



THE EPITAPH



Serving the law enforcement community of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina & Northern Summit Counties

VOL 2, NO 1 • JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2019

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Joe Mannion

Welcome to *The Epitaph*, the bi-monthly newsletter of the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society and thanks to all who have made such favorable comments about the newsletter. I want to recognize and give a special thank you to Coach Chelsea Cahill and the Avon Gymnastic Team for their recent donation of \$175.00 to GCPOMS in honor of Cleveland Police Officer Vu Nguyen (EOW July 6, 2018), whose daughter Kayla is a member of the Team. Coach Cahill advised that she was approached by the girls on the Team who told her they wanted to honor Officer Nguyen. So when the team recently sponsored a gymnastic meet, they decided to donate the profits from selling hot chocolate at the event to GCPOMS. Thank you Avon Gymnastics and Good Luck!



Avon Gymnastic Team

The GCPOMS staff and volunteers have been busy planning and preparing for this year's Police Week. In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as Police Week. This year The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society starts its police week on May 11th with the Grave Marker Placement. Volunteers lead by Police Survivor, John Dean meet at the GCPOMS Memorial. After a brief ceremony, the volunteers will travel throughout the five and a half county region represented by GCPOMS and place markers on the grave sites of Officers commemorated on our Memorial Walls. On Sunday May 12th a Police, Fire & EMS Memorial Mass will be held at Our Lady of Angels Church on Rocky River Drive in the West Park area of Cleveland, with a breakfast to follow. Everyone is invited to the Mass and breakfast.

Our week continues with a Candle Light Vigil on Monday, May 13 at the GCPOMS Memorial Site. On Thursday, May 16th GCPOMS staff and volunteers start setting up the Memorial Site for the Memorial Service. The set-up usually takes about 8 hours. Cleveland Police Badge Case Ceremony begins at 11 am on the 1st Floor at the Justice Center, 1300 Ontario Street (Cleveland).

On Friday, May 17th, the day of our Memorial Service starts at 6:30 am with a flag raising at the Memorial Site by Honor Guard Units from the United States

and Canada participating. This is followed by the roll call of names of Officers killed in the line of duty in 2018 and Officers honored on our Memorial Walls. There is a parade that steps off at 10:30 am from E.12th & Lakeside Ave. continuing along Lakeside to the Memorial Site. Once everyone from the parade has arrived at the Memorial Site, the Memorial Service begins. Later in the evening on Friday there is a police fellowship rib roast at the CPPA hall located at 1303 West 58th Street (Cleveland). It is a great time for Officers from around the U.S. and Canada to meet and reminiscence. This is open to all. GCPOMS is grateful to have members of the Chicago Police Emerald Society who volunteer to do all the grilling that evening.

We end our Police Week on Saturday May 18th. There is a Police Collector Show at the Double Tree Hotel on Lakeside Ave. at E. 12th Street from 9 am - 3 pm. At 7:00 pm The Cleveland International Tattoo will be held at Cleveland Music Hall with performers including Durham Regional Police Pipes & Drums from Canada, The Cleveland Police Pipes & Drums, United States Coast Guard Silent Drill Team and more. A detailed Police Week events schedule appears in this addition of the Epitaph.

A few weeks before Christmas GCPOMS had added 2 new items for sale to Honor Our Fallen Officers. These items are an Honor Our Fallen, cobalt blue, glass coffee/tea mug and an Honor Our Fallen holiday ornament. A special process was used on the quality 13 ounce USA- made mug to print the GCPOMS logo in four colors on one side and Honor Our Fallen on the other side. The 3 1/4 inch round glass ornament was specifically designed with the GCPOMS logo in four colors on one side and Honor Our Fallen on the other. For the ornament a 9 inch high walnut wood and brass ornament stand is also available for displaying the ornament on a table top, fireplace mantle or book shelf. The ornament and stand are available separately or as a pair. These items and other merchandise items are available at the GCPOMS tent sales and are available on the Mini-Market web store (www.HonorOurFallen.us).

I want to thank everyone who has purchased a Commemorative Paver during our expansion campaign to show support for law enforcement and GCPOMS. These Pavers make up the main walkway around the Memorial Site. Some were purchased as a permanent tribute to a loved one. Some were to recognize someone special, and some were to promote a business and organizations. Pavers are still available for purchase. Thank you to Michael T. Cudnik, M.D. for becoming a Silver Sponsor and to Marie Clark for becoming a Family Sponsor of GCPOMS. If you are interested in purchasing a Commemorative Paver, please visit our website at www.EachPaverRemembers.com.

Stay Safe,

Joe Mannion, President

SURVIVORS' CORNER

KEEPING THE PROMISE | Frank DeAngelo, Survivor

In the early morning hours of July 3, 1980, I received a phone call that stunned me. I was notified that my brother-in-law, Cleveland Police Officer Desmond Sherry, had been killed in the line of duty. That call changed my life and the lives of his family, friends, and members of The Cleveland Police Department. The following days were filled with sadness, confusion and anger. Our time was spent making arrangements and wanting answers on how such a tragedy could happen to our family. It was impossible to comprehend that our husband, father, son, brother, cousin, and friend who was loved by many, would no longer be there. Desmond was married to my sister Connie. I first met him when I was about 14 years old, and he was like a big brother to me. Desmond became a Cleveland Police Officer while I was in the United States Air Force. After the memorial services ended and everyone went on with their lives, ours were changed forever. Holidays and family gatherings were difficult and there was an emptiness in our lives. For me it's an emptiness that hasn't left after all these years.

I knew I would never forget Desmond, but I wanted to make sure no one else would ever forget him. I tell stories about him and there are many occasions when I feel his presence, whether I meet someone that knew him or someone that worked with him. The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society (GCPOMS) gives me another avenue to preserve the memory of Desmond. Every May there is an amazing event that gives us the opportunity to honor the memory of each fallen Officer and to give them the respect they deserve. I am honored to arrive early at the Memorial to assist in reading the names of the Peace Officers listed on the Wall. I'm just one of many others present to support the activities of GCPOMS. On that day my family and many others wear a lanyard that identifies us as Survivors. We are a group of people that know and support each other as a result of the tragic events that have changed our lives. Over the years I've met many people associated with GCPOMS that are just like myself, wanting honor for those on the Wall, and wanting to support each other as Survivors.

The definition of a survivor is: somebody who remains alive despite being exposed to life-threatening danger. I certainly don't fit that definition because there was no life threatening event I was exposed to. The second definition of a survivor is: Somebody who shows a great will to live or a great determination to overcome difficulties and carry on. That certainly defines all the family and friends that have a loved one whose name is on the Wall.

The GCPOMS mission is "keeping the promise, to never forget our fallen." I am proud to wear a wristband that states "Honor Our Fallen." Every day this reminds me of Desmond and all the other Officers and families impacted by the loss of a Peace Officer.



Night view of the lighted GCPOMS Memorial.



GCPOMS blue glass Memorial coffee mug.



GCPOMS Honor Our Fallen Holiday Ornament and Stand. The GCPOMS ornament is imprinted on side 1 and Honor Our Fallen on side 2.



The Memorial Mini-Market is open for business at WWW.HONOROURFALLEN.US

Icon graphic for the GCPOMS Memorial Mini-Market is courtesy of Carrie A. Petersen, Esq.

WE SERVE ALL WHO SERVE

Fellow Police Chaplains and brothers Rabbi Sruly Wolf and Rabbi Ari Wolf know well the challenges facing law enforcement. They are among the First Responders who meet the needs of those who suffer loss and experience violence. Rabbis Sruly and Ari Wolf serve the protectors of our communities, as well as victims of crime and their families. Both are ordained Orthodox Jewish Rabbis and Police Chaplains for all denominations and beliefs. They serve responding law enforcement who calmly and effectively address the needs of victims, witnesses, family and friends who are at the scene of a tragedy. When tragedy involves a fellow Officer in Blue, Police Chaplains also serve the needs of fellow Police Officers. The Rabbis find law enforcement to be reluctant to show or discuss their emotions, even when their grief and sorrow are palpable. They note that the community always expects Police Officers to be saviors in times of tragedy, to keep the peace, and to resolve the inequities of every situation. Both agree that “Cops are not talkers, but doers.” Chaplains are there if Police Officers want to talk.



Rabbi Sruly Wolf, Police Chaplain



Rabbi Ari Wolf, Police Chaplain

It is obvious when meeting Rabbi Sruly and Rabbi Ari Wolf that there is a deep bond between the two brothers and mutual respect, concern, and respect for one another. Their individual gifts and personal qualities are evidenced in their kind, genuine, and caring persona. Both were well-schooled in the duties of a Police Chaplain long before they left Brooklyn, NY to attend the Rabbinical College of Telshe Yesiva in Wickliffe (Ohio). They were blessed with the example of a loving and caring father who was also an ordained Rabbi who served as a volunteer Police Chaplain and Community Liaison for the New York City Police Department. Both express their admiration and pride in their father's accomplishments and his compassion for others. From a young age, Rabbi Sruly accompanied his father on many emergency calls and witnessed the needs of Police Officers, victims of crime and their families, and the families of Fallen Heroes.

Involvement with law enforcement is a Wolf family tradition that spans 3 generations. Their brother, also an ordained Rabbi, is a Chaplain for the Chicago Police Department and the Illinois State Patrol. Rabbi Sruly's son is a Police Officer for the Cleveland Heights Police Department.

Rabbi Sruly Wolf was ordained in 1964 and served from 1964 to 1981 as Director of Administrative Services at the Rabbinical College of Telshe Yeshiva. Rabbi Ari Wolf was an assistant to his brother for 9 years and succeeded him as Director of Administrative Services at the College, a position he continues to hold. Rabbi Ari states the he “morphed into Police Chaplaincy with his brother in 1976 and ever since.”

Rabbi Sruly is the Chief Police Chaplain of the 18 Chaplains for the Cleveland



Police Department and also serves as Police Chaplain for the Lake County Sheriff's Office where he has been a Special Deputy for 30 years. He is also Chaplain for the Cleveland Division of the FBI. Rabbi Ari is a Chaplain for the Cleveland Police Department and also Chaplain for the Wickliffe Police Department. In 2016, he delivered the Invocation on the first day of the Republican National Committee in Cleveland. In the Invocation, Rabbi Ari prayed and petitioned for blessings on law enforcement. Both brothers became Police Chaplains to provide a purposeful service to others and to minister to the needs of others. As Police Chaplains, both assist with the grieving process only when there is a need to console those suffering a personal loss.

Rabbi Sruly began as a Chaplain for the FOP Lodge 8 of the Cleveland Police Department with Father John J. Cregan, whose father was a Cleveland Police Officer. Father Cregan, who served as a Police Chaplain for 39 years, was both a friend and a mentor to Rabbi Sruly in the early informal beginnings of Police Chaplaincy in Cleveland when there was no job description. The Police Chaplaincy did not become a defined role until the 1970s. Mayor George Voinovich made the Police Chaplaincy official, and the Cleveland Police Department issued a Police Order to establish it as an official part of the Department. Rabbi Sruly observed Father Cregan's comforting ways with families of Fallen Officers and found Father Cregan to be a friend and a mentor. Rabbi Sruly stated that Father Cregan, who began as an unofficial Police Chaplain, was a natural for the position. He was not only a colleague, but a trusted advisor.

In their youth in Brooklyn, both brothers learned that Police Officers are not only persons of authority, but friends of the community in which they serve. The Beat Patrol Officer in the neighborhoods were strong messengers of both principles of neighborhood policing. As a Police Chaplain, Rabbi Sruly has observed from ride-a-longs and daily encounters with Police Officers the kindness and empathy shown by police officers to those who are suffering a personal loss or who have been victims or witnesses to a horrific crime. As Police Chaplains, Rabbi Sruly and Rabbi Ari have witnessed the many good people who enter the law enforcement profession and the many acts of kindness by Police Officers to those they serve. Their experiences with law enforcement have left an impression, and their own compassion is reinforced when they witness how Police Officers respond to the personal needs of others at each emergency or tragedy. Rabbi Sruly and Rabbi Ari agree that Police Officers and Police Chaplains have similar reasons for doing what they do. Both want to make a difference in the lives of others, and both want to serve others. Both get satisfaction from serving the community.

Police Chaplains are unpaid volunteers who respond to a tragedy or emergency calls when the lead Officer(s) at the scene request their presence to serve those in need of consolation and comfort. Chaplains are of all faiths and beliefs.

The importance of Police Chaplaincy is the service to others which is a fundamental function of their purpose. They are partners and nurturers to those they serve. Both Rabbi Sruly and Rabbi Ari emphasize that the primary part of a Police Chaplain's duties is to "be there." Chaplains do not investigate nor do they seek out or interview witnesses. They are not a part of law enforcement. They are present at tragedies and emergencies to sense the needs of those who have experienced a tragedy and need consolation and comfort.

Chaplains respond not only to Police Officers' injuries or Line of Duty Deaths, but also to serious accidents and disasters which give rise to crowds which may become agitated as a result of their concerns. They rarely receive, nor do they desire, gratitude. Police Chaplains help Police Officers serve the community, finish their shift and go home to their families who are their most important allies. Chaplains help Police Officers in the performance of their duties as they deal with other peoples' pain and try to make Police Officers understand the great work they are doing.

Police Chaplains are there for law enforcement families and law enforcement colleagues to lead and guide them in a crisis. They counsel Police Survivors through the process of loss and pain. The journey begins when

the pain from a loss manifests itself. Both Rabbis agree that the journey can be a long, arduous one. The pain does get lighter, and the memories of their loved ones help Survivors through the journey. With time, both Rabbis state, Survivors will get better while acknowledging that the process and journey are different for each Survivor. Police Chaplains wish they could protect others from the pain they are enduring and feeling. When consoling those who have suffered the loss of a loved one, Rabbi Sruly and Rabbi Ari recognize that forgiveness is a process, but also see it as a gift from God that is also individual to each person. This personal journey takes time, and the process proceeds at an individual pace. Both Rabbis admit that forgiveness is not easy and if it is not possible, then a person essentially has to move on. The process may be achieved eventually, and pain and suffering are a part of that journey. That process and journey are similar, both say, in LODD when grieving involves a fellow officer(s).

Both brothers are dedicated public servants in the Orthodox Jewish tradition of the *Talmud Chacham (Torah Scholars)*. May both Rabbi Sruly Wolf and Rabbi Ari Wolf be blessed in their continued service to everyone in Blue and may they know the deep appreciation that law enforcement and their families and the communities they serve have for their selfless service.

IN MEMORIAM December 1, 1853 – November 26, 1921

John Osborne, Watchman

Cleveland City Marshal's Office
EOW December 1, 1853

Michael Kick, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW May 15, 1875

George Brenner, Marshal

Wellington Village Marshal's Office
EOW July 18, 1883

William Hulligan, Detective

Cleveland Police Department
EOW February 8, 1887

Nicholas Sheehan, Sergeant

Cleveland Police Department
EOW September 5, 1894

John Shipp, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW May 6, 1900

William L. Foulks, Detective Lieutenant

Cleveland Police Department
EOW September 29, 1900

Louis D. Weick, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW December 10, 1903

James H. Stedman, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW January 25, 1905

Spooner C. Crapo, Marshal

Rochester Village Marshal's Office
EOW November 11, 1905

Herman Reimer, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW January 28, 1911

Walter C. Chapman, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW August 22, 1911

Edward Parker, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW June 19, 1912

Leroy E. Bouker, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW November 28, 1912

Albert Miller, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW December 3, 1913

Robert Becker, Night Watchman

Amherst Village Constable's Office
EOW April 10, 1916

John H. Gates, Watchman

Medina Village Marshal's Office
EOW April 18, 1916

Charles H. Goetz, Sergeant

Cleveland Police Department
EOW May 6, 1916

Henry Froelich, Sergeant

Cleveland Police Department
EOW September 25, 1916

Edward M. Meany, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW November 29, 1916

Elmer P. Glaefke, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW September 13, 1917

William Brown, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW September 29, 1917

Alfred Ressler, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW August 6, 1918

Patrick Gaffney, Detective

East Cleveland Police Department
EOW December 19, 1918

William P. Armstrong, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW March 9, 1919

Ernest C. Gray, Deputy

Willoughby Township Marshal's Office
EOW July 16, 1919

Frank M. Moranz, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW September 26, 1919

William Isaac, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW December 1, 1919

Robert Shelton, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
December 7, 1919

Thomas Cook, Detective

New York Central Railroad Police
Department - July 12, 1920

David H. Barnes, Detective Sergeant

New York Central Railroad Police
Department - July 28, 1920

John Vapenik, Marshal

Maple Heights Village
EOW August 28, 1920

Edward Connolly, Captain

Cleveland Heights Police Department
EOW September 8, 1920

Walter Preuhs, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
October 17, 1920

Albert Block, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW February 11, 1921

August Dyke, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW March 24, 1921

Elmer Sprosty, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW April 21, 1921

Frank J. Koran, Patrolman

Cleveland Police Department
EOW November 26, 1921

We will never forget!

POLICE WEEK – May 11-18, 2019

Celebrated in Cleveland with the 34th Annual Police Memorial Commemoration

Hosted by The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society™, the commemoration recognizes all law enforcement officers for their dedicated service, and honors those who died in the line of duty serving their communities. Please consider showing your support for our Safety Forces at any of the following events open to the public:

Saturday, May 11, 2019:

Grave Marker Placement. After a brief ceremony at 8:00 a.m. at the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial™ (GCPOM™) located in Huntington Park, Lakeside Avenue and West 3rd Street, volunteers will travel throughout the region and place markers on the graves of the officers commemorated on the GCPOM™.

Sunday, May 12, 2019:

Police, Fire, & EMS Memorial Mass. 9:00AM at Our Lady of Angels Church. Breakfast served after Mass in Linus Hall. Cost \$7.00

Monday, May 13, 2019:

Candlelight Vigil. 7:30 p.m. at the GCPOM™ *Everyone is welcome*

Thursday, May 16, 2019:

Cleveland Police Badge Case Ceremony. Begins at 11:00 a.m. 1st Floor Cleveland Police Justice Center

Heroes Welcome. 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. location TBD
Live music and complimentary appetizers.

Friday, May 17, 2019:

Parade. Steps off at 10:30 a.m. from Lakeside Avenue and East 12th Street, continuing along Lakeside Avenue to the GCPOM™. Parade participants include officers from local, county, state and federal agencies throughout the U.S. and Canada; and surviving family members of officers who made the supreme sacrifice.

Memorial Service. All are encouraged to gather at the GCPOM™ at 11:30 a.m. immediately following the parade in “**Keeping the Promise to Never Forget Our Fallen Heroes.**”™

Luncheon. For parade participants immediately following the Memorial Service at the FOP Lodge 8 Hall, 2249 Payne Avenue.

Greater Cleveland Police Emerald Society. Fellowship Event CPPA Upstairs Hall 4:00 PM to 6:00PM

Rib Roast. Police fellowship at CPPA Hall, 1303 West 58th Street from 6-8p.m. to 8:00 p.m. \$25 (full slab) and \$15 (half slab) per person. For tickets contact (216) 337-3537 or info@policememorialsociety.org. Sponsored by Chicago P.D. Emerald Society.

Saturday, May 18, 2019:

Cleveland International Tattoo™. Highlighting the weekend will be the “Tattoo” at Cleveland Music Hall at 7:00 p.m. A spectacular demonstration of pageantry, music, song, drill and dance. Featured performers include the United States Coast Guard Silent Drill Team, The Pipes and Drums of the Cleveland Police, Durham Regional Police Pipes and Drums from Canada, and more!

After-Tattoo Party. Follow the bands back to the Double Tree Hotel at 12th & Lakeside Ave., featuring music by “Sloppy Joe Band”!



**CLEVELAND
INTERNATIONAL
TATTOO**

www.PoliceMemorialSociety.org



P.O. Box 6207
Cleveland, OH 44101

THE
EPITAPH

“Honor Our Fallen!” You Can Make a Difference!
Membership for the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society

- Annual** Individual Member \$20.00 Annual Business/Organization \$75.00
Lifetime Individual Member \$200.00 Lifetime Business/Organization \$750.00
Gift \$ _____

Name _____

Org. / Bus. _____ Contact Person _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

If you are interested in becoming a GCPOMS volunteer, please check this block and we will contact you.

Please make your check or money order payable to:

The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society (GCPOMS) | P.O. Box 6207, Cleveland, OH 44101
216-337-3537 | info@policememorialsociety.org | www.honorourfallen.us

Please remember that The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society (GCPOMS) is a 501(c)(3) organization and your donation is tax exempt.