hospital. Keith was with the department for 17 years.

Jerry Ridgell
Chicot County, Arkansas
February 1, 2004
Age 50

Jerry had a fatal heart attack a few hours after responding to an officer needs assistance call. Dispatch contacted him at home off duty telling him an on-call deputy was holding a burglary suspect at gunpoint. Jerry put on his uniform and went to assist. When arriving at the scene the suspect had just been taken into custody, but Jerry assisted the deputy and suspect to jail before going back home. A few hours after getting home Jerry had a heart attack. Jerry was a Deputy with the Sheriff's Office for 5 years. He was previously with Montrose PD for 1 year. Jerry leaves behind his wife.

Detective William Rolniak Jr.
Riverdale, Illinois
February 4, 2004
Age 39

William was shot and killed execution style after being taken hostage inside the Riverdale Police Department. A suspect, who was not handcuffed, was being interviewed for attempted murder, home invasion, and aggravated kidnapping after breaking into a home and abducting his ex-girlfriend at gunpoint. As he was being moved to another room in the station, he grabbed William's service weapon out of its holster forcing William out of the building. He took him behind a building across the street from the police station, and shot him in the head. Three other officers arrived at the scene and shot and killed the suspect. William was with the department for 14 years. He leaves behind his wife and two teenage daughters.

Trooper Bertram Zimmerman III
New Jersey State Police, New Jersey
February 5, 2004
Age 32

Bertram was killed in a car accident while responding to a robbery call. He and fellow officers were part of a stakeout following a recent series of armed robberies at area convenience stores. Bertram's patrol car left the roadway and struck a utility pole. He was with the New Jersey State Police for 3 years. He leaves behind his wife.

Deputy Sheriff Brian Robert Litz
Marion County, Florida
February 7, 2004
Age 36

Brian was shot and killed while making a routine check on an elderly man who lived alone. The man he was checking on and another resident of the retirement community were also shot and killed. Brian was with the department for 10 years and leaves behind his wife and 4-year-old son.

John Maki
Celeste, Texas
February 10, 2004
Age 33

John was killed in a car accident with another vehicle on the way to help in an ongoing investigation. He was a Sergeant with the Celeste Police Department for 2 years. John leaves behind his parents.

Lieutenant John Finn
Albany, New York
February 12, 2004
Age 37

John died from being shot with a Tech-9 six weeks earlier during a foot chase of a bank robbery suspect. One round was stopped by his vest, one struck his leg, and another hit his stomach between two panels of the vest. John was with the department for 13 years. He leaves behind his wife and two daughters.

Investigator Mark Reid Tucker
Wake County, North Carolina
February 12, 2004
Age 49

Mark was shot and killed on duty. His body was found next to his unmarked patrol car, his service weapon was still in its holster. Mark had been with the Sheriff's Office for 24 years, he also served with the United States Marshals Service for 4 years.

Corporal Matthew Thompson
Mobile, Alabama
February 12, 2004
Age 43

Matthew died from injuries when he was struck by a vehicle while working the scene of an accident. He was helping load one of the cars onto a wrecker when another car struck him in dark, rainy conditions. He was not wearing a reflective traffic vest at the time. He died from his injuries the following day. Matthew was with the department for 18 years. He leaves behind his wife, son, and two daughters.

Matthew Bowens
Detroit, Michigan
February 16, 2004
Age 21

Matthew was shot and killed while making a traffic stop. As he and a fellow officer were sitting in their patrol car calling in the license plate of the vehicle, the suspect exited his car and shot at them striking Matthew's fellow officer several times. Matthew left the patrol car and called for help. The suspect reappeared and shot Matthew nine times as Matthew took cover behind his patrol car. Neither officer had a chance to return fire. The suspect fired 22 rounds at the officers during the incident. The suspect fled in his truck, with parts of the shooting recorded on the patrol car's camera. The suspect and his brother were arrested several hours later. Matthew was with the department for three years and leaves behind his wife and daughter.

Jennifer Fettig
Detroit, Michigan
February 16, 2004
Age 26

Jennifer was shot while making a traffic stop. As she and a fellow officer were sitting in their patrol car calling in the license plate of the vehicle, the suspect exited his car and shot her several times. Her partner left the patrol car and called for help. The suspect reappeared shooting her partner nine times as he took cover behind his patrol car. Neither officer had a chance to return fire. The suspect fired 22 rounds at the officers during the incident. The suspect fled in his truck, with parts of the shooting recorded on the patrol car's camera. The suspect and his brother were arrested several hours later. Jennifer died 12 hours after being shot. She was with the department for 3 years and leaves behind her fiancé.

Frank (Scotty) Claborn
Harris County, Texas
February 19, 2004
Age 39

Scotty was killed when his patrol car was struck from behind by a drunk driver, in a pickup truck, while providing an escort to construction vehicles. His car went into the back of one of the construction vehicles causing it to flip over several times. The patrol car landed on its roof. The driver had blood alcohol content three times the legal limit, he was arrested and charged with intoxicated manslaughter. Scotty was a Deputy Constable Claborn and leaves behind his wife and 9-year-old son.

Ricardo Lizarraga
Los Angeles, California
February 20, 2004
Age 30

Ricardo and his partner were flagged down by a woman while on patrol. She told them she was having problems with a friend and wanted him removed from her home. As the officers approached the man to search him, he pulled out a handgun and opened fire, hitting Ricardo in the abdomen, below his vest. His partner returned fire as the suspect fled the scene. Ricardo died 2 hours later. He was with the Los Angeles Police Department for 2 and a half years. and leaves behind his wife.

Special Agent Thomas Wyatt
Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, Minnesota
March 3, 2004
Age 33

Thomas was killed while driving his personal vehicle, on duty, when he struck a logging truck head on. He had served with the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension for six years, and had been in law enforcement for 10 years. Thomas leaves behind his wife and two young children.

Sergeant Ken Brown
Atlantic City, New Jersey
March 10, 2004
Age 52

Ken died from a heart attack after responding to a fight and disturbance at a basketball game. After assisting with an arrest, he was driving to the station to complete a report when he had the heart attack. Ken was with the Atlantic City Police Department for 27 years. He leaves behind his wife and six children.

Jason Scott
Loudon County, Tennessee
March 12, 2004
Age 24

Jason was shot 4 times and killed as he was getting out of his patrol car at a domestic disturbance as he exited his car by a 16-year-old boy who had been beating his mother with a post. The boy was found dead from shooting himself following a 28-hour standoff. Jason was a Deputy Sheriff with the Loudon County Sheriff's Department for 3 years. He leaves behind his expectant wife, mother, father, and sister.

John Logan
Huntington, Texas
March 14, 2004
Age 33

John died from gunshot wounds from the day before when he was shot while making a traffic stop. He was attempting to handcuff a driver when he discovered the man had warrants. The suspect had a gun and shot John in the head and back. The suspect committed suicide after barricading himself in a mobile home for two hours. John leaves behind his wife, three children, parents, and siblings.

Robert L. Newton
Clarksville, Texas
September 13, 1933
March 18, 2004
Age 70

Robert died at his home after a sudden illness. Robert served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean War and awarded the Purple Heart with many other medals of service. After serving in the military police, he joined the Lubbock Police Department continuing his career in law enforcement at Texas Tech University in Lubbock. In 1988, he joined the Clarksville Police Department where he became chief of police and retired from the Delta County Sheriff's Department in 1996. While serving with the Delta County Sheriff's Department, he began a youth program known as the Junior Deputies, which is based on honor, respect and community service. The program continues to enrich the lives of all involved with it. He completed over 3,000 hours of law enforcement sciences education through his career. After his retirement, he worked for Wal-Mart in Clarksville building bicycles and helping kids realize that all dreams are possible with hard work and dedication. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign War Chapter 3990 in Reno. He leaves behind his loving wife, two daughters and sons-in-law, a step-son and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews; and many life-long friends he met in his journeys across the country.

Joseph E. LeClaire Jr.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
March 19, 2004
Age 53

Joseph was shot in the head and the stomach while serving a warrant on a suspect wanted for failing to appear in court. He was with two other officers and one of the other officers was able to return fire and wounded the suspect as he tried to run. Joseph was with the Court of Common Pleas for 8 years. He leaves behind his wife and two grown children.

Frank M. Cantu
Houston, Texas
March 25, 2004
Age 43

Frank was killed when his patrol car was struck in the left rear side by a drunk driver. His car went airborne and landed 40 feet away. Frank was with the department for 19 years. He leaves behind his mother, father, brother, and sister.

Perry Fillmore
Clinton County, Michigan
March 27, 2004
Age 37

Perry was killed in an automobile accident while responding to back up another officer. He lost control of his patrol car and crashed into a house. Perry was a Deputy Sheriff with the Clinton County Sheriff's Department for 8 years. He leaves behind his wife.

Marlon Titus
Memphis, Tennessee
March 30, 2004
Age 30

Marlon was killed in an automobile accident while responding to back up another officer. He lost control of his vehicle and struck two buildings. Marlon was with the Memphis Police Department for 1.5 years. He leaves behind his wife and 1-year-old child.

Michael Van Kuren
Bradford County, Pennsylvania
March 31, 2004
Age 36

Michael was shot and killed while attempting to serve a warrant. He and a fellow deputy responded to a local junkyard to serve an arrest warrant on a man for failing to appear in court to answer a minor charge. When arriving at the location, both shot and killed. Two family members of the suspect were apprehended, the suspect is still at large. Michael was with the Bradford County Sheriff's Department for 10 years, and leaves behind his wife and two daughters.

Christopher M. Burgert
Bradford County, Pennsylvania
March 31, 2004
Age 30

Michael was shot and killed while attempting to serve a warrant. He and a fellow deputy responded to a local junkyard to serve an arrest warrant on a man for failing to appear in court to answer a minor charge. When arriving at the location, both shot and killed. Two family members of the suspect were apprehended, the suspect is still at large. Michael was with the Bradford County Sheriff's Department for 6 years, and leaves behind his wife and a son.

Jeffery T. Hewitt
Buncombe County, North Carolina
April 4, 2004
Age 34

Jeffrey was shot in the chest and head with a sawed off shot gun and killed while serving mental commit papers to a subject who had been involved in a domestic disturbance earlier in the night. The suspect then committing suicide. Jeffrey was a Gulf War veteran. He was with the Buncombe County Sheriff's Office for 11 years and leaves behind his wife.

Roger Myers
Charleston, South Carolina
April 5, 2004
Age 53

Roger died from a heart attack after he and other officers struggled with a suspect wanted on a probation violation. Roger was following in a vehicle with the suspect's girlfriend, while the other officers escorted the suspect to jail. On the way Roger started having chest pains. He was taken to the hospital but died a short time later. Roger was with the Charleston Police Department for 26 years.

Robert Goodwin
Clarke County, Mississippi
April 6, 2004

Robert was supervising an inmate road crew picking up trash and as he was assisting the inmates loading trash bags into the back of the truck he was struck by a vehicle. Robert was a reserve deputy with the agency for 12 years and started as a fulltime deputy the day before the accident. He was also at one time in his career part time with the Enterprise Police Department.

Michael Brandon Lassiter
Covington County, Alabama
April 8, 2004

Age 31

Michael was killed when his patrol car was struck head-on by a suspected drunk driver. The drunk driver was also killed. Michael was with the Covington County Sheriff's Office for 2 months. He was previously with the Florala Police Department. He leaves behind his parents, and grandmother.

Isaac Espinoza
San Francisco, California
April 10, 2004

Age 29

Isaac was shot and killed as he and his partner investigated a man acting in a suspicious manner and approached him in their vehicle. The black male was wearing a large navy pee coat and opened fire with an AK-47 and ran. Isaac was shot in the chest and abdominal area. He was with the San Francisco Police Department for 8 years. We will all miss his happy go lucky attitude. Isaac leaves behind his wife and his three year old daughter.

Eric Verteramo
Schenectady, New York
April 11, 2004

Age 30

Eric was killed when he lost control of his patrol car and struck a utility pole while responding to an accident. Eric was with the Department for 5 years.

Stephan Gray
Merced, California
April 15, 2004

Stephan was shot and killed while trying to get information from a passenger of a vehicle while he was conducting a traffic stop. The man began to struggle and broke free, Stephan chased him. The suspect shot Stephan twice and got away. Stephan was with the Special Operations Unit fighting against drugs and gangs and had been with the Department for 7 years. He leaves behind his wife and three children.

James Miller
Upper Dublin Township, Pennsylvania
April 20, 2004

Age 55

James was killed in an car accident when he was responding to the scene of another accident. He was a U.S. Air Force veteran of the War on Terrorism and was a Sergeant for 28 years. James leaves behind his wife, two children, and two grandchildren.

David Abella
Hillsborough County, Florida
April 21, 2004
Age 26

David was killed in a car accident when he was responding to a call at a local convenience store. He tried to pass a tractor trailer when he lost control of his patrol car and struck a utility pole. David was with the Sheriff's Office for one year.

Thomas Steiner
Highway Patrol, California
April 21, 2004
Age 35

Thomas was shot three times, including once in the head by a teenage suspect intent on killing a police officer in order to gain the respect of a gang he was attempting to join. He had been standing in front of the Pomona Courthouse after testifying in five traffic citation related cases. Thomas had been with the California Highway Patrol for 5 years and worked in the Santa Fe Springs area. He leaves behind his wife and 3 year old son.

Robert G. Kutcher
Atascadero, California
August 9, 1927
April 23, 2004

Robert died at home after suffering a long illness. He leaves behind his daughter and his son. Note: Bobs daughter passed away June 19, 2007 due to cancer.



John Sandlin
Solano County, California
April 23, 2004
Age 66

John was killed in a car accident while attempting to pass a slow-moving vehicle while going around a curve. The tires went off of the roadway and struck a rock on the shoulder, causing the car to overturn. He was ejected from the vehicle and killed. John was a Reserve Deputy. He leaves behind his wife, children, and grandchildren.

Steve P. Carroll
Stephenson County, Illinois
April 23, 2004
Age 52

Steve died from a heart attack after struggling to remove a prisoner in a courtroom. He collapsed after putting the man in a cell. He leaves behind his wife, son, three daughters, and four grandchildren and two siblings.

Brian Andrew Haas
Hendry County, Florida
April 24, 2004
Age 21

Brian was killed when his car struck a truck he was attempting to pass while responding to a prowler call. His car over turned several times and he was ejected from the vehicle. Brian was a road deputy for five months and had served with the Sheriff's Department for 2 years. Brian leaves behind his parents and his sister.

Cuthbert Chapman
Virgin Islands, Virgin Islands
April 26, 2004
Age 43

Cuthbert was shot and killed during a robbery while moonlighting at a local fast food restaurant. The suspect jumped over the counter demanding money. He drew his service weapon and confronted the man. Three more suspects entered the restaurant shooting at Cuthbert from behind, striking him several times. He returned fire but did not strike the suspects. The suspects left without any money. Cuthbert was hospitalized for several days, then flown to a hospital in Puerto Rico. His condition suddenly deteriorated and he died from his wounds. Cuthbert was with the Virgin Islands Police Department for 14 years.

George A. (Andy) Brown III
Florida Highway Patrol, Florida
April 27, 2004
Age 55

Andy was killed when he lost control of his vehicle and hit several trees in a wooded area while attempting to stop a traffic violator. He was a Sergeant and was with the Florida Highway Patrol for 33 years. Andy leaves behind his parents, sister and a son.

James (Jim) Lewis
Tacoma, Washington
April 27, 2004
Age 45

Jim was killed when responding to back up another officer who had just stopped a suspected wanted felon. His department motorcycle slammed into a car near the front of the driver's side door of a woman who unknowingly steered her car into Jim's path. He was thrown from his motorcycle and his head struck the ground. Officer Jim was with the Police Department for 19 years.

Joshua E. Blyler
St. Johns County, Florida
May 2, 2004
Age 20

Joshua was killed when his car lost control and struck a mailbox, went into a drainage ditch, began to overturn, and struck a tree and power pole. He was en-route responding to a 911 call. He was a Deputy Sheriff's for 10 months and leaves behind his mother and father.

James (Jimmy) Gilbert
Henry, Georgia
May 2, 2004
Age 41

Jimmy was killed when his car struck the back of a tractor trailer parked illegally on the shoulder of the interstate. He was with the Police Department for 11 years, and in law enforcement for 20 years. Jimmy leaves behind his wife and three children.

George Hura Jr.
Escambia County, Florida
May 4, 2004
Age 56

George had a fatal heart attack during a critical incident training exercise. They had just completed a training scenario when George collapsed. He was a Lieutenant and with the Escambia County Sheriff's Department for 27 years. George leaves behind his wife and five children.

Kurt David Knapp
Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas
May 8, 2004
Age 28

Kurt was killed when he entered the median and lost control of his car, hitting another vehicle. Kurt was a Trooper with the Texas Department of Public Safety for 5 years. He leaves behind his wife and two children.

Anthony Jones
Maryland State Police, Maryland
May 8, 2004
Age 50

Anthony was assisting another Trooper at an auto accident when a drunk driver struck and killed him. He was a Trooper First Class with the Maryland State Police for six years. Anthony leaves behind his wife and two daughters.

John Wiberg II
Washoe County, Nevada
May 11, 2004
Age 38

John was on the way to a report of a burglary at a casino when he lost control of his car. He had been with the Washoe County sheriff's department for 14 years. He was a field training officer who received the department's Bronze Star in 2002 for a struggle with a felon. The year before, he received a Lifesaving Award for his actions during a traffic accident. John leaves behind his wife and four daughters ages 12, 8, 6, and 4.

Douglas A. Shertzer Sr.
Lititz Borough, Pennsylvania
May 11, 2004

Doug was driving the department's motorcycle when he was involved in an accident. He had completed a police motorcycle training course earlier in the month. Doug was the Chief of Police of a 14-person Police Department for 10 years. He had been with the Department for 23 years.

Don R. Schultz
Phoenix, Arizona
May 12, 2004
Age 43

Don was under water over 10 minutes and drowned when he came loose from his tender line and was pulled into a canal gate while searching for evidence in a murder case. He was a master diver and part the department's nine-member dive team . His family removed him from life support following two days trying to revive him . He had been with the department for 20 years and also worked full time as a helicopter pilot for the Phoenix Police Department.

Gary Davis
Bloomfield Township, Michigan
May 12, 2004
Age 36

Gary was transporting a drunk driver to the police station and was turning his car around when he was hit by another car. He was with the department for 12 years. Gary leaves behind his wife.

Pat Healey
Lee County, Florida
May 13, 2004
Age 55

Pat was off duty and noticed a driver driving erratically and followed him . The driver struck his car and then crashed on a bridge. Pat tried to stop the man as he was leaving the scene and struggled with the suspect, Pat collapsed during the incident having a heart attack. Another officer caught the suspect as he ran toward the beach. Pat died from the heart attack a week later. He had been a Corporal with the Lee County Sheriff's Office for 14 years and leaves behind his wife, son, and daughter.

Ted Duke Horton
Franklin County, North Carolina
May 14, 2004
Age 53

Ted was killed when the helicopter he was in experienced mechanical problems during the flight and crashed. He and another deputy were on a narcotics search. Ted was a Deputy Sheriff and leaves behind his wife and mother.

Timothy Shane Miller
Tabor City, North Carolina
May 15, 2004
Age 27

Tim was killed in a car accident, as a passenger in a patrol car, pursuing a vehicle when it collided head-on with another vehicle on his first shift as an officer. He had been sworn in as an officer on Friday and started his first shift that evening. He was previously a corrections officer for the North Carolina Department of Corrections for 7 years.

Constable Chris Garrett
Cobourg, Ontario, Canada
May 17, 2004
Age 39

Chris was stabbed in an ambush when he responded to a call of a youth being attacked at knife point. The caller was actually the suspect who posed as a victim of a knife-point robbery. The caller had been in an altercation with another youth that had already gone to the hospital. As Chris was questioning the youth, he was stabbed in the neck so severely that he was nearly decapitated. Chris was in law enforcement for 18 years. He leaves behind his wife, his son 14 a step daughter 9yrs old.

Scott Edward Bryant
Iowa Department of Corrections
May 17, 2004
Age 36

Scott was killed when he was hit by a car while he was running on the Highway representing the Iowa Department of Corrections during the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run. The driver did not realize the patrol car following the runners was purposely driving slow behind the runners. Scott saw the car coming towards the runners and pushed another correctional officer out of the way before being struck, saving his life. Scott was with the agency for 16 years. He leaves behind his wife and two daughters.

Vickie Wax
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
May 22, 2004
Age 51

Vickie was attempting to place handcuffs on a shoplifting suspect when the suspect started struggling. She was knocked to the ground and the suspect got her gun and killed with her own service weapon. The suspect got away escaping by carjacking a vehicle. Vickie was a Lieutenant and with the Department for 27 years.

Joseph Allen Goldsmith
Apache County, Arizona
May 22, 2004
Age 32

Joseph died from injuries he received when he was involved in a motorcycle accident while escorting a race known as the Law Enforcement Run for the Wall. He lost control of his motorcycle when it struck a gravel shoulder. He was a Commander and with the Apache County Sheriff's Office for 5 years. He also had served with the Arizona Department of Corrections for 5 years. Joseph leaves behind his wife, two children, parents, and two brothers.

Terrance Patrick Loftus
United States Department of Justice - Drug Enforcement Administration
May 28, 2004
Age 44

Terrance was killed in an aircraft accident when, shortly after take-off, he had engine failure. He attempted to land in a field, but crashed into a garage, missing a house before becoming completely engulfed in flames. He had been a Special Agent for 14 years, and was a pilot while he served in the Army. Terrance leaves behind his wife and three young children.

John S Ashley
District of Columbia, Washington D.C.
May 30, 2004
Age 37

John had a heart attack while chasing a dog that ran away from a little girl. He collapsed and was taken to the hospital where he passed away shortly after. John was a Sergeant who had been with the Department for 7 years.

Dave Grant
Tuolumne County, California
May 31, 2004
Age 46

Dave was killed when another car entered an intersection he was approaching stopped in the middle of it as Dave was responding to a small plane crash. While trying to avoid hitting it he struck another car and crashed. Dave was a Deputy Sheriff for 15 years, he was in law enforcement for 26 years. He leaves behind his wife, son, three daughters, four sisters, and a brother.

Clifton Rife II
District of Columbia, Washington D.C.
June 2, 2004
Age 34

Clifton was off duty when a suspect shot and killed him trying to rob him. Clifton did identify himself and drew his service weapon. He and the suspect exchanged gunfire and although he was able to call in for help, both he and the suspect died. Clifton was a Sergeant and with the Department for 13 years. He leaves behind his wife and two children.

James M. Goodman
California Highway Patrol, California
June 3, 2004
Age 48

James was killed when his motorcycle collided head-on with another vehicle in an intersection as he was pursuing a suspect involved in an accident. James was with the California Highway Patrol for 20 years.

Mark Sawyers
Detroit, Michigan
June 5, 2004
Age 30

Mark was found shot in the head inside his cruiser in a shopping center parking lot. He was filling out an accident report when a man drove up next to him and fired a shotgun at him shooting and fled. He had been with the department for almost 4 years. Mark leaves behind his wife and new child.

Michael H. Wise II
Reading, Pennsylvania
June 5, 2004
Age 32

Michael was shot in the head by a suspect he and two other officers were watching that may have been involved in a shooting. They were waiting for back up as they watched the suspect while in his car. Another person got out of the car, talked to people on a corner, then as he was going back to the car hid behind it and started shooting at the officers. Michael was with the Department for two years. He leaves behind his wife and a child.

Elizabeth Granillo
El Paso, Texas
June 11, 2004
Age 31

Elizabeth was found shot in an abandoned vehicle on the Tohono O'odham Nation, near Tucson. Her murder is being investigated as a murder/suicide. She had been with the agency for 2 years and worked out of El Paso.

Darren Medlin
Grapevine, Texas
June 12, 2004
Age 34

Darren was approaching a car he stopped and was hit and killed by a drunk driver. He had been with the department for 4 years and was previously with Texas Parks and Wildlife for 4 years. Darren leaves behind his wife and four children, two of them being step children.

Michael R. Arruda
Los Angeles, California
June 15, 2004
Age 35

Michael died from a gunshot wound he received six days prior after being accidentally shot by another deputy. They responded to a motel where a caller said shots were being fired, as they walked to the motel room a suspect came out of the room carrying a pellet pistol that looked like a .40 cal handgun. The suspect fired at the deputies and they returned fire back, killing him. One of the rounds hit Michael in the neck. Michael was a Deputy Sheriff with the department for 13 years. He leaves behind his fiancée an 11-year-old son, parents, brother, and a sister.

Andy Bailey
Jackson, Tennessee
June 17, 2004

Andy was shot and killed by a robbery suspect who fled on foot after a car chase. The suspect hit several police cars before the pursuit ended. Andy was shot while exchanging shots with the suspect. Andy was a Sergeant and with the department for 31 years, he was preparing for retirement. He leaves behind his wife and his son.

Carlos Owens
Birmingham, Alabama
June 17, 2004
Age 58

Carlos was shot and killed while serving a warrant at a residence. He and three fellow officers went to the residence containing several apartments to arrest a man on a misdemeanor charge of Assault. Carlos and another officer went through the back door. The suspect got away from them, running to the front of the house, where another officer was coming thru the front door. Other suspects in the house shot all three officers, killing them, with SKS automatic rifles. A fourth officer who responded to the officer call for assistance was wounded. Several suspects are in custody. Carlos joined the department in 1977 and was known as a leader at the west precinct's patrol division. He was also a training officer. Carlo's nick name was "Curly". Carlos leaves behind his wife, five children and nine grandchildren.

Harley Chisholm III
Birmingham, Alabama
June 17, 2004
Age 40

Harley was shot and killed while serving a warrant at a residence. He and three fellow officers went to the residence containing several apartments to arrest a man on a misdemeanor charge of Assault. Harley and another officer went through the back door. The suspect got away from them, running to the front of the house, where another officer was coming thru the front door. Other suspects in the house shot all three officers, killing them, with SKS automatic rifles. A fourth officer who responded to the officer call for assistance was wounded. Several suspects are in custody. Harley was with the department for 6 years. Harley's nickname was "Robocop". He leaves behind his mother and sister.

Charles Robert Bennett
Birmingham, Alabama
June 17, 2004
Age 33

Roger, a name given to Charles by fellow officers, was shot and killed while serving a warrant at a residence. He and three fellow officers went to the residence containing several apartments to arrest a man on a misdemeanor charge of Assault. Two other officers went through the back door. The suspect got away from them, running to the front of the house, where Roger was coming thru the front door. Other suspects in the house shot all three officers, killing them, with SKS automatic rifles. A fourth officer who responded to the officer call for assistance was wounded. Several suspects are in custody. Roger joined the department in 2001. He leaves behind his wife and four year old daughter.

Steven Hutchinson
Grayson County, Kentucky
June 17, 2004
Age 39

Steven was hit by a car while on foot attempting to catch a juvenile suspect, both were struck by an oncoming car. The driver wasn't able to see which lane the patrol car was in because of the bright lights. Steven was a Constable with the Sheriff's Office for 2 years. He leaves behind his son and three daughters.

Gregory Hunter
Grand Prairie, Texas
June 18, 2004
Age 54

Gregory was shot and killed investigating a suspicious vehicle. Employees of a store noticed a van was in the parking lot all night with the engine running. Gregory went to the front door of the van while another officer went to the side of the van. A suspect inside opened fire through the windshield, hitting Gregory twice. Gregory was a Sergeant and with the Department for 20 years. He leaves behind his wife and three daughters.

Randall W. Bolyard
Philippi, West Virginia
June 24, 2004
Age 39

Randall was killed when his personal motorcycle was hit by a deer. He was not on duty at the time. He was a Trooper with the State Police since October 1995, Randall was assigned to the Philippi detachment. He leaves behind his wife and two children.

Travis Sass
Larimer County, Colorado
June 29, 2004
Age 30

Travis was killed when a vehicle collided into the passenger side of the patrol car he was in, while he and a fellow deputy were on the way to a department shooting range. Travis was a Deputy Sheriff for 6 years and was assigned to the Larimer County Detention Center.

Derek Ward
Allegany County, New York
July 3, 2004
Age 28

Derek died from injuries when a driver ran a stop sign and struck his vehicle. He was a Deputy Sheriff for 6 years, and also served as a part-time officer for the Angelica Police Department. Derek leaves behind his expectant wife and 3-year-old daughter.

Brian D. Winder
Baltimore, Maryland
July 3, 2004
Age 36

Brian was shot and killed by two men when he responded to a call to remove someone from a residence. One of men he had arrested earlier in the week for selling illegal copies of CDs and DVDs. Brian spotted two people fitting the description and yelled to them. Both ran into a liquor store and Brian approached the store. The suspects opened fire, hitting Brian twice in the legs and once in the chest just above his vest. One suspect was able to escape and the second suspect was captured. Brian was with the Department for 10 years. He leaves behind his wife, two sons and stepdaughter.

Orestes (Oreo) Lorenzo
North Miami Beach, Florida
July 9, 2004
Age 40

Oreo died from injuries he got a week prior when he swerved to miss a car that turned in front of his unmarked car. He hit the car and a palm tree and was thrown from the car. Oreo was a Detective and with the department for 8 years. He leaves behind wife and three daughters.

Eugene T. (Tal) Groover
Hinesville, Georgia
July 9, 2004

Eugene died from a heart attack while in a defensive tactics training exercise. He was with the Department of Corrections for 22 years. Eugene leaves behind his wife, daughter and a son.

Alva Ray Simmons
New Orleans, Louisiana
July 7, 1951
July 10, 2004
Age 53

Alva died after being in a coma for 19 years after he was shot responding to a burglary. He was shot March 18, 1985 at the age of 33; slipped into coma on his 9th wedding anniversary June 26, 1985. He was known for his wit and for being so perfect when it came to dressing, especially when in uniform; spit-shinned shoes one could see himself in them; creases so sharp one could get cut; his brass was so shiny they looked like mirrors. He was being taken care of at home with round-the-clock treatment but never regained consciousness. Alva had served with the Department for 11 years. He leaves behind his mother, sister, two brothers, wife and two sons.

Sheidan O. Caton
Elk Lick Township, Pennsylvania
July 11, 2004
Age 60

Sheidan was killed when his cruiser was struck by another vehicle. He was the Chief of Police and was with the department for 40 years. Sheidan leaves behind his two children.

Wesley Mack
Columbia County, Georgia
July 12, 2004
Age 46

Wesley was killed when his motorcycle was hit by an SUV while he was trying to get back on the highway after a traffic stop. He was a Deputy Sheriff for 7 years. Wesley leaves behind his three children.

Felice Taldone
Patchogue, New York
July 12, 2004
Age 44

Felice died when he was struck by a drunk driver while he was directing traffic during a firework show. The suspect was later arrested after a witness provided the license plate number of the suspect's vehicle. Felice was a Constable for the Patchogue Village Officer of Public Safety for six years. He leaves behind his wife, two sons, and a daughter.

George Tessier
New Orleans, Louisiana
July 14, 2004
Age 37

George was killed when a tractor-trailer truck struck him while standing on the interstate. He and another officer had another truck pulled over on the road when a second truck passing on the interstate struck him. George was with the Department for ten years.

Richard Brooks
Town of Babylon, New York
July 16, 2004
Age 44

Richard was shot and killed when he attempted to stop a suspect for driving while intoxicated. The suspect fled and pulled into the driveway of his home, running into the house. When Richard left his car to approach the home the suspect shot Richard in the chest with a 12-gauge shotgun from the second floor of the home. The suspect then got back into his car and ran over Richard several times. He attempted to leave but other officers blocked the road with a patrol car. The suspect got out of his car, pointed his shotgun at the officers and they fired, killing him. Richard was serving as a part-time officer one day a week for three years, helping with the waterways and three beaches in the Town of Babylon. He was previously with the NYPD for 20 years and had retired at the rank of Lieutenant. Richard leaves behind his wife, son, and daughter.

Santos Silva Laboy
Puerto Rico
July 17, 2004
Age 22

Santos was shot in the face and killed after hearing gunshots coming from a mini-market and trying to interrupt an armed robbery. He and his partners were exiting their car when two suspects opened fire. One suspect was killed by his partner and another was later arrested.

Christopher M. Shea
Delaware State Police, Delaware
July 19, 2004
Age 31

Christopher was killed when his car was hit head on by a vehicle driven by a drunk driver that was fleeing the scene of an accident that he had been involved in. Christopher was a Corporal with the Delaware State Police for four years. He leaves behind his wife, son and daughter.

Christy Dedman
Nashville, Tennessee
July 19, 2004
Age 35

Christy was killed when she and a motorist she was assisting were standing in front of her car when a tractor-trailer struck her. The tractor-trailer was being operated at speeds over 80 miles per hour. Christy was with the Department for less than one year.

Duke Aaron III
Maryland
July 20, 2004
Age 29

Duke was killed when his car was struck from behind by a pick-up truck. He had just issued a traffic ticket and was sitting in the car on the shoulder of the highway when the vehicle was struck from behind. Duke was with the Maryland Transportation Authority for 10 years. He leaves behind his wife.

Ramon A. Sepulveda Rosado
Carolina, Puerto Rico
July 20, 2004
Age 47

Ramon died from injuries he received when he was on his motorcycle and struck by a vehicle that failed to stop for a stop sign. He was with the Department for 13 years. Ramon leaves behind his wife and six children.

William L. Seuis
Oakland, California
July 22, 2004
Age 39

William was killed when his police motorcycle was struck by a tractor trailer. The driver fled the scene but was stopped by CHP shortly afterwards and arrested. William was with the Department for 16 years. He leaves behind his wife and two daughters.

Dane Johns
Williamson County, Illinois
July 26, 2004
Age 45

Dane died when his department-issued shotgun discharged while he was removing it from his patrol car at the end of his shift. The shotgun's trigger was obstructed by other equipment causing it to discharge. He had been with the Sheriff's Department for 22 years and was recognized as Deputy of the Year in 2003. Dane leaves behind his wife and three young children.

Edwin Hernandez
Suffolk County, New York
July 27, 2004
Age 44

Edwin was killed in a car accident when he lost control of his cruiser. He was trapped in his car after it hit a guardrail and a tree. He had been with the department for 19 years and assigned to the Highway Patrol. Edwin leaves behind his wife and two children.

Nathan Laurie
River Oaks, Texas
July 29, 2004

Nathan was killed in a car accident while he was attempting to stop a pickup truck for a traffic violation. His patrol car collided with another patrol car. He was with the Department for two years. He also had served one year with Tarrant County Sheriff Department. Nathan leaves behind his wife, two sons and a daughter.

Brad Crawford
Clark County, Washington
July 30, 2004
Age 49

Brad died when a truck fleeing the scene of a standoff involving a domestic dispute intentionally hit his patrol car. He was a Sergeant with the Sheriff's Department for 8 years. Brad also served at one time with the Los Angeles, California, Police Department and the Flagstaff, Arizona, Police Department for 13 years.

Earl Rounds
Weld County, Colorado
August 4, 2004
Age 67

Earl was killed while on the way to serve a civil court paper and his car ran into a tractor trailer that turned left in front of him. He was a Deputy Sheriff with the department for 13 years. Earl leaves behind his wife, son, and daughter.

John Bechtold Jr.
Campbell County, South Dakota
August 4, 2004
Age 45

John died from a fatal heart attack shortly after being one of the first people to arrive at the scene of a fatal accident. He had been assisting rescue crews at the scene before he collapsed and he died on the way to the hospital. John had been serving as Sheriff for two years and was a deputy with the Campbell County Sheriff's Office prior.

Michael Gordon
Chicago, Illinois
August 8, 2004
Age 30

Michael was killed when his patrol car was hit by a drunk driver who ran a red light and went through an intersection. He was ejected from the car. Michael was with the department for two years and was assigned to the Harrison District Station. He leaves behind his wife and four children.

Latoya Johnson
New Orleans, Louisiana
August 9, 2004
Age 27

Latoya was shot and killed while serving commitment papers on a male who needed a psychiatric evaluation. The suspect had a gun and opened fire on Latoya and her partner. After she fell, the suspect stood over her and fired several more shots. The suspect was killed by her partner and other officers. Latoya was with the department for three years.

Michael Sparkes
Los Angeles, California
August 10, 2004
Age 53

Michael was shot and killed when he identified himself while trying to stop two suspects attempting to rob him. He was taking an early morning bike ride when confronted by two gang members. One had an AK-47 rifle. Shots were exchanged and although being mortally shot Michael gave responding officers a description. One suspect was arrested after being stopped for a traffic violation; the second was wounded in the exchange of gunfire. Michael was a Captain and with the Los Angeles County Office of Public Safety for 30 years. He leaves behind his wife, young son, and a stepdaughter.

Trey Hutchison
Bossier City, Louisiana
August 11, 2004
Age 27

Trey was ambushed and shot twice in the back with a shotgun while responding to a 911 hang-up call involving a suicidal male subject. The shots struck him where his vest unprotectd him. The suspect shot himself. Trey was with the department for less than a year. He was previously with the Lufkin, Texas Police Department for 4 years. He leaves behind his wife.

Carlos Concepción-Quiñones
Puerto Rico, Puerto Rico
August 14, 2004
Age 46

Carlos was eating at a restaurant when a customer began to argue with the store owner. The customer left but returned to argue again. The store owner knew Carlos was an officer and asked for his help to throw the customer out of the store. Carlos told the customer he was a Police officer and asked him to leave. The man opened fire with a handgun and fired 13 shots at Carlos, killing him. He also stole Carlos's weapon and ran. Carlos was with the department for 27 years.

Isaac (Ike) Veal
Honolulu, Hawaii
August 16, 2004
Age 58

Ike was ejected from his car and killed while responding to an emergency call. He was with the department for 25 years. Ike leaves behind his wife and family.

Timothy Jacob Laird
Indianapolis, Indiana
August 18, 2004
Age 31

Tim was shot and killed when he responded to a call of a man in the street with a machine gun. The suspect was shooting the gun in the air as fellow officers and the suspect ran down the street exchanging fire. The suspect was eventually killed and it was later discovered that he had just killed his mother. Tim was with the department for 4 years. He leaves behind his wife and daughter.

Todd Michael Fatta
Broward County, Florida
August 19, 2004
Age 33

Todd was shot and killed when he and a task force of officers went to a home to serve a warrant on a registered sex offender suspected of being involved with child pornography. As Todd was in the home the suspect shot him with a rifle. He was wearing a vest but the bullet killed him. The suspect was arrested. Todd was a Detective with the Sheriff's Office for nine years.

Jonathan E. Walsh
Joliet, Illinois
August 20, 2004
Age 27

Jonathan was answering a call to a burglar alarm when his patrol car collided with a Blazer and crashed into a lift crane parked on the side of the road. The driver of the Blazer fled and was arrested later along with his wife for reporting the vehicle stolen. Jonathan was with the department for a little over three years. He was previously with the Burr Ridge Police Department. Jonathan leaves behind his parents and two sisters.

Eric White
Phoenix, Arizona
August 28, 2004
Age 30

Eric was killed when he went to a shooting call at an apartment complex. The suspect who had shot another male in the chest also shot Eric when he and fellow officers kicked the door of the apartment open. The suspect was shot by another officer killing him. Eric was with the department for 4 years. He leaves behind his wife and two children.

Jason Wolfe
Phoenix, Arizona
August 28, 2004
Age 27

Jason was killed when he went to a shooting call at an apartment complex. The suspect who had shot another male in the chest also shot Jason when he and fellow officers kicked the door of the apartment open. The suspect was shot by another officer killing him. Jason was with the department for 4 years. He leaves behind his wife, who is also an officer and one child.

Douglas J. Ludovissie
Rapid City, South Dakota
August 29, 2004
Age 51

Douglas was the supervisor of the Western South Dakota Marshals' Office since 1993. He organized the United States Marshal Posse for the district of South Dakota. Prior to his involvement with the Marshals office he was a fire fighter and a police officer. Douglas leaves behind his father, wife, two sons and a daughter.

Ronald Ives
San Bernardino, California
September 1, 2004
Age 43

Ronald was killed when a driver of an SUV ran a red light and struck his police motorcycle. The 60 year-old driver of the vehicle who hit Ronald also died from injuries in the accident. Ronald was with the Sheriff's Department for 8 years. He leaves behind his wife and son.

Craig Blann
Newton County, Indiana
September 6, 2004
Age 27

Craig was electrocuted when he returned to a scene of a car accident to continue his investigation and came into contact with a live downed power line. The driver had gone home to report the incident. Craig was with the Sheriff's Department for 4 years and previously served as a deputy marshal for Kentland PD. He leaves behind his wife and two children.

Robert L. Parker
New York City, New York
September 10, 2004
Age 43

Robert was shot and killed when he and his partner attempted to stop a man from leaving his mothers' home with her car during a domestic dispute. The suspect got ahold of Roberts gun during a struggle. Before he died Robert was able to tell fellow officers the name of the suspect and identify a photo of him. Robert was with the department for 27 years and assigned to the 67th Precinct as a Detective. He leaves behind a daughter.

Patrick H. Rafferty
New York City, New York
September 10, 2004
Age 39

Patrick was shot and killed when he and his partner attempted to stop a man from leaving his mothers' home with her car during a domestic dispute. The suspect got ahold of his partners gun during a struggle, shooting both officers. Patrick was with the department for 15 years and assigned to the 67th Precinct as a Detective. He leaves behind his wife and three children.

John Gunsell
Ostego County, Michigan
September 12, 2004
Age 43

John was the passenger in a car that left the road while responding to an accident call and was thrown from the car. He was a Deputy Sheriff. John leaves behind his wife and four children.

Daniel Archuleta
Kern County, California
September 12, 2004
Age 43

Daniel was killed in a car accident while responding to help another deputy at a fight call. His car flipped over on route. Another deputy happened upon the accident minutes later.

Tim Nielson
Joplin, Missouri
September 13, 2004
Age 26

Tim died from injuries he received a month earlier during an explosion at a house filled with natural gas. He and a fellow officer were responding to a suicide call when the suspect ran back into the house that he had disconnected the gas line of his stove from. The spark from a tazer gun may have ignited the gas causing the explosion. Tim was with the department for 15 months. He leaves behind his wife, two children, parents and siblings.

Suzanne E. (Suzi) Roberts
Maui, Hawaii
September 14, 2004
Age 36

Suzi was struck in the back and head by a boulder and killed when she was clearing debris while investigating fallen rocks from a previous rock slide. She was a Park Ranger for 5 months and was previously a seasonal ranger at the Rocky Mountain National Park for several years.

Mike Lane
Beaumont, Texas
September 15, 2004
Age 54

Mike died when the helicopter he and a deputy were flying in crashed in a lake on their way to a report of a fire. The deputy survived and was able to swim to safety. Mike was with the department for 32 years. He leaves his wife and a son.

Matt Rittenhouse
Harriman, Tennessee
May 11, 1979
September 16, 2004
Age 25

Matt was killed when his patrol car went out of control during the Ivan storms with slippery roads. He was not supposed to work that night, but whenever anyone asked him to work extra hours he would. It was right at the end of his shift when the accident happened. He was with the department for three years. Matt leaves behind his mother, father, two sisters, a niece and nephew who will love him forever.

Travis W. Attaway
U.S. Dept of Home Security, Customs & Border Protection
September 19, 2004
Age 31

Travis drowned when the patrol boat he was in on the Rio Grande River capsized while conducting a routine patrol of a river in Texas. Other officers heard the distress signal and rescued a third agent who had been thrown into the water. Travis was a Senior Patrol Agent and with the U.S. Border Patrol for seven years.

Jeremy Wilson
U.S. Dept of Home Security, Customs & Border Protection
September 19, 2004
Age 29

Jeremy drowned when the patrol boat he was in on the Rio Grande River capsized while conducting a routine patrol of a river in Texas. Other officers heard the distress signal and rescued a third agent who had been thrown into the water. Jeremy was a Senior Patrol Agent and with the U.S. Border Patrol for seven years.

James L. Davis
Butler, Indiana
September 24, 2004
Age 31

James was shot and killed when he got a call to check on a suspicious person that had been observing the women's basketball team practice for an unusual amount of time. He had just radioed in to dispatch to check the suspect's I.D. when the suspect shot him. The suspect then stole James car and service weapon and a few hours later was located by fellow officers who shot and killed him as they exchanged fire. James had been with the University PD for approximately 2 years and was previously with the Indiana Department of Corrections. He leaves behind his wife and three children.

Angel Barcena
El Paso, Texas
September 25, 2004
Age 38

Angel was shot and killed while responding to a call from a woman that a man was trying to break into her house. Upon entering the garage, the officers saw a man trying to enter through a door, the suspect fired two shots hitting Angel in the back of his upper leg, severing an artery. Angel was with the department for only a month. He graduated from the academy on August 26th.

Christopher Jerome Sobieski
Prairie View, Texas
September 26, 2004
Age 39

Christopher was killed when his 1999 Crown Victoria exploded after being hit from behind by a suspected drunk driver. He was finishing a summons sitting on the shoulder of the highway. He had been with the department for three years and previously with the San Jacinto College Dist. PD for a year. Christopher leaves behind his wife and two children.

Darryl L. Haywood
Florida Highway Patrol
October 2, 2004
Age 49

Darryl was killed when the right rear tire blew out on his vehicle as he was pursuing a motorcycle racing a Porsche over 150 miles an hour. He hit another car and flipped several times striking a tree. Darryl had been with the Highway Patrol for 4 years and was previously with NYPD for 20 years retiring as a Detective. He leaves behind his wife, two children and his grandchildren.

Lucille (Lucy) Ross
Brevard County, Florida
October 8, 2004
Age 51

Lucy was killed in an accident when her department van hit the back of a tractor trailer on the way to the scene of a suicide. She was an Investigator with the Sheriff's Office for 5 years and in law enforcement for 29 years. Lucy had previously served with; Altamonte Springs Police Department, Winter Garden Police Department, Titusville Police Department, Orange County Sheriff's Office, and Osceola County Sheriff's Office. She leaves behind her husband and two sons.

Bill (Putt) Linder
Wisner, Louisiana
October 10, 2004
Age 62

Bill was shot and killed with his own service weapon during a struggle trying to arrest a burglary suspect. When backup deputies arrived on scene the suspect was holding a hammer. Bill was Assistant Chief of Police with the Police Department for 3 years, and previously served with the Baskin Police Department for approximately 6 years. He leaves behind his wife and two sons.

Brandy Lyn Winfield
Marion County, Ohio
October 14, 2004
Age 29

Brandy was shot and killed after being dispatched to check on a disabled vehicle. He saw two men walking along the road and made contact with them then there was no more radio contact with dispatchers. A short time later Brandy's patrol car was found upside down in a ravine in the road. The original disabled vehicle was located a short time later following a massive manhunt. Brandy was a Deputy Sheriff with the Department for 6 years. He leaves behind his wife and two children.

Carlos Reyes-Rivera
Cataño, Puerto Rico
October 16, 2004
Age 38

Carlos was killed along with another Agent when their car was hit by a garbage truck that made an illegal U-turn in front of them. He was with the Police Department for 5 years. Carlos leaves behind his daughter.

Nikolai Vidal-Perez
Cataño, Puerto Rico
October 16, 2004
Age 26

Nikolai was killed along with another Agent when their car was hit by a garbage truck that made an illegal U-turn in front of them. He was with the Police Department for 2 years. Carlos leaves behind his two children.

Dirk Knearem
Chambers County, Texas
October 17, 2004
Age 40

Dirk was killed in a car accident when he was making a left-hand turn and his patrol car collided with another vehicle. Dirk was with the Sheriff's Department for 2 years, and had been in law enforcement for 16 years.

Edward J. Seitz
U.S. Dept. of State - Diplomatic Security Service
October 24, 2004
Age 41

Edward was killed in a mortar attack in Baghdad, Iraq while serving as the Assistant Regional Security Officer to the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad. He also had worked as a police officer in Cleveland Heights, Ohio and the East Cleveland, Ohio Police Department. He leaves behind his wife, brother, and parents.

Robert Haley
Comanche County, Texas
October 28, 2004
Age 67

Bob was killed in a car accident while transporting an inmate, the inmate was also killed. He was a Lieutenant and had served with the Sheriff's Department for 16 years.

Timothy Dunn
Shelby County, Tennessee
October 29, 2004
Age 40

Tim was killed when his patrol car hit a pickup truck driven by a seventeen year old girl. He was on his way to a High School to talk to students about criminal gangs. He was a Deputy with the Sheriff's Department for eight years with the Metro Gang Unit. Tim leaves behind his wife.

Amy Donovan
Austin, Texas
October 31, 2004
Age 37

Amy was killed when her partner reversed the patrol car in an attempt to block a suspicious mans escape route and accidentally pinned Amy against a utility pole. She had gotten out of the car to chase the suspect. Amy had been with the Police Department for 5 months. She leaves behind her husband and four children.

Jay Balchunas
Department of Justice, Wisconsin
November 5, 2004
Age 34

Jay died from gunshot wounds a week after he was shot outside a gas station where he had stopped to get coffee. He was walking back to his car when he was approached by two suspects that committed a robbery and they shot him. Jay was an Agent with the Wisconsin Department of Justice for five years, and was previously with the Police Department for nine years.

John Raymond Weir
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan
November 7, 2004
Age 57

John died from a stab wound he received while answering a call involving a mentally ill man who had threatened people with a knife 14 years earlier. The suspect stabbed John in the eye. John was in a coma for several months, upon coming out of the coma he was partially paralyzed, had brain damaged, and blind until his death. John was with the Police Department for 19 years. He leaves behind his wife and two children.

James Johnson Sr.
Forsyth County, North Carolina
November 11, 2004
Age 59

James was shot and killed when he responded to a call of a neighborhood dispute about property lines and one of the property owners shot two people. James lived nearby and heard the call on the radio and responded with another Reserve Deputy. The suspect shot at them with a high-powered rifle killing James. The other officer was wounded. Suspect was apprehended. James was a Reserve Deputy with the Sheriff's Department for seven years. He previously served with the Kernersville PD. James leaves behind his wife and three children.

Robert F. (Bob) Grim
Ormond Beach, Florida
November 12, 2004
Age 60

Bob was struck and killed by a suspected drunk driver while standing in the roadway investigating a traffic accident. Bob was with the Department for 18 months but was in law enforcement for 36 years. He was previously with Volusia County Sheriff's Department, Daytona Beach Police Department, and was Chief of the Daytona Beach International Airport Police Department.

Special Agent Phillip Lebid
U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security - Secret Service
November 22, 2004
Age 30

Phillip was killed when a driver ran a red light hitting his government vehicle on the passenger side at an intersection. The impact pushed the vehicle into the path of an oncoming tour bus. Phillip was assigned to the Secret Service's Tampa Office.

William Rivera
New York City, New York
November 24, 2004
Age 35

William died from injuries when he fell 20 feet from a rooftop while pursuing a burglary suspect. He had multiple injuries, including injuries to his back and legs and needed several surgeries and suffered a massive seizure while recovering from an operation. William was with the New York City Police Department 78th Precinct for 12 years. He leaves behind his daughter and fiancé.

Patrick Michael Righi-Barnard
Burbank, Illinois
November 25, 2004
Age 30

Patrick was struck and killed by a hit-and-run driver while helping a motorist who had been involved in an accident. He was with the Department for 7 years and was previously with the Markham Police Department. Patrick leaves behind his fiancé, mother, stepfather, brother, and sister.

Mark E. Vance
Bristol, Tennessee
November 27, 2004
Age 30

Mark was shot and killed after responding to a call of a man with a gun threatening a female. When he entered the home, he noticed someone with a raised gun but couldn't distinguish who because his view was blocked. The suspect shot Mark in the head, he never had a chance to remove his gun from his holster. Mark was with the Police Department for a year and a half and previously an auxiliary officer for four years. He leaves behind his fiancée, daughter, stepson, mother, and a brother.

Melissa M. Foster
Columbus, Ohio
December 4, 2004
Age 35

Melissa was killed on her way to a call of a prowler when another vehicle crossed the center line hitting her vehicle. She was with the Department for 7 years. Melissa leaves behind her two young children, a son and a daughter.



Jay Torgerson
Custer, South Dakota
December 26, 2004
December 4, 2004
Age 39

Jay died from a gunshot wound to the head with a high-powered rifle. He had been hunting geese with a friend and when the friend heard a shot and called out to him he didn't respond, he found Jay with his injuries. They were on private land that had been leased for public walk-in hunting by the state Game, Fish & Parks Department. Jay had been with Game, Fish & Parks since 2000. He will be greatly missed.

Brad Schultz
Riverview, Missouri
December 14, 2004
Age 29

Brad was killed in a car accident on the way to assist during a pursuit involving a stolen car. During the Brad's patrol car flipped over and struck a house, causing the car to burst into flames. He had served with Department for 4 years, and was previously as a corrections officer for 3 years. He leaves behind his fiancée, parents, and brother.

Robert W. Hedman Jr.
Otero County, New Mexico
December 18, 2004
Age 49

Robert was shot and killed while answering a call to a domestic dispute. He went to cover the back of the house. He was ambushed at the back of the gunman's home. His partner was in the front of the house. Shortly after shooting Robert the gunman came through the front and started shooting at Roberts partner, who then killed the gunman. Robert leaves behind is wife and two children.

George Debates
USNHS Border Patrol
December 19, 2004
Age 32

George was involved in a single car accident patrolling the border. He was with the department for four years. He leaves behind his mother.

Chris Ruse
Pendergrass, Georgia
December 29, 2004
Age 47

Chris was shot and killed when he approached a car that had overturned during a pursuit and one of the occupants shot him. He was with the Department for 4 month and previously with Winder City Police Department for 12 years. Chris leaves behind his wife and three young children.

Christy Tindall
Peoria, Illinois
December 30, 2004
Age 33

Christy was killed when her patrol car struck a utility pole while responding to a call, her partner was injured. Cristy was a 10 year veteran of the Department.

Peter Lavery
Newington, Connecticut
December 31, 2004
Age 33

Peter was shot and killed when he answered a call for domestic disturbance and was taken hostage overnight. He was shot in the leg and taken to the basement of the home with the suspects wife. SWAT was called in for negotiations and during the night the wife escaped. The suspect shot and killed Peter with a semi-automatic rifle and then committed suicide. Peter was with the Department for 19 years. He leaves behind his wife and two children.