

Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service And Roll Call of the Founders





September 24, 2022

The Prince George's County Fallen Firefighters Memorial

Dedicated in October 1990, the Prince George's County Fallen Firefighters Memorial stands in the entrance circle to the Cranford/Graves Fire Services Building in Landover Hills. The memorial is in memory of those individuals who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the protection of life and property in Prince George's County, Maryland.

Work on the Prince George's County Fallen Firefighters Memorial began in the Spring of 1988 when Department personnel were directed to research the methods and styles that others have chosen to honor line of duty deaths. This study eventually included input from over twenty separate communities nationwide. Department personnel reviewed the various designs and features and determined that, with this knowledge,

Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department could create an original design utilizing the talents that existed within our Department. This method was chosen in an effort to convey the pride and spirit unique to Prince George's County's Combination Career and Volunteer Fire/Rescue System. Designs were completed and submitted for approval by late summer 1988.

An effort was undertaken to find a Prince George's County-based artisan to bring the Department's design to completion. Paul Vricella, owner of Art and Stone, Incorporated, of Fort Washington, was selected. A list of the previous projects that Paul has worked on includes the reflecting pool in front of the County Administration Building and a bronze and marble mosaic on the main chapel floor of the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. Paul acted as Project Contractor to oversee the completion of the memorial, as well as doing all final engraving on the finished stone. The memorial is hewn from a single block of Texas Red Granite that was quarried in Southwestern Texas. Before cutting, the stone weighed approximately 23 tons. The stone was shipped from its quarry to Quality Monument Sales in Elberton, Georgia, where it was cut and polished by Philip Reid. Site preparation and installation of the walkway and flagpoles were completed, from the Department's designs, by Lloyd Flemming of Art and Stone. Landscaping was completed by Janet Gaskins of Landscape Designs, Incorporated.

The Founders Circle

In October 1998, a ring of stones representing the volunteer and career organizations that make up the Prince George's County Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department was added to the monument. Annually, these organizations submit the names of deceased members who made significant contributions to the betterment of the Department. Each year, up to ten names will be selected for honor on the Founders' Circle.

September 11, 2001 Memorial

On the one-year anniversary of the attack on our nation, a memorial was placed in the memorial circle dedicated "In memory of those who gave their lives on September 11, 2001."

Prince George's County 2022 Founders Circle Inductees

Chief Robert G. Mutchler
Volunteer Fire Department of Mount Rainier

Chief Leonard A. Johnson, Jr.
Brentwood Volunteer Fire Department

Chief Joseph R. Robison
Laurel Volunteer Fire Department Number One

Chief John G. Richardson, Sr.
Riverdale Heights Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad

Glenn E. Swisher
Glenn Dale Fire Association

Joyce A. Thorne
Forestville Volunteer Fire Department Number One Ladies Auxiliary

Chief Harry R. Ritter, Jr.
Accokeek Volunteer Fire Department

Mary R. Burton*

Ladies Auxiliary to the Landover Hills Volunteer Fire Department

Chief Nicholas C. Finamore
Allentown Road Volunteer Fire Department

Chief Phillip H. Carr
Baden Volunteer Fire Department

^{*} Denotes Founding Member

Line of Duty Honor Roll Memoriam

Vol. Fire Capt. B. Wesley Cranford	Upper Marlboro	October 25, 1930
Vol. Firefighter Clarence Joneston	Bladensburg	September 1, 1937
Vol. Firefighter Robert Lohman	Bladensburg	April 1, 1944
Vol. Firefighter Clinton D. Walker, Sr.	Berwyn Heights	March 25, 1945
Vol. Firefighter Jesse Lovejoy	Berwyn Heights	November 13, 1945
Vol. Firefighter John Hamer	Landover Hills	January 21, 1949
Vol. Firefighter William R. Stainback	Hyattsville	October 21, 1953
Vol. Firefighter John T. Streets	Hyattsville	October 21, 1953
Vol. Firefighter John H. Leyh	Berwyn Heights	July 12, 1956
Vol. Fire Chief William H. Wells	District Heights	September 10, 1958
Vol. Fire Chief James A. Melton	Branchville	November 30, 1959
Vol. Firefighter Gerald Britton	Riverdale Heights	May 14, 1960
Vol. Firefighter Dennis M. Boswell	Tuxedo-Cheverly	November 12, 1963
Vol. Firefighter Phillip E. Tierney	Boulevard Heights	June 6, 1967
Vol. Firefighter Robert J. Harmon, Jr.	Chillum – Adelphi	August 10, 1969
Vol. Firefighter C. Robert Hobstetter	Chillum – Adelphi	August 10, 1969
Vol. Firefighter Richard L. Whittington	Clinton	October 23, 1971
Vol. Firefighter James M. Herbert	Clinton	October 23, 1971
Vol. Firefighter Charles R. Hoffman	Tuxedo-Cheverly	August 6, 1972
Vol. Firefighter George P. Duvall, III	Cottage City	December 11, 1972
Vol. Firefighter Dennis M. Mandragos	Baden	July 10, 1973
Vol. Firefighter Mark W. Van Tassel	Baden	July 10, 1973
Vol. Firefighter Richard W. Myers	Baden	July 10, 1973
Vol. Firefighter Raymond H. Smallwood	Accokeek	January 1, 1976
Vol. Firefighter James M. O'Conner	Upper Marlboro	June 15, 1978
Vol. Firefighter Donald A. Bowen	P.G. F&EMS	January 12, 1980
Career Firefighter Thomas L. Graves, Jr.	West Lanham Hills	April 16, 1980
Vol. Firefighter Michael P. McCarthy	Morningside	September 12, 1983
Vol. Firefighter Alan P. Sondej	Hyattsville	March 16, 1988
Vol. Deputy Chief James G. Yvorra	Berwyn Heights	January 29, 1989
Vol. Firefighter Kenneth M. Hedrick	Morningside	January 12, 1992
Vol. Firefighter Leonardo Maguigad	Allentown Road	March 2, 1996
Fire Commissioner Charles B. Burton	Landover Hills	November 29, 1999
Vol. Firefighter Clarence Kreitzer	Bowie	September 24, 2001
Vol. President William Howzdy	Glenn Dale	October 25, 2001
Career Emer. Res. Tech. Nadar Hammett	P. G. F & EMS	December 1, 2003
Vol. Fire Chief Paul H. Thorne, Sr.	Forestville	October 25, 2005
Vol. President George H. Linnell	Landover Hills	April 13, 2007
Vol. Firefighter James D. Brooks	Vol. Marine Fire Rescue	January 15, 2014
Career Lieutenant John E. Ulmschneider	P.G.F. & E.M.S.	April 15, 2016
Career Captain Christopher E. Hill	P.G.F. & E.M.S.	July 21, 2016
Career Firefighter Jesse W. McCullough	P.G.F. & E.M.S.	October 9, 2018