



## **FALLEN TROOPER MEMORIAL**



*In Honor of Those Who Have Fallen*

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### **TROOPER HAROLD E. ANDERSON**

March 1899 - March 12, 1921

Tpr. Harold E. Anderson was shot while investigating a suspicious vehicle near Novi, Michigan.

As Trooper Anderson and his partner approached the car, the driver opened fire with a pistol. One of his bullets struck Trooper Anderson near the heart. The mortally wounded officer pulled his gun and fired at the vehicle as it sped away. The second officer also fired, but the bullets failed to halt the car. Trooper Anderson walked back to his patrol car and collapsed.

Trooper Anderson died as he was being transported to a local doctor's office. The vehicle was later located and the suspect apprehended.

Trooper Anderson was the first MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



**SERGEANT MILAN PRATT**

May 1899 - April 15, 1922

Sgt. Milan Pratt was killed on duty when the motorcycle he was riding went out of control on a strip of pavement under construction near Plymouth, Michigan.

(Further information not available due to lack of historical records.)

Sergeant Pratt was the second MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



**TROOPER JOHN P. CLINTON**

October 1898 - January 8, 1923

Tpr. John P. Clinton was killed on duty while riding a disabled motorcycle that was being towed by another vehicle near Grandville, Michigan. The tow rope became entangled and Trooper Clinton was thrown to his death.

Trooper Clinton was the third MSP officer to die in the line of duty.

(Further information not available due to lack of historical records.)



**SERGEANT HARVEY E. BOLEN**

January 1898 - May 4, 1923

Sgt. Harvey E. Bolen had been assigned to motorcycle patrol on May 3, 1923, and was in the immediate vicinity of the St. Clair Post. Troopers inside the building observed a “riderless” cycle travel across the front lawn. They rushed outside to find Sergeant Bolen lying unconscious in the roadway. Sergeant Bolen regained consciousness and walked to his room assisted by the officers. His condition rapidly deteriorated and he was taken to a hospital where he was found to have a fractured skull.

An operation was performed in an attempt to control internal bleeding, but the injury was too massive. Repeated hemorrhages took the officer’s life during the early morning of May 4, 1923.

No witnesses to the accident were ever located.

Sergeant Bolen was the fourth MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



**TROOPER WILLIAM F. MARTZ**

February 3, 1901 - March 12, 1925

Tpr. William F. Martz was accidentally shot and killed by another state police officer.

On March 10, 1925, Trooper Martz and his partner were guarding bank robbers lodged in the Berrien County jail. The officers had been on duty since midnight. At approximately 8 a.m., Trooper Martz's partner took his revolver out and began inspecting it. The weapon accidentally discharged and the bullet struck Trooper Martz.

Efforts to save Trooper Martz's life proved futile and he died two days later.

Trooper Martz was the fifth MSP officer to die in the line of duty.





**TROOPER HOWARD H. FUNK**

October 5, 1901 - July 8, 1926

Tpr. Howard H. Funk was killed while on patrol when the motorcycle he was riding turned into the path of a street car. He was assigned to the Clinton River Post.

(Further information was not available due to lack of historical records.)

Trooper Funk was the sixth MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **CORPORAL SAM MAPES**

December 16, 1893 - May 1, 1927

Cpl. Sam Mapes was killed while investigating a vehicle believed to be transporting illegal liquor.

On the afternoon of May 1, 1927, Corporal Mapes stopped two vehicles suspected of hauling boot- leg liquor. The driver of one of the cars offered Corporal Mapes a bribe of \$300. Corporal Mapes refused the bribe, stopped a motorist and asked him to call for assistance. While Corporal Mapes was talking to the motorist, the suspect came up behind him, grabbed his weapon, and fired point blank range into Corporal Mapes' body. The assailant

took the mortally wounded officer's weapon and fled.

The suspect was apprehended in Chicago, Illinois, after an amazing investigation conducted in Michigan and Illinois. He was convicted by a jury of Corporal Mapes' murder and was sentenced to life imprisonment in the Southern Michigan Prison at Jackson.

Corporal Mapes was the seventh MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



**TROOPER DELOS A. WILLIAMS**

December 24, 1906 - July 30, 1929

Tpr. Delos A. Williams was killed while on duty when the motorcycle he was riding was involved in a crash. He was assigned to the Bay City Post.

(Further information not available due to lack of historical records.)

Trooper Williams was the eighth MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



**TROOPER JOHN S. BURKE**

December 1, 1906 - October 13, 1930

Tpr. John S. Burke was killed while attempting to apprehend two bank robbers in St. Joseph county.

Trooper Burke had received word of the robbery and a description of the vehicle and suspects. He positioned himself along a county road and stopped the car. While Trooper Burke was searching one of the suspects, the other drew a gun and fired three bullets into his back.

To make sure Trooper Burke was dead, the suspects drove their vehicle over the body of the fallen trooper. They were later apprehended in Indiana and the vehicle, money from the robbery, and the murder weapon were recovered. The suspects were convicted of their crimes.

Trooper Burke was the ninth MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER RICHARD F. HAMMOND**

November 5, 1911 - January 20, 1937

Tpr. Richard F. Hammond was killed while investigating a suspected stolen car in Monroe county.

Trooper Hammond and his partner stopped a possible stolen car and apprehended two occupants. Trooper Hammond transported one of the suspects in the patrol car while his partner transported the other in the suspect vehicle. When Trooper Hammond's partner noticed the state vehicle was no longer following him, he turned around and found it parked along the road.

Several shots were fired at him as he approached the car. The stolen patrol car then managed to elude the officer. It was later

learned from the apprehended murderer that he had the drop on Trooper Hammond with a gun he had concealed in his trouser leg. He struck Trooper Hammond a crushing blow over the eye and dragged his limp body to a rural mailbox, chained him with hand-cuffs, placed the gun against the officer's head, and fired the fatal bullet.

The suspect pled guilty to first degree murder in court and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Trooper Hammond was the 10th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER IRVINE F. WURM**

April 23, 1912 - January 26, 1941

Tpr. Irvine F. Wurm was killed when he was struck by a vehicle driven by an intoxicated person.

It was snowing heavily in the early morning hours when Trooper Wurm and his partner stopped a suspected drunk driver on US-31 near the junction of M-140. Trooper Wurm was standing on the left side of the vehicle talking to the driver. Suddenly, a car with poor headlights came from the opposite direction, drove across the center line, and struck Trooper Wurm and the parked vehicle. The coroner later stated Trooper Wurm's death was instantaneous.

The car that struck and killed Trooper Wurm was occupied by two men and two women, all extremely intoxicated. All the occupants were prosecuted.

Trooper Wurm was the 11th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



**TROOPER JOHN W. CAIN**

July 18, 1919 - November 26, 1941

Tpr. John W. Cain was killed in a motor vehicle crash on Telegraph Road, south of Flat Rock. The patrol car he was driving was struck head-on by a vehicle fleeing the scene of a hit-and-run accident near Wyandotte, Michigan.

Trooper Cain and his partner, Tpr. Walter Stevens, were northbound responding to another traffic accident when the crash

occurred. The driver of the southbound vehicle was also killed. There was evidence he had been drinking. Trooper Stevens suffered internal and head injuries, but recovered and returned to active duty.

Trooper Cain was the 12th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



**TROOPER CHARLES T. WOOD**

July 21, 1913 - April 14, 1942

Tpr. Charles T. Wood was killed while driving motorcycle #12 north on M-29 from the St. Clair Post. He was attempting to make a carburetor adjustment on the engine when the cycle went out of control. The motorcycle left the roadway, struck an iron fence, skidded along the shoulder of the roadway and struck a concrete culvert at a private driveway. Trooper Wood sustained fatal injuries in the crash.

The coroner was called to the scene and he pronounced the death of Trooper Wood "accidental."

Trooper Wood was the 13th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.





### **TROOPER RALPH L. BROULLIRE**

June 26, 1914 - March 16, 1943

Tpr. Ralph L. Broullire drowned in Saginaw Bay while trying to rescue two boys from an ice flow. In the evening of March 16, 1943, the two young men became stranded on an ice flow that had been pushed offshore by 55 mile per hour winds. Trooper Broullire and two other men set out in a boat in an attempt to reach the boys. Another boat also started out, but was turned back by high winds and waves. Signals received from flashlights on the ice flow indicated that Trooper Broullire and his

companions had reached the boys. This was the last contact with the men. The icy waters of the bay claimed the life of Trooper Broullire and the four others.

Storms and high winds seriously hampered the search for the victims. The body of Trooper Broullire was recovered on April 18, 1943.

Trooper Broullire was the 14th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



**TROOPER JOHN D. RYAN**

August 9, 1921 - March 3, 1950

Tpr. John D. Ryan was killed near Marquette, Michigan, when the patrol car he was driving collided with a train. The officer's view was apparently obscured by high snow banks in the area.

Trooper Ryan was the 15th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.

(Further information not available due to lack of historical records.)



**TROOPER GEORGE R. BRANNY**

July 24, 1923 - April 12, 1950

Tpr. George R. Branny was killed by gunfire while he and his partner were investigating a report of an armed man attacking a woman on the north side of Lansing, Michigan.

Trooper Branny and his partner received a request for assistance at 4:30 p.m. They responded and were advised a neighbor had attempted to attack a woman and had displayed a gun. The officers approached the suspect's home and, while standing on both sides of the doorway, knocked and requested admittance.

There was no response and the knock was repeated. Trooper Branny looked in a window near the door and immediately died when a shotgun blast was fired through the window from within.

Several shots were exchanged between the subject and the back-up units before the suspect took his own life.

Trooper Branny was the 16th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



**SERGEANT PERRY L. CRITCHELL**

June 13, 1910 - March 20, 1954

Sgt. Perry L. Critchell was killed in a patrol car crash on US-27 in Crawford County.

Sergeant Critchell was driving northbound on US- 27 when a vehicle traveling westbound on County Road 200 entered the intersection without stopping.

Sergeant Critchell's patrol car slammed into the side of the second vehicle, seriously injuring the driver. Sergeant Critchell sustained fatal injuries in the crash.

Sergeant Critchell was the 17th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



**TROOPER CALVIN R. JONES**

April 24, 1925 - February 10, 1956

Tpr. Calvin R. Jones was killed in a patrol car crash on M-52 in Lenawee County. He was in pursuit of a speeding vehicle when a truck he was about to pass made a left turn. The patrol car struck the rear corner of the truck. Trooper Jones died instantly.

Trooper Jones was the 18th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



**TROOPER GEORGE E. LAPPI**

December 18, 1928 - November 19, 1956

Tpr. George E. Lappi and Tpr. Bert A. Pozza were shot and killed by a mentally deranged man when they responded to a domestic dispute.

On the morning of the tragedy, a trooper from the Flint Post was dispatched to a family disturbance. He encountered a man with a high-powered rifle and Troopers Lappi and Pozza were sent to assist. Once at the scene, Trooper Lappi made contact with the man and pleaded with him to surrender. As he spoke to the suspect, Trooper Lappi inadvertently exposed himself and was fatally shot.

As efforts to get the subject to surrender continued, Trooper Pozza attempted to gain shelter near the residence. He was mortally



**TROOPER BERT A. POZZA**

September 23, 1929 - November 19, 1956

wounded by gunfire from within. Another state police officer was wounded before the assailant was finally subdued.

Trooper Lappi was dead on arrival at a local hospital. Trooper Pozza died soon afterwards. The suspect died a short time later in a hospital, where he had been taken for treatment of his wounds.

Trooper Lappi was the 19th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.

Trooper Pozza was the 20th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER DUGALD A. PELLOT**

July 21, 1934 - September 30, 1957

Tpr. Dugald A. Pellet was killed by gunfire while attempting to apprehend two subjects in Lenawee County who had shot and seriously wounded another trooper.

Trooper Pellet and his partner had stopped one of two suspected vehicles. Trooper Pellet stayed with the first vehicle while his partner pursued the other car. The driver of the stopped vehicle managed to secure a weapon from within the car. Trooper Pellet was shot before he could take action and died at the scene. The subjects escaped even though the slain trooper's partner fired rounds into their vehicle.

The subjects fled into Indiana where they shot a city police officer and two Indiana state troopers. One of the troopers later died of his wounds. The suspect that shot Trooper Pellet was killed by Indiana authorities as he attempted to run a police roadblock. The other suspect was apprehended and received a life sentence in an Indiana prison.

Trooper Pellet was the 21st MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER ALBERT W. SOUDEN**

April 4, 1930 - September 3, 1959

Tpr. Albert W. Souden was kidnapped and killed by an ex-convict who was the subject of an investigation.

Trooper Souden had been investigating a robbery near Milford. He had driven to Argentine to check the license number of a vehicle seen in the area. Later that evening, his wife called the post to advise that Trooper Souden had not returned home.

Within minutes of determining Trooper Souden had disappeared, the department mobilized an intensive search. The public response was also immediate. Floods of citizens, sheriff's deputies, municipal police officers, and members of the Army and National Guard volunteered to join the ground and air search.

The investigation of Trooper Souden's disappearance led to the arrest of a suspect hiding in a northern Michigan cottage on

September 4, 1959. The suspect confessed to kidnapping and murdering the trooper. He stated he met Trooper Souden at the door and got the drop on him. He then took the officer's gun and forced him to drive his patrol car to a secluded, wooded area. There he shot the officer in the back of the head at close range and buried him in a shallow grave. The suspect later led investigators to Trooper Souden's makeshift grave.

At his trial in early 1960, the suspect pled guilty to a reduced charge of second degree murder. He was sentenced to 18-25 years in prison.

Trooper Souden was the 22nd MSP officer to die in the line of duty.





**DETECTIVE ROBERT R. GONSER**

September 17, 1934 - August 8, 1968

Det. Robert R. Gonser was shot and killed by an unknown assailant while working surveillance in the city of Inkster, Michigan.

During the investigation of a complaint, Detective Gonser and his partner were leaving an observation point in an unmarked car when they were confronted by four subjects in another vehicle. The suspects used their vehicle in an attempt to block the officers' path, but Detective Gonser drove around them.

As the two vehicles passed, the officers heard the subjects shout obscene threats and order them to stop. Detective Gonser saw a rifle in the suspect vehicle and attempted to flee.

There was a volley of shots erupting from the other vehicle and Detective Gonser was struck by a bullet that had entered the police car through the tail light. He slumped against the driver's door and lost control of the car. His partner regained control of the vehicle and drove off the roadway, preparing for further assaults. None came.

Detective Gonser was the 23rd MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER CARL P. LINDBERG**

September 22, 1946 - May 26, 1969

Tpr. Carl P. Lindberg was shot and killed when he confronted an armed robber in the apartment complex in which he lived.

One of the apartment tenants contacted Trooper Lindberg and stated she had been talking to the manager of the complex when their conversation had been interrupted by two men breaking into the manager's office announcing a holdup.

Trooper Lindberg, armed with his snubnosed revolver, accompanied the tenant to the office. Upon hearing no sounds within the office, the tenant went to the terrace where she heard voices. The tenant then knocked on the office

window in an attempt to frighten the robbers. Both suspects fled through a side door. One of them ran down the hallway toward the lobby, encountering Trooper Lindberg. The subject shot the off-duty officer at point blank range and fled to a get-away car. Trooper Lindberg, though mortally wounded, chased the second subject and fired five shots at him before falling to the ground. Both robbers escaped at the time, but were subsequently apprehended, and received mandatory life sentences for their crime.

Trooper Lindberg was the 24th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



**TROOPER RODGER M. ADAMS**

March 6, 1945 - May 14, 1971

Tpr. Rodger M. Adams was killed in a traffic crash on US-12 in Lenawee County.

Shortly after 1:15 a.m., Trooper Adams and his partner were dispatched to investigate a traffic crash. Approximately one-half mile west of Tipton Highway, an oncoming car skidded around a curve and crossed the center line of the roadway. Trooper Adams swerved the patrol car to the right, but was unable to avoid

the oncoming car. The two vehicles met nearly head-on. Trooper Adams was killed instantly and his partner was seriously injured. The driver of the other vehicle was also killed.

Trooper Adams was the 25th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



**TROOPER GARY T. RAMPY**

September 12, 1944 - December 31, 1971

Tprs. Gary T. Rampy and Charles B. Stark were shot and killed during the traffic stop of a suspected drunk driver.

At 2:30 a.m., the officers resumed patrol following a coffee break with fellow troopers from another patrol car. They had been discussing drunk drivers. At 2:55 a.m., a citizen called the post advising that the officers had been shot. It is theorized that at 2:50 a.m., the troopers' attention was drawn to a vehicle making a u-turn in front of them. It was later learned that when the officers signaled the vehicle to stop, the driver obtained a gun from the back seat and placed it in his waistband.

When the officers approached the car, the driver was unable to produce an operator's license and was taken back to the patrol car by one of the troopers. While at the patrol car, the suspect apparently got the drop on Trooper Rampy. Trooper Stark was then called back to the patrol car and he, too, was disarmed.

The suspect then shot both officers. Although pronounced dead on arrival at a nearby hospital, both troopers died as they fell beside their patrol car.



**TROOPER CHARLES B. STARK**

April 24, 1939 - December 31, 1971

Nearby residents heard the shooting and called the post. The officers that had just completed the coffee break with the mortally wounded troopers were less than one mile from the scene, and arrived in time to observe the suspect vehicle as it was leaving the area. Shots fired at the fleeing car had no effect. During the chase, information was given to the post reference the fallen officers and an ambulance was sent. A shotgun blast was fired, striking the suspect vehicle, and the driver stopped. He fled on foot after attempting to fire at the pursuing troopers. One of the officers chased the suspect on foot and ordered him to stop. After repeated warnings, the suspect was fired upon and killed.

It was learned that the suspect was wanted in Tennessee for parole violations, had been linked with several armed robberies, and had killed one person in a drug store hold up.

Trooper Rampy was the 26th MSP officer to die in the line of duty. Trooper Stark was the 27th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER STEVEN B. DEVRIES**

April 28, 1940 - October 12, 1972

Tpr. Steven B. DeVries was shot and killed by a bank robber near Niles, Michigan.

At 8:40 a.m., the Niles Post received a bank alarm in the city of Niles. The information was immediately given to Trooper DeVries, who was already on patrol. A short time later, Trooper DeVries radioed the post requesting further information. None was available. Other officers responding to the robbery observed Trooper DeVries on bypass US-12. He had stopped a vehicle containing one subject and was sitting in the patrol car talking on the radio.

A witness later appeared and stated that he had seen Trooper DeVries and the subject standing between their respective cars when, suddenly, the officer fell backward with his arm across his chest. The witness immediately contacted other troopers in the area and aid was rushed to the fallen officer. An ambulance transported Trooper DeVries to a local hospital

within minutes. The medical staff worked feverishly, but unsuccessfully, to save the officer's life. Trooper DeVries was pronounced dead at 9:10 a.m., one-half hour after he had been informed of the robbery.

Investigating officers found that Trooper DeVries had written the subject's name and address on a note pad. The suspect was later apprehended, admitted to both the bank robbery and murder, was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment in the Southern Michigan Prison at Jackson. On July 4, 1987, Trooper DeVries' killer escaped from that institution. On December 3, 1987, he was killed in a gun battle with sheriff deputies in Mississippi, while fleeing from another bank robbery.

Trooper DeVries was the 28th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER DARRYL M. RANTANEN**

November 12, 1937 - May 27, 1974

Tpr. Darryl M. Rantanen was killed in a traffic accident while involved in the chase of a stolen automobile.

Trooper Rantanen and his partner were pursuing a stolen car occupied by two youths, after being alerted by Escanaba police. Trooper Rantanen's partner, the driver of the patrol car, attempted to pull alongside the stolen car. Before the patrol car could be brought alongside the fleeing vehicle, the driver swerved across the center line forcing the patrol unit off the roadway. Both vehicles left the roadway with the patrol unit turning on to its side and its top striking a tree. The stolen car skidded back across the roadway and came to

rest in the ditch on the opposite side. The occupants then fled.

Trooper Rantanen was pronounced dead at a local hospital. His partner, seriously injured, remained under hospital and medical care for six months. The driver of the stolen car, later apprehended, was convicted in Delta County Circuit Court and was sentenced to terms of 4-1/2 to 15 years for involuntary manslaughter and 4-1/2 to 10 years for intent to do great bodily harm to the other officer.

Trooper Rantanen was the 29th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER LARRY L. FORREIDER**

September 23, 1941 - December 5, 1974

Tpr. Larry L. Forreider was shot to death near Alpena, Michigan, after he and his partner had stopped a vehicle for defective tail lights.

Trooper Forreider, the driver of the patrol car, approached the driver side of the suspect vehicle as his partner approached the passenger side. Trooper Forreider's partner then advised him that he had seen a gun in the car. The occupants were ordered out of the vehicle. Two of the occupants exited on the passenger's side and were being searched when two shots rang out from the driver's side of the car. Trooper Forreider fell back from the car, having been mortally wounded by the driver who had obtained a second weapon from within the vehicle.

Although he was to die where he fell, Trooper Forreider returned fire at his assailant, but his shots were ineffective. The other officer captured the two passengers, wounding one of them. The murderer escaped, only to take his own life in a remote portion of Alpena County as pursuing troopers closed in on him. The three were wanted for safe burglaries, as well as other felonies, both in and out of the state of Michigan.

Trooper Forreider was the 30th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER NORMAN R. KILLOUGH**

August 15, 1953 - October 7, 1978

Tpr. Norman R. Killough was accidentally shot and killed in Flint, Michigan, while serving as an undercover officer during a stolen property "sting," investigation.

Trooper Killough was involved in an on-going State Police/Flint Police Department undercover operation in which the two departments were attempting to establish the credibility of the undercover troopers as fences for stolen goods. Trooper Killough and his partner, another trooper, acting as criminals, were in a van that was stopped by Flint officers in a high crime area of the city.

During the second of these stops by the same Flint officers, Trooper Killough was fatally wounded when a gun held by one of the Flint officers accidentally discharged with the .38 caliber bullet striking the undercover officer in the right side. Although emergency treatment was quickly administered, Trooper Killough was pronounced dead on arrival at a local hospital.

Trooper Killough was the 31st MSP officer to die in the line of duty.





**DETECTIVE SERGEANT HARRY A. SORENSON**

May 23, 1936 - December 5, 1978

D/Sgt. Harry A. Sorenson was killed in a two car, head-on traffic accident near Michigamme. Sergeant Sorenson was driving eastbound on US- 41 when his unmarked car apparently crossed the center line and struck a westbound vehicle head-on.

Sergeant Sorenson received fatal injuries in the collision, and the three occupants of the other car received varying degrees of injury, none fatal. Sergeant Sorenson was the 32nd MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



**DETECTIVE SERGEANT DAVID W. HUBBARD**

October 16, 1943 - September 16, 1980

D/Sgt. David W. Hubbard died as a result of injuries received in a car-train accident. He was assigned to the Special Investigation Unit which was involved in the surveillance of suspects believed to be responsible for a series of professional burglaries and other felonies in Saginaw County.

Sergeant Hubbard's surveillance team was actively following a suspect on a dreary, rainy night on wet, slippery roads near Saginaw. Because of hazy, misty conditions which caused poor visibility, the team lost contact with the suspect vehicle it was following. During hurried and covert efforts to re-establish contact with the suspect vehicle, Sergeant Hubbard attempted to cross a set of railroad tracks which were hidden by a row of trees and were marked

only by unlighted crossbars. Stop signs marking the railroad tracks had been removed by the County Road Commission approximately two months previously.

Witnesses to the accident did not see any brake lights before Sergeant Hubbard's vehicle collided with the engine of the train. When his team could not contact him, they retraced his route and located the accident. Despite valiant attempts to save his life, Sergeant Hubbard died approximately half-an-hour later at the local hospital.

Sergeant Hubbard was the 33rd MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER ALLAN P. PETERSON**

October 19, 1943 - August 29, 1981

On the morning of August 7, 1981, at approximately 5:07 a.m., a C & O freight train derailed in the city of Bridgman, Michigan. The train, comprised of 80 cars, pulled by two locomotives, and trailed by a caboose, lost 14 of its cars in the derailment. One of the cars, a tanker with the number ACFX92961 stenciled on its side, flipped over and rested on its top. Due to a ruptured standpipe, a large white plume of toxic gas began to escape from this tanker.

Various police agencies arrived at the scene to assist with the derailment, led by troopers from Benton Harbor, Paw Paw, and the New Buffalo Team. Among the involved officers was Tpr. Allan P. Peterson, a thirteen year veteran, who had served at Bay City, Ithaca, Brighton, and Paw Paw before being transferred to the New Buffalo Team.

Trooper Peterson was assigned to the inner perimeter of the scene, approximately one-hundred yards from the wreckage. His primary responsibilities included keeping motorists, media, and curious onlookers away from the

overturned tanker which continued to spew toxic gas. Investigation of the cargo indicated the upside down car was loaded with fluosulfonic (fluorosulfonic) acid, an odorless, fuming liquid that is acidic, poisonous, and highly corrosive to metals and tissue. Short contacts with small quantities of this acid or its fumes can cause severe, painful burns. Trooper Peterson, as did many of the assigned officers, spent his entire shift working in close proximity to the caustic white plume.

On August 29, 1981, at approximately 8:15 a.m., Trooper Peterson, 37 years of age, died of a massive heart attack, following a prolonged and severe coughing spasm. It was determined, at a later date, that the medical complications contributing to his death were a direct result of the exposure to the toxic plume discharged from the derailed freight train.

Trooper Peterson was the 34th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER CRAIG A. SCOTT**

December 28, 1953 - February 9, 1982

At 1 p.m. on Tuesday, February 9, 1982, Tpr. Craig A. Scott was working traffic patrol on US-127 just south of the Ingham/Jackson County line. At about this time, he observed a red 1974 Camaro speeding northbound on the highway. Trooper Scott gave pursuit and stopped the car south of Leslie, Michigan. He approached the driver and asked for his drivers' license and vehicle papers. The driver produced a Michigan Identification Card and no papers for the Camaro, which he and the vehicle's front seat passenger had stolen in Ann Arbor four days earlier. Both suspects had extensive criminal records, and both were wanted for auto theft and rape at the time of the Scott shooting.

After receiving the identification, Trooper Scott attempted to file check the driver, but could not contact the post on his prep radio. He recontacted the driver, informed him that he was under arrest, took him from the car, and handcuffed him. While placing the driver in the patrol car, Trooper Scott left his back exposed to the Camaro. The front seat passenger was

able to sneak from the Camaro to a distance of three to four feet from Trooper Scott, from which point he shot the officer three times with a .38 caliber revolver. Although Trooper Scott was mortally wounded, he was able to return fire at the Camaro as it fled from the scene.

The two suspects and three female passengers drove into Leslie, where they stole a blue 1981 Cutlass at gun point. This robbery was immediately reported to the police. The suspects were headed for Jackson when they were stopped in the stolen Cutlass by officers from the Ingham County Sheriff's Department and arrested with- out incident.

Through investigation and taped statements from eyewitnesses, it was proven that both suspects were principals in the murder of Trooper Scott. On August 18, 1982, both were sentenced to life prison terms on the charge by the Ingham County Circuit Court.

Trooper Scott was the 35th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



**TROOPER VICKI MOREAU DEVRIES**

November 29, 1953 - July 22, 1982

Tpr. Vicki Moreau DeVries died as a result of injuries suffered when her unmarked State Police car left the roadway and overturned.

Trooper DeVries was working as an undercover narcotics officer, temporarily assigned to COMET (Combined Oakland-Macomb Enforcement Team). After having made a successful narcotics transaction with a suspected narcotics dealer, she stopped in Utica to meet with her supervisor and other narcotics officers. Due to the late hour and the fact that she was transporting evidence from the narcotics investigation, she was authorized

to drive the unmarked State Police vehicle to her residence. The evidence was to be turned over to the State Police Crime Lab as soon as it opened the following morning. While she was enroute to her residence, the car left the roadway and overturned. The accident occurred on I-696 freeway in the city of Farmington Hills. Trooper DeVries was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident.

Trooper DeVries was the 36th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER TONY L. THAMES**

July 27, 1957 - June 12, 1983

Tpr. Tony L. Thames was shot to death outside the Balmar Motel in Detroit, Michigan, while attempting to thwart an armed robbery.

On June 12, 1983, at approximately 2:30 a.m., Trooper Thames and a companion were approached by two male subjects outside the Balmar Motel. One subject produced a small handgun and stuck it in Trooper Thames' face. In self-defense, the officer then pulled his departmental snubnose revolver and pointed at his attacker. A scuffle ensued and the suspect shot Trooper Thames once in the leg and once in the chest, causing the officer to fall.

As Trooper Thames fell, his companion tried to run, but was stopped by the second suspect, who threatened to kill her unless she stopped. This suspect stole the woman's purse and the suspects fled to their waiting car, which was being driven by a third suspect. Although

mortally wounded, Trooper Thames got to his feet and fired one shot at the fleeing vehicle, striking his attacker in the arm. Trooper Thames again fell and was later transported to the Detroit Receiving Hospital, where he died at 3:50 a.m.

Using information supplied by witnesses, officers of the Detroit Police Department located the suspect vehicle and arrested the assailants at 4:05 a.m. on June 12, 1983. Trooper Thames' companion positively identified the two men who had attacked them from a line-up. Felony warrants for murder and armed robbery were issued against them and the driver. The shooter was later convicted of first degree murder.

Trooper Thames was the 37th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER ROBERT J. MI HALIK**

March 23, 1947 - September 9, 1984

Tpr. Robert J. Mihalik was shot to death while arresting a person suspected of failing to pay for gasoline.

On Sunday, September 9, 1984, a service station attendant called the St. Joseph Post reporting that a man had just left the station without paying for \$35.00 worth of gas and cigarettes. The post immediately broadcast the description of the suspect and his vehicle.

Trooper Mihalik was patrolling the I-94 freeway near the area where the suspect was last seen driving. Trooper Mihalik soon spotted the vehicle and followed it off the freeway. He was finally able to force the suspect to stop in a residential area of Shoreham, an unincorporated village.

Witnesses saw Trooper Mihalik approach the suspect and heard the suspect arguing. Trooper Mihalik eventually had the suspect turn and take a position of submission to arrest. The suspect continued to argue, and began struggling as the officer started handcuffing him. Trooper Mihalik was able to secure only

one handcuff when the suspect suddenly turned and pushed him back onto the hood of the patrol car. The suspect immediately grabbed for the officer's service revolver, wrestling it away from him. Trooper Mihalik rolled off the patrol car and crouched beside it for cover. The suspect began yelling and waving the gun in the air, then suddenly shot over the hood of the patrol car at Trooper Mihalik.

Subsequent investigation revealed that the suspect fired six shots at Trooper Mihalik, striking him three times. One non-fatal round struck his chin, and two rounds (one of which was fatal) struck his chest. Trooper Mihalik was able to draw his snubnose revolver and fire five shots, striking the suspect's left hand once. Witnesses kept the suspect in view as he fled the scene a short distance on foot. Back-up officers arrived and administered first aid to Trooper Mihalik. They were also able to arrest the suspect without incident moments later. His right wrist was still handcuffed.

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**TROOPER ROBERT J. MIHALIK continued**

Trooper Mihalik was transported to a local hospital, where he was pronounced dead at 6:20 p.m.

The suspect was charged with first degree murder and felony murder. He was convicted

on both counts in circuit court and sentenced to life imprisonment.

Trooper Mihalik was the 38th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.





### **TROOPER PAUL L. HUTCHINS**

May 9, 1955 - August 29, 1985

Tpr. Paul L. Hutchins was shot to death in the Hart Plaza area of Detroit while attempting to thwart an armed robbery.

Late in the evening of August 29, 1985, Trooper Hutchins and a companion had just left the Landsdowne Restaurant in Detroit and were walking in the Hart Plaza area. They were confronted by two young men, one of whom was armed with a handgun. The man demanded Trooper Hutchins' wallet and his companion's purse. After taking these items, the suspects forced the pair to begin walking to a more secluded area nearby. During this time, the suspects noticed the bulge of an additional wallet in Trooper Hutchins' pocket, and demanded he give it to them. This wallet contained Trooper Hutchins' badge and police identification. Trooper Hutchins suddenly pushed his companion safely out of the way, and began drawing his snubnose revolver as

he ran a short distance away. As he turned and identified himself as a police officer, Trooper Hutchins was shot once in the forehead by the armed suspect. Both suspects immediately fled the scene.

A task force comprised of State Police detectives and officers from the Detroit Police Department thoroughly investigated the crime. In the fall of 1986, indictments were handed down by a grand jury, implicating four members of the Be - Like gang. The suspects were tried in Detroit Records Court in front of the Honorable Judge Michael Talbot and found guilty of second degree murder. Each was sentenced to 150 - 300 years in prison for the murder of Trooper Hutchins.

Trooper Hutchins was the 39th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



**TROOPER JAMES E. BOLAND**

January 11, 1945 - July 26, 1987

Tpr. James E. Boland was struck and killed by a vehicle driven by a drunk driver in Traverse City. He was directing traffic during the 1987 National Governors' Conference.

In the early morning hours of July 26, 1987, Trooper Boland was assigned to direct traffic at the intersection of East Front Street (US-31, M-72) and Barlow Street. Traverse City was going all-out for the National Governors' Conference. Saturday night was filled with bands and fireworks and was drawing to a close. Thousands of people, who had enjoyed the warm weather and festivities of the evening, began to leave the downtown area to return home.

Trooper Boland was directing traffic near the middle of the intersection when he was struck

by a 1975 Buick Century, traveling at a high rate of speed, driven by a female suspect. Although CPR and other first aid measures were provided at the scene by local police officers, Trooper Boland was pronounced dead on arrival at Munson Hospital at approximately 12:45 a.m.

The suspect vehicle left the scene of the accident, but was stopped by troopers a short while later. The suspect, found to be intoxicated, was arrested for manslaughter. On January 28, 1988, she pled guilty to negligent homicide.

Trooper Boland was the 40th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER KERMIT FITZPATRICK**

January 29, 1961 - July 7, 1991

Tpr. Kermit Fitzpatrick was shot to death during a traffic stop on the Jeffries Freeway in Detroit.

At approximately 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, July 7, 1991, Trooper Fitzpatrick stopped a 1982 Blue Ford Mustang for a routine traffic violation on the westbound Jeffries Freeway (I-96) near Joy Road in Detroit. After using his patrol car PA system to direct the Mustang's driver to a safe position on the freeway shoulder, Trooper Fitzpatrick left his patrol car and approached the driver to make contact. Just as Trooper Fitzpatrick took a position standing either just behind or next to the driver's door, the driver raised a .22 caliber semi-automatic pistol and fired six (6) rapid shots. One shot hit Trooper Fitzpatrick's jaw, two bullets entered his left upper chest, and one hit his right leg above the knee. His bullet-proof vest stopped the other two shots.

The suspect fled the scene, and passers-by attended to Trooper Fitzpatrick. Detroit police officers transported him to Henry Ford Hospital, where he was pronounced dead at 8:53 a.m.

The Detroit police Homicide Squad, assisted by State Police detectives, quickly developed a suspect—Steven Darius McGuire, age 20, of Royal Oak, Michigan. Investigators learned that McGuire had taken the Mustang from his mother without permission, and that he had stolen the .22 pistol and other guns when he burglarized a neighbor's house.

After the shooting, McGuire drove to Hillsdale County, where he abandoned the Mustang and stole another car at gunpoint. He then drove to Napoleon, Ohio, where he ran out of gas. After a motorist picked him up hitchhiking, McGuire tried to rob him, and fired several shots during a scuffle inside the car. Both men then ran from the car. Henry County sheriff's deputies arrested McGuire in a nearby field soon after this incident. Their department also obtained a confession from McGuire regarding the murder of Trooper Fitzpatrick, and recovered the murder weapon.

McGuire eventually waived extradition proceedings in Ohio, and was transferred to the Wayne County Jail in Detroit. McGuire was

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## **TROOPER KERMIT FITZPATRICK continued**

convicted on counts of First Degree Murder and Felony Firearms violations in Wayne County Circuit Court in December, 1991. He was sentenced to life in prison in solitary confinement and at hard labor with no

possibility of parole by Judge Leonard Townsend on January 6, 1992.

Trooper Fitzpatrick was the 41st MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



**TROOPER JAMES R. DELOACH**

June 15, 1965 - February 1, 1992

Tprs. James R. DeLoach and Steven J. Niewiek died as the result of a patrol car/train accident in Waterford Township on February 1, 1992.

While patrolling in Car 2712 at approximately 11 p.m. on February 1, 1992, Troopers DeLoach and Niewiek overheard Oakland County Dispatch report that a trooper needed assistance at the Deer Lake Inn. They responded to the call, traveling northbound on Scott Lake Road with their overhead light and siren operating.

Witnesses reported that the patrol car passed a line of six vehicles which had stopped for the flashing lights and crossing gates at the Canadian-National North America railroad crossing just south of Winton Road. Car 2712 pulled into the southbound lane of Scott Lake Road to pass these vehicles, slowed almost to a stop at the tracks, then accelerated around the crossing gates into the path of an eastbound train.



**TROOPER STEVEN J. NIEWIEK**

March 27, 1967 - February 2, 1992

The patrol car exploded on impact and was thrown approximately 400' east and north of the crossing. Several citizens pulled Trooper Niewiek from the passenger side of the flaming wreck, but they were unable to extricate Trooper DeLoach, who was pinned in the driver's seat. Flames and exploding ammunition prevented further rescue attempts. It was later determined that Trooper DeLoach died instantly upon impact.

Trooper Niewiek was transported to Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital where he expired during surgery at about 3:35 a.m. on February 2, 1992.

Waterford Township Police Department investigated the patrol car/train accident.

Trooper DeLoach was the 42nd MSP officer to die in the line of duty.

Trooper Niewiek was the 43rd MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER BYRON J. ERICKSON**

December 21, 1956 - July 31, 1993

Tpr. Byron J. Erickson died as a result of complications from injuries sustained in an automobile accident during the pursuit of a suspected stolen car.

On Friday, July 2, 1993, the Adrian Post received a tip that a stolen 1993 Ford Mustang was parked at a residence in the Ridgemoor Subdivision of Tecumseh, north of Adrian. Driving the post detective's unmarked car, Trooper Erickson responded to the area at approximately 4:40 p.m.

As Trooper Erickson entered the subdivision, he noticed the Mustang leaving the area. He began following the suspect and radioed for marked units to assist with a felony stop. Apparently, the suspect realized that a police car was following him, because Trooper Erickson radioed that the suspect suddenly took off at a high rate of speed. Trooper Erickson gave chase in order to keep the Mustang in sight for the responding patrol cars.

The chase lasted approximately five miles before Trooper Erickson lost control of his vehicle on Shepherd Road in Lenawee County. Trooper Erickson suffered severe spinal injury when his car flipped and rolled over. It is believed that Trooper Erickson lost control when he took evasive action to avoid hitting a citizen's car, which he suddenly came upon after cresting a hill.

The suspect continued on, but was subsequently arrested following another chase involving several police agencies.

Trooper Erickson was flown to University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor for surgery. On Saturday, July 31, 1993, at approximately 3:30 a.m., Trooper Erickson passed away as a result of complications from his injuries.

Trooper Erickson was the 44th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER BRYON S. EGELSKI**

January 10, 1964 - July 11, 1994

Tpr. Bryon S. Egelski died as a result of injuries sustained in a patrol car collision. The collision occurred while he was responding to the call of an injury traffic crash.

On July 11, Tprs. Bryon S. Egelski and Danielle Teunion-Smith, assigned to the St. Clair Post, reported to work for the midnight shift.

At approximately 11:35 p.m., while patrolling in car 237, the officers were dispatched by the St. Clair County Sheriff Department to respond to a rollover injury traffic crash. The location of the reported crash was Marine City Highway and Palms Road.

Patrol unit 237, driven by Trooper Egelski, was responding to the reported crash with the patrol unit emergency lights and equipment activated. Approximately two miles from where the troopers received the original dispatch call, they collided with another vehicle.

Patrol unit 237 was responding westbound on Davis Road as it approached the stop sign at

the intersection of Range Road. As the patrol unit drove into the intersection, it was struck broadside by a vehicle traveling northbound on Range Road.

After impact both vehicles went off the roadway and a fire erupted. The impact pinned both troopers in the wreckage until they were extricated by emergency personnel.

Officer Gary Holowitz, Marysville Police Department, was just completing a traffic stop approximately 600 feet away from the intersection when the crash occurred. Officer Holowitz's quick action in extinguishing the fire and rendering aid is believed to have saved the life of Trooper Teunion-Smith.

Troopers Egelski and Teunion-Smith were transported to Mercy Hospital in Port Huron. Trooper Egelski was pronounced dead shortly after arrival. Trooper Teunion-Smith sustained serious injuries and was hospitalized. She was released from the hospital and on April 30, 1998 retired from the Michigan State Police with a disability retirement.

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**TROOPER BRYON S. EGELSKI continued**

The driver of the second vehicle was transported and treated at the hospital for minor injuries.

The traffic crash occurred in the city of Marysville and was investigated by the Marysville Police Department.

Trooper Egelski was the 45th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.





### **TROOPER MANUEL H. FIELDS**

April 25, 1960 - August 27, 1994

Tpr. Manuel H. Fields died as a result of injuries sustained when he was struck by a passing motor vehicle while standing along the shoulder of the roadway during a traffic stop.

On August 27, 1994, Trooper Fields reported to the Jackson Post to start an overtime traffic enforcement assignment. Trooper Fields had just completed a temporary assignment as an instructor for the 109th Trooper Recruit School. Trooper Fields was also scheduled to return to the Training Academy within the week to begin instructing in the 110th Trooper Recruit School.

At approximately 5:50 p.m., while patrolling in patrol unit 418, Trooper Fields conducted a traffic stop on a 1977 Olds Cutlass on the north shoulder of westbound I-94 east of US-127 (South). Trooper Fields approached the vehicle, occupied by six male subjects, and made contact with the driver. Trooper Fields had obtained the operators' license, vehicle registration, and had requested the proof of vehicle insurance from the driver.

As the driver of the vehicle reached to the glovebox to obtain the insurance information,

another westbound vehicle crossed the fog line traveling onto the north shoulder of the roadway. Upon crossing the fog line, the vehicle struck and grazed the front corner of the police vehicle, then struck the stopped vehicle, before striking Trooper Fields.

The striking vehicle then continued westbound on I-94, failing to stop at the crash scene. Numerous citizens witnessed the crash and stopped to render aid to the fallen trooper. However, his injuries were fatal and he was pronounced dead at the scene.

The driver of the striking vehicle, a seventy year old female subject, was the only occupant of the vehicle. The driver drove to her sister's residence in Jackson and notified police that she had been involved in a collision. The driver reported she felt she had been involved in a collision with a sign.

It is unknown why Trooper Fields had stopped the vehicle on I-94. The driver of the stopped vehicle stated that the trooper was struck before he was able to advise him why he had been stopped.

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**TROOPER MANUEL H. FIELDS continued**

The driver of the striking vehicle was subsequently charged by the Jackson County Prosecutors Office in a two count warrant: Negligent Homicide and Leaving the Scene of a Fatal Accident.

The traffic crash occurred in Leoni Township, Jackson County, and was investigated by the Jackson County Sheriff Department.

Tpr. Manuel H. Fields was the 46th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER FREDERICK A. HARDY**

November 27, 1962 - November 6, 1999

Tpr. Frederick A. Hardy died as a result of injuries sustained when he was struck by a passing motor vehicle. He was exiting his patrol unit to conduct a traffic stop during the early morning hours of Saturday, November 6, 1999.

At 8:00 p.m. on Friday, November 5, 1999, he reported for duty at the Detroit Freeway Post. Trooper Hardy was assigned to work the mid-night shift, 8:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m., with partner Tpr. LaVern Willett.

At approximately 12:30 a.m., Saturday, November 6, Troopers Hardy and Willett stopped a motor vehicle for speeding on eastbound I-96 between Livernois and Joy Road. The vehicle had been paced travelling 80mph in a 55mph zone. As Trooper Hardy exited the patrol vehicle to conduct the traffic stop, he was struck by a passing vehicle.

The vehicle, also eastbound, had driven off the roadway, striking the side of the patrol unit. After striking the patrol unit, the vehicle continued eastbound striking Trooper Hardy. The stopped vehicle, occupied by two citizens, was not struck.

The vehicle, after striking Trooper Hardy, continued eastbound on I-96, failing to stop at the crash scene. Lifesaving efforts were administered to the fallen trooper, who was transported to Detroit Receiving Hospital. Shortly after arriving at the hospital, Trooper Hardy was pronounced dead due to injuries sustained in the crash.

The driver of the suspected vehicle, a 30 year old male, was the only occupant of the vehicle. The Detroit Police Department arrested the suspected driver at approximately 2:30 p.m. on November 6, 1999, at his place of employment. They received a telephone tip leading them to the hit and run vehicle. The suspect's girlfriend's sister, from whom he had borrowed the vehicle, contacted the Detroit Police Department after hearing news reports about the crash and a description of the vehicle.

The suspected driver of the vehicle was arraigned on November 9, 1999, in the 36th District Court in Detroit on the charges of Operating Under the Influence of Liquor (OUIL) Causing Death,

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**TROOPER FREDERICK A. HARDY continued**

Manslaughter With A Motor Vehicle, Driving With License Suspended (DWLS) Causing Death, DWLS Second Conviction, and Fleeing the Scene of an Accident Causing Death.

Trooper Frederick A. Hardy was the 47th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER RICK L. JOHNSON**

January 16, 1965 - May 6, 2000

Trooper Rick L. Johnson died as a result of injuries sustained when he was struck by a vehicle while conducting a traffic stop on I-94 in Van Buren County, Saturday, May 6, 2000.

At 7:00 a.m. Saturday, May 6, Trooper Johnson reported for duty at the Paw Paw Post. He was assigned to the day shift.

At approximately 11:56 a.m., Trooper Johnson stopped a motor vehicle on westbound I-94, one quarter of a mile east of M-51, for defective equipment. Trooper Johnson stopped the vehicle, occupied by two subjects, on the north shoulder of the roadway.

Trooper Johnson approached the stopped vehicle on the passenger side, making contact with the driver and other occupant of the vehicle. After speaking with the occupants, Trooper Johnson started to return to his patrol vehicle. As Trooper Johnson was walking back between the patrol vehicle and the vehicle he had stopped, a third vehicle drove off the roadway and struck the rear of his patrol unit.

The impact of the collision first pinned Trooper

Johnson between the two vehicles, and then trapped him underneath his patrol unit as it spun into the travel lanes. Trooper Johnson was extricated and treated at the scene by emergency personnel, then flown by Air Care to Bronson Hospital in the city of Kalamazoo. Shortly after arrival at the hospital, Trooper Johnson was pronounced dead due to injuries sustained in the crash.

The driver of the vehicle which struck Trooper Johnson was a 21 year old female. She had reportedly been distracted by actions within her vehicle. She had driven off the roadway, onto the shoulder before striking the patrol vehicle. In addition to herself, other occupants of the vehicle included her mother and two young children. The occupants of the vehicle were treated and released at Bronson Hospital.

After review by the Van Buren County Prosecutor Office, the driver of the vehicle was charged with Negligent Homicide. She was later arraigned on the charge at the 7th East District Court in Paw Paw.

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**TROOPER RICK L. JOHNSON continued**

Ironically, just the day before his fatal accident, Trooper Johnson had successfully talked a suicidal man out of jumping off of an overpass just a mile away from what would become the scene of his own death.

Trooper Rick L. Johnson is the 48th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER KEVIN M. MARSHALL**

November 14, 1969 - July 7, 2003

Trooper Kevin M. Marshall died as a result of gunshot wounds he received while making a tactical entry into a residence of a barricaded gunman. This incident occurred near the city of Fremont, in Newaygo County, on Monday, July 7, 2003 at approximately 4:00pm.

During the evening hours of July 6, 2003, officers from the Hesperia Police Department and the Newaygo County Sheriff Department, attempted to serve a felony warrant for accosting children for immoral purposes on 40 year old Scott Allen Woodring, of Fremont, Michigan. Woodring then barricaded himself in his home. The Michigan State Police Emergency Support Team was requested and responded to the scene.

When Emergency Support team members were attempting to provide communication equipment, the suspect fired two shots at the officers. After 14 hours of negotiations failed, a State Police Emergency Support entry team made a tactical entry into the residence. Trooper Marshall was the lead officer in this team, which was met with gunfire as entry was

made. Multiple .223 rifle rounds struck the ballistic shield he was carrying, with four rounds striking Trooper Marshall. Two other members of the team were also struck. One received a non-life threatening injury and the other was unhurt, having been struck in the helmet.

Trooper Marshall was transported to Gerber Hospital in Fremont before being airlifted to Spectrum Hospital in Grand Rapids, where he died during surgery.

Although the house was surrounded by law enforcement officers, the suspect was able to escape undetected after the shooting. A cache of weapons and survival gear were found in the rubble of his house, which caught fire and burned during the standoff. A massive manhunt ensued and a first degree warrant for murder was issued for Scott Allen Woodring by the Newaygo County Prosecutor.

On Sunday, July 13, 2003, the Michigan State Police received a tip that Woodring was in the area of Maple Island (M-120) and 64th Street in Newaygo County. Eight members of the State

## **TROOPER KEVIN M. MARSHALL continued**

Police Emergency Support Team were assembled and responded to that location. They located the suspect in a vehicle behind a house. Emergency Support team members ordered Woodring to remain in the vehicle. Despite these orders, Woodring exited the vehicle armed with an assault rifle and turned toward the officers. Woodring was subsequently shot by Emergency Support team members. He was pronounced dead at the scene as a result of his wounds.

Trooper Marshall, a native of Sterling Heights, was a member of the 111th Michigan State Police Recruit School and an eight year veteran of the department. He enlisted with the department on January 15, 1995, and upon completion of recruit training, was assigned to the Newaygo post. He joined the department's Emergency Support Team in 2002. Trooper

Marshall was posthumously awarded the Michigan State Police Medal of Valor for his actions in this incident.

Trooper Marshall was earlier presented with the Michigan State Police Bravery Award in May, 2003 for his courageous actions in subduing a suicidal woman who was attempting to stab both herself and her boyfriend.

Trooper Marshall was a graduate of Wayne State University, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice.

Trooper Marshall is survived by his wife, Angela and two children.

Trooper Kevin M. Marshall is the 49th Michigan State Police officer to die in the line of duty.





### **TROOPER JEFFREY J. WERDA**

February 1, 1968 – April 6, 2011

Trooper Jeffrey J. Werda died as a result of injuries sustained from a roll-over crash while enroute to a vehicle pursuit in Saginaw County on Wednesday, April 6, 2011.

At approximately 1:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 6, Saginaw County Central Dispatch put out a call that deputies from the Saginaw County Sheriff's Office were involved in a vehicle pursuit in the southwest corner of Saginaw County. Trooper Werda was in the village of Birch Run and began heading in the direction of the pursuit with lights and siren activated to assist the deputies.

A passerby came upon the crash and reported the incident to Saginaw County Central Dispatch. Emergency responders arrived at the scene and transported Trooper Werda to Covenant Hospital in Saginaw. He was pronounced dead on arrival.

Trooper Jeffrey J. Werda is the 50th Michigan State Police officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER PAUL K. BUTTERFIELD II**

February 16, 1970 – September 9, 2013

Trooper Paul K. Butterfield II died as a result of injuries after being shot while conducting a traffic stop on Monday, September 9, 2013.

At 6:20 p.m., Trooper Butterfield stopped a vehicle on Custer Road near Townline Road in Mason County. At 6:23 p.m., a passing motorist called 9-1-1 to report finding Trooper Butterfield on the ground with a gunshot wound to the head. Trooper Butterfield was airlifted to Munson Hospital, where he passed away as a result of his injuries.

Based on information Trooper Butterfield relayed to dispatch about the vehicle he stopped, suspects were identified. It was determined that the suspects abandoned the vehicle they were in at the time of the shooting and stole a passenger car from a residence in northern Mason County. Troopers located the suspect vehicle at a gas

station/convenience store in Manistee County at approximately 8:30 p.m. The vehicle was found unoccupied, however the suspect was observed inside the business. Troopers pursued the male suspect on foot and when he attempted to retrieve a firearm from his waistband, one trooper fired, striking the suspect in the leg. Two subjects, a male and female, were taken into custody. The male was transported to the hospital with a non-life threatening gunshot wound.

Trooper Butterfield joined the Michigan State Police in 1999, graduating as a member of the 118th Trooper Recruit School. He served at the Manistee and Hart posts and was a veteran of the United States Army.

Trooper Paul K. Butterfield II is the 51st Michigan State Police officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER CHAD H. WOLF**

May 12, 1977 – August 28, 2015

Tpr. Chad H. Wolf died as a result of injuries sustained while patrolling on a motorcycle in Oakland County on Friday, August 28, 2015.

At approximately 6:30 a.m., Trooper Wolf was on patrol with his department-issued motorcycle driving on northbound Dixie Highway near southbound I-75 when a passenger vehicle towing a trailer collided with Trooper Wolf's motorcycle. Trooper Wolf was dragged by the trailer on I-75 for several miles until the driver pulled over at the Holly Road rest area. Trooper Wolf was taken to Genesys Regional Medical Center in Grand

Blanc where he later passed away as a result of his injuries.

Trooper Wolf joined the Michigan State Police in 2008, graduating as a member of the 121st Trooper Recruit School. He served at the Jackson, Flint, and Metro posts and became a member of the Motor Unit in September 2013.

Tpr. Chad H. Wolf was the 52nd Michigan State Police officer to die in the line of duty.



**TROOPER TIMOTHY J. O'NEILL**

November 11, 1988 – September 20, 2017

Tpr. Timothy J. O'Neill died as a result of injuries sustained while patrolling on a motorcycle in Kent County on Thursday, September 20, 2017.

At approximately 7:45 a.m., Trooper O'Neill was on patrol with his department-issued motorcycle when he was involved in a crash near the intersection of Wolverine Boulevard NE and Belding Road NE in Plainfield Township. Trooper O'Neill was taken to Spectrum Health Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids where he later passed away as a result of his injuries.

Trooper O'Neill joined the Michigan State Police in 2014, graduating as a member of the 126th Trooper Recruit School. He served at the Rockford Post and became a member of the Motor Unit in May 2017.

Tpr. Timothy J. O'Neill was the 53rd Michigan State Police officer to die in the line of duty.



### **TROOPER CALEB H. STARR**

May 15, 1987 – July 31, 2020

Tpr. Caleb H. Starr died of injuries sustained after his patrol car was struck by a drunk driver.

On Friday, July 10, 2020, Trooper Starr was responding to an investigatory call at approximately 10 p.m. Trooper Starr was westbound on Grand River Avenue west of Nash Highway in Ionia County's Boston Township when an oncoming vehicle crossed the centerline and struck his patrol vehicle head-on. Trooper Starr was airlifted to Spectrum Health Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids where he was treated for three weeks before passing away as a result of his injuries on Friday, July 31, 2020.

The driver of the vehicle that struck Trooper Starr was a 28-year-old female. She was arraigned on four charges including second-

degree murder, operating with a high blood alcohol content level causing death with a prior conviction, operating while license suspended, revoked, or denied causing death, and operating while intoxicated. Her blood alcohol content at the time of the crash was .23, nearly three times the legal limit in Michigan.

Trooper Starr joined the Michigan State Police in 2018, graduating as a member of the 135th Trooper Recruit School. He served at the Lakeview Post.

Tpr. Caleb H. Starr is the 54th Michigan State Police officer to die in the line of duty.



**SERGEANT TODD L. LEVEILLE**

February 17, 1968 – December 9, 2021

Sergeant Todd L. Leveille passed away on December 9, 2021. His death was the result of a duty-related exposure to the COVID-19 virus, believed to have been contracted while performing his duty assignment at the Lapeer Post.

Sergeant Leveille began his career with the MSP in 1995, graduating from the 111th Trooper Recruit School. Over his 25-

year career Sergeant Leveille held assignments at the Richmond, Metro South, and Lapeer posts. He ran the D.A.R.E program early in his career and earned the Trooper of the Year award in 2005.

Sergeant Leveille is the 55th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.



## TROOPER JOEL E. POPP

*July 22, 1984 – January 24, 2024*

*Tpr. Joel E. Popp passed away after being struck by a vehicle while on a traffic stop.*

*On Wednesday, January 24, 2024, at 7:12 p.m., Trooper Popp and other troopers were investigating a suspected impaired driver stopped in a curved lane on I-75 in Saginaw County near Birch Run. Another motorist, an 81-year-old male, lost control and struck two patrol vehicles and Trooper Popp who was outside of his patrol vehicle.*

*Trooper Popp was transported to Hurley Medical Center where he passed away as a result of his injuries.*

*Trooper Popp began his career with the Michigan State Police in 2020, graduating as a member of the 137th Trooper Recruit School. He served his entire career at the Tri-City Post.*

*Trooper Popp is the 56th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.*



## **MOTOR CARRIER OFFICER DANIEL M. KERSTETTER**

*December 23, 1978 – September 15, 2024*

*MC Ofcr. Daniel Kerstetter passed away after being struck by a vehicle while on a traffic stop.*

*On Friday, September 13, 2024, at approximately 8:30 a.m., MC Officer Kerstetter was conducting a traffic stop on the side of Northbound I-75 near Dix Highway in Lincoln Park when his patrol vehicle was struck by another motorist. MC Officer Kerstetter was seated in his vehicle with his seat belt on at the time of the crash. Witness statements indicated that a Ford Explorer struck the median wall before continuing down the freeway and striking MC Officer Kerstetter's patrol vehicle and pushing it into the back of the semi-truck.*

*MC Officer Kerstetter was extracted from the vehicle and transported to Detroit Receiving Hospital in critical condition. On Sunday, September 15, 2024, MC Officer Kerstetter was removed from life support and passed away as a result of his injuries. The driver of the other vehicle was also killed.*

*MC Officer Kerstetter began his career with the Michigan State Police in 2023, graduating as a member of the 26th Motor Carrier Officer Recruit School. He served at the Metro North Post.*

*MC Officer Kerstetter is the 57th MSP officer to die in the line of duty.*



## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

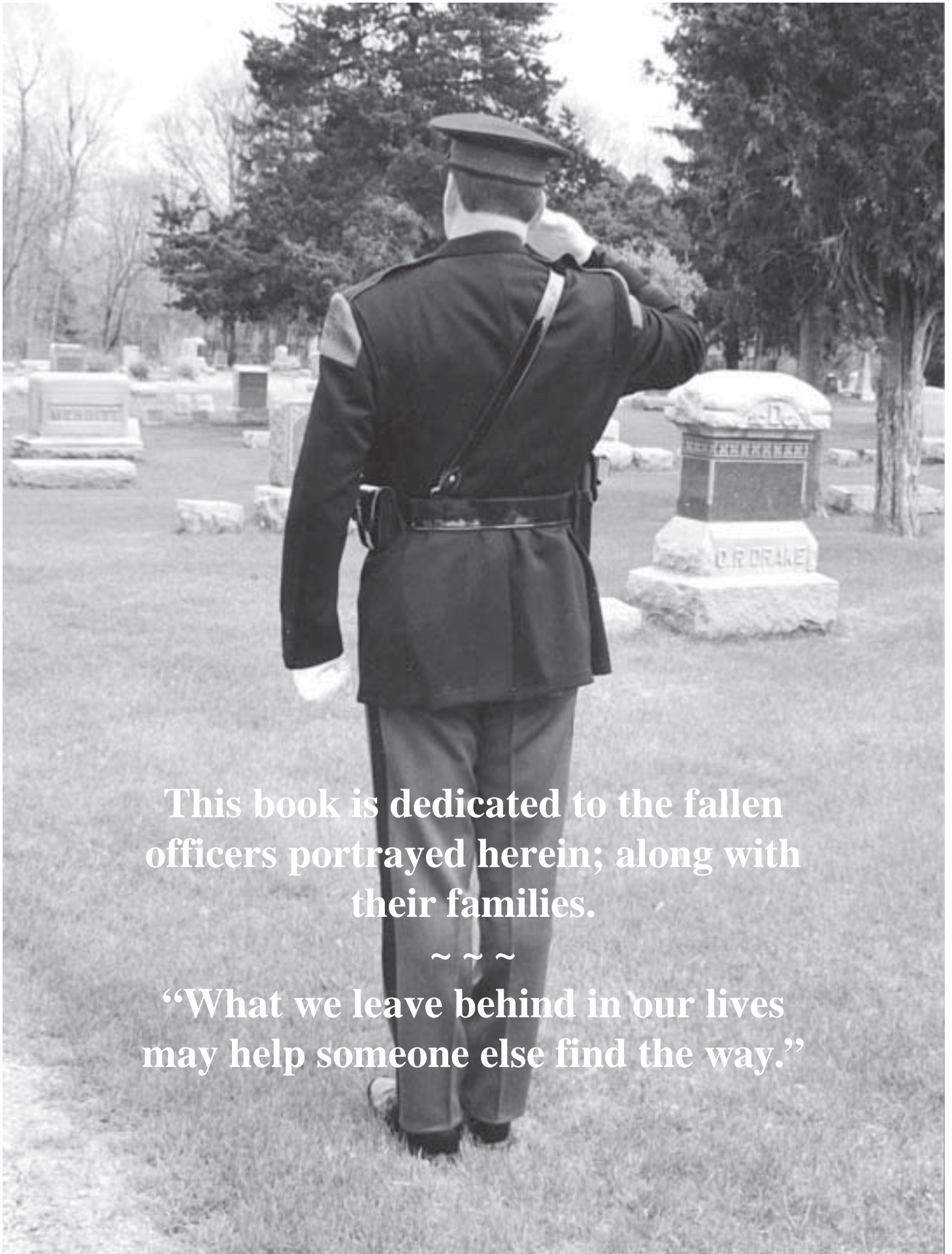
In the early morning hours of December 31, 1971, Troopers Gary Rampy and Charles Stark were shot and killed during a traffic stop. A citizen called the post to report “two troopers had fallen”. These words and this incident inspired Victor Beck to write a book he titled *Fallen Troopers of the Michigan State Police*. It is with acknowledgement to Victor Beck and with permission from his family that the department continues to honor our fallen troopers.

Victor Beck joined the Michigan State Police in 1935, graduating as a member of the 14th Recruit School. Upon graduation, he was assigned to the L’Anse Post. Subsequent post assignments included Marquette, West Branch, East Tawas, Flint, East Lansing, and Paw Paw, where he retired in 1960 as a Detective Sergeant.

After retirement from the Michigan State Police, Mr. Beck earned a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master’s degree from Western Michigan University. He then served as the Director of Guidance at Hartford (Michigan) High School and taught four years at Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor (Michigan).

Mr. Beck had two sons who followed his footsteps into the Michigan State Police. His oldest son, Donald Beck, graduated with the 57th Recruit School (1965) and retired as a trooper at the New Buffalo Post in 1996. His youngest son, Barry Beck, graduated with the 75th Recruit School (1969) and retired as a Detective Lieutenant at the East Lansing Criminal Investigation Division, Organized Crime Unit, in 1994.

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**This book is dedicated to the fallen  
officers portrayed herein; along with  
their families.**

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**“What we leave behind in our lives  
may help someone else find the way.”**