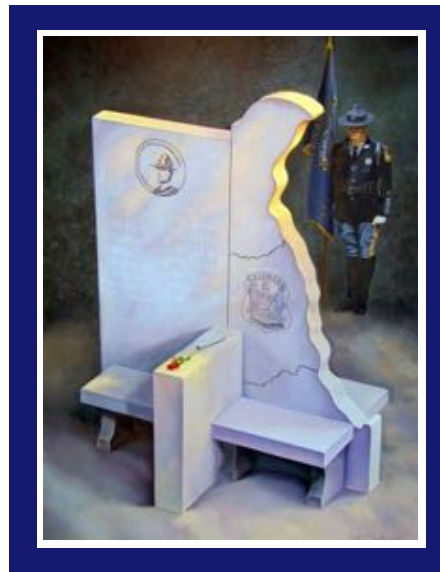




Delaware State Police

**A Memorial Tribute
To Those Who Have
Made The Supreme Sacrifice**



Dedicated to the Deceased Men and Women of the Delaware State Police

“Be thou faithful unto death and I will give you a crown of life.”

Revelations 2:16

Into your hands Father of mercies, we commend our deceased Troopers in the sure and certain hope that together with all who have died in the Christ, they will be raised on the last day.

We pray for the relatives and friends who have been left behind.

As we close the book of life on our deceased Troopers, we open a new book, which says, “You never lose what you love if you love what you lose”.

May they rest in peace,

Oscar H. Frundt

Father Oscar H. Frundt
Catholic Chaplain
Delaware State Police



Trooper's Pledge

Humbly recognizing the responsibilities entrusted to me as a member of the Department of State Police, an organization dedicated to the preservation of property and human life. I pledge myself to perform my duties honestly and faithfully to the best of my ability and without fear, favor or prejudice. I shall aid those in danger or distress, and shall strive always to make my State and Country a safer place in which to live. I shall wage unceasing war against crime in all its forms, and shall consider no sacrifice too great in the performance of my duty. I shall obey the laws of the United States of America...and the State of Delaware... and shall support and defend their constitutions against all enemies whomsoever, foreign and domestic. I shall always be loyal to and uphold the honor of my organization, my State and my Country.

DEDICATION



“Theirs not to reason why, theirs but to do and die”

~ Alfred Lord Tennyson ~

The intent and purpose of the present work is not to examine or analyze, in depth, the circumstances surrounding the events in each case. Rather it is a simple attempt to memorialize and remember those among us who have fallen during the performance of their duties.

It is concurrently our fervent hope that by this simple tribute we may ease the pain of the families left to carry on, though deprived of their loved ones. The hope, also, is that the living who visit the Delaware State Police will gain some knowledge of the persons inscribed and thus, in a small way, know them as people, not just names etched in granite.

“The Lord giveth and Lord taketh away...” but those who have been taken away will not be forgotten. Thus, this book is dedicated not only to the fallen but also to their families.

INTRODUCTION

How often do we walk by the wall in the Delaware State Police Academy or stand at the Delaware State Police Memorial and realize the significance of the faces or the names? We certainly know that these are men and women who have passed for we are told this, but what do we know beyond that point? As we, the Delaware State Police, approached our 75th Anniversary, April 28, 1998, the time had come to honor and remember those among us who have made the supreme sacrifice.

The words of Abraham Lincoln, spoken so long ago, ring in our minds when we think of those who have departed so prematurely. At Gettysburg, November 19, 1863, he stated in part...

It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work... (that) they thus far so nobly advanced.

It is rather for us to be dedicated here to the great task remaining before us, that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave their last full measure of devotion.



And so today, these words still ring true. For we, the living should remember those who have passed and rededicate ourselves to their memory, so that they will never be forgotten.

Thus, it is with this brief tome that the memory of Francis Ryan, the first state police officer killed, through the tragedy of Christopher M. Shea, the last to die, will be remembered. Through historical writing, photographs, family vignettes, and poetry and abstract of each officer, showing these different facets, will be presented to the reader. From now to eternity the fallen will be remembered, not just as names but as distinct personalities — **memorialized**.



Delaware State Police Memorial
Duty ~ Honor ~ Service

Francis Ryan

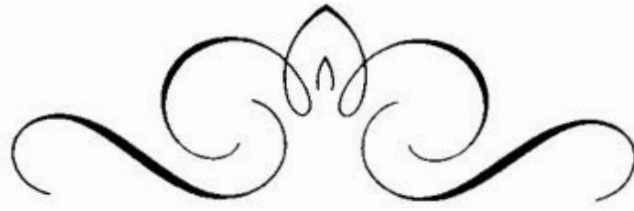
1891 - 1922

The Delaware State Police dates its inception to April 28, 1923. It is sometimes forgotten that, as with many organizations, the present evolves from a precursor. So it was with our organization. It had its beginnings in 1919 with the Delaware State Highway Police. One of the State Highway Police's brave officers was Officer Francis Ryan, the first state police officer to die in the line of duty.

Officer Ryan was born December 7, 1891 and at the age of 31 joined the Highway Police in the summer of 1922. While attempting to apprehend a speeding motorist on the Philadelphia Pike, October 17, 1922. Officer Ryan's motorcycle was struck by a vehicle traveling in the opposite direction. Severely injured, Officer Ryan was taken to a local doctor for immediate treatment. He subsequently was taken to Delaware Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries on November 2, 1922.

Francis Ryan was buried in Glebe Cemetery, Old New Castle, Delaware. He is survived by his grandniece, Mrs. Lori (McCrone) Dougherty, her three sisters, Karen Dougherty, Diane McMinds and Colleen K. Stein and their children.

No photograph nor employment information concerning Officer Francis Ryan has been located to date.



They Never Quite Leave Us

They never quite leave us, our friends who have passed
Through the shadows of death to the sunlight above;
A thousand sweet memories are holding them fast
To the places they blessed with their presence and love,
The work which they left and the books which they read
Speak mutely, though still with an eloquence rare,
And the songs that they sang, the words that they said,
Yet linger and sigh on the desolate air.
And oft when alone, and oft in the throng,
Or when evil allures us, or sin draweth nigh,
A whisper comes gently, "Nay, do not the wrong"
And we feel that our weakness is pitied on high.

~ Margaret E. Sangster ~





Thomas H. Lamb

1901 - 1944

Sergeant Thomas Lamb, 43, a 17 year veteran of the Delaware State Police was struck with a heart attack while on duty at Troop 3 (Dover) on February 22, 1944. A native of Smyrna, Sergeant Lamb saw service in the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps prior to joining the State Police. Superintendent Paul W. Haviland described Lamb's death as "...a sad loss to the department and to me".

Thomas Lamb became a trooper, in 1927, four years after the inception of the present Delaware State Police. With his employment, he began a tradition which counts numerous members of the Lamb family (immediate and extended) as Delaware State Troopers. They include:

Frederick K. Lamb (retired Major)
James E. Turner, Sr. (retired Major)
James E. Turner, Jr. (retired Captain)
Charles L. Sipple (retired Captain)
Charles G. Lamb (retired Captain)



Sergeant Thomas Lamb was laid to rest in February, 1944, at the Odd Fellows Cemetery, Smyrna, Delaware. He was survived by his wife, Elizabeth T., three sons, Thomas Jr., James and Charles, and two daughters, Margery and Rosemary.

Winds of Fate

*One ship drives east and another drives west,
While the self-same breezes blow;
It's the set of the sails and not the gales,
That bids them where to go.*

*Like the winds of the seas are the way of the fates,
As we voyage along through life;
It's the set of the soul that decides the goal,
And not the storms or the strife.*

~ Ella Wheeler Wilcox ~





Paul H. Sherman

1909 - 1945

Trooper First Class Paul H. Sherman, a six year veteran of the Delaware State Police, was fatally injured in a collision with a Baltimore and Ohio Railroad passenger train on October 16, 1945. He was pulled from the wreckage and rushed to the Wilmington General Hospital where he expired.

Trooper Sherman was born August 7, 1909 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

He studied law at Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania and business at Columbia University, New York City, New York prior to becoming a member of the State Police.

At the time of his death Trooper Sherman was married to Margaret Elizabeth. The couple had two children, James Henry and Sandra Lee.

The funeral for Paul Sherman was held at the Hearn Funeral Home and with full honors his body was laid to rest at Gracelawn Memorial Park, New Castle, Delaware.



Each a Part of All



*There's a part o' the sun in an apple;
There's a part o' the moon in a rose;
There's a part o' the flaming Pleiades
In every leaf that grows.
Out of the vast comes nearness;
For the God whose love we sing
Sends a little of His heaven
To every living thing.*

~ Augustus Wright Bamberger ~



LeRoy L. LeKites

1914 - 1950

On January 13, 1950, a 31 year old Delaware State Trooper was killed instantly just north of Selbyville, Delaware as he assisted a second Trooper who was investigating an accident. Corporal LeRoy LeKites of Georgetown was struck as he attempted to flag down a vehicle which was approaching "at a very high rate of speed". Roy Lekites, a six year veteran, was pronounced dead upon his arrival at the hospital.

Funeral services for Corporal LeKites were held at the Salem Methodist Church in Selbyville on January 17, 1950. Burial took place at the Roxanna Cemetery and was attended by troopers from Delaware and Maryland. Also in attendance was a large group of faculty and students from the Selbyville schools as a tribute to Corporal LeKites and to console Margaret LeKites, who was one of their own.

Corporal LeKites was survived by his wife, Margaret, two sons, Wilson and LeRoy Jr., and his parents. At the time of the tragedy, Margaret paid tribute to her husband and the Delaware State Police with the enclosed missive.



*I want you to know how very much I appreciate everything you
and the Delaware State Police have done.*

*I'm proud that Leroy was a Trooper
and I'm so glad he had those happy six years
as one of such a wonderful group of men.*

*The men's closeness and loyalty to one another is most remarkable.
I was so proud that they could be at Roy's funeral.*

*Sincerely yours,
Mrs. Leroy LaKites
and the boys*





James D. Orvis

1916 - 1950

Trooper James D. Orvis, 34 years, of the Delaware State Police died on November 17, 1950 in Boston, Massachusetts. Detective Orvis had just completed the Francis Glessner Lee legal medicine course. As he exited the facility at the Harvard Medical College, Orvis collapsed and died. Detective Orvis' body was returned to his home in Clayton, Delaware for burial. On November 20, 1950 funeral services were held at

the Wells-Faries Funeral home. Interment of Trooper Orvis took place at the Holy Cross Cemetery, Dover, Delaware.

Trooper James Orvis was survived by his wife, Esther Shortall and son, James, Jr.

*When someone you love dies...
you never quite get over it
You just slowly learn how
to go on without them
But always keeping them
tucked safely in your heart.*





God Knoweth Best

*Precious thought, my Father knoweth,
In His love I rest:*

*For whate'er my Father doeth
Must be always best.*

*Well, I know the heart that planneth,
Nought but good for me;
Joy and sorrow interwoven;
Love in all I see.*

*Precious though, my Father knoweth,
Careth for His child;
Bids me nestle closer to Him
When the storm beats wild.*

*Tho' my earthly hopes are shattered,
And the tear drops fall,
Yet He is Himself my solace,
Yea, my Friend, my all.*

*Oh, to trust Him then more fully,
Just to simply move
In the conscious, calm enjoyment
Of the Father's love;
Knowing that life's checkered pathway
Leadeth to His rest,
Satisfied the way He taketh
Must be always best.*

~ Anonymous ~



Raymond B. Wilhelm

1920 - 1951

Trooper Raymond B. Wilhelm, 31 years, of Wilmington, Delaware lost his life on Memorial Day (May 30) as he made a deeply humanitarian but vain attempt to swerve his patrol vehicle away from a mongrel dog which was in the roadway. A graduate of the University of Delaware and a four year veteran, Trooper Wilhelm died shortly after the accident on U.S. Route 40 near Glasgow, Delaware.

Following the accident, Trooper Wilhelm was rushed to Delaware Hospital where ironically his sister Margaret E. Hughes, a nurse, was attending to another trooper who had been injured in an accident eleven days earlier.

Joining the force in 1947, Trooper Wilhelm was stationed at Troop 5 (Bridgeville) for one year and then transferred to Troop 2 (State Road). He had served in the U.S. Army in World War II and achieved the rank of 2nd Lieutenant in the artillery. His troop commander, Captain Winfield Cochran, described Raymond Wilhelm as “one of the finest troopers on the force, a man of outstanding qualities and a splendid brother officer”.



*If I call you Brother,
it is because you have
earned my respect.*

A long wooden pier extends into a body of water at night. A single, bright light on the pier reflects a long, shimmering path of light down the center of the water. The sky is dark blue with some clouds. The pier has a railing on the right side and a small structure on the left.

What God Has Promised

*God hath not promised
Skies always blue
Flower-strewn pathways
All our lives through;
God hath not promised
Sun without rain
Joy without sorrow,
Peace without pain.*

*But God hath promised
Strength for the day,
Rest for the labour
Light for the way,
Grace for the trials,
Help from above,
Unfailing sympathy,
Undying Love.*

~ Miss Annie Johnson Flint ~



William F. Mayer

1927 - 1955

Trooper First Class William F. Mayer was 28 years old on that fateful night in August, 1955. He had stopped the driver of a pickup truck to warn him that his tail light was not working and lost his life. Trooper Mayer was northbound on U.S. Route 13 at Smyrna, near Duck Creek Bridge, when a tractor trailer struck the vehicle he had stopped, pinning him between the two.

William Mayer was born in Wilmington in 1927, attended Wilmington High School and Rutgers University. He met his wife, Ria, in Heidelberg, Germany, in the fall of 1946 while in the military. Ria was a displaced person from Latvia. The two corresponded from 1947 - 1949 until Ria finally arrived in America. After a brief courtship, they married in April, 1950.

A member of the Delaware State Police since January, 1949, Trooper Mayer and family moved to Dover where he was stationed at Troop 3. As Ria relates:

Those short years were so happy for both of us. We hoped for a long life - to grow old together. It wasn't to be... I know he was proud to be a Delaware State Policeman and loved his work. But... he was much too young to die.

Trooper William Mayer was laid to rest in the Odd Fellows Cemetery, Dover, Delaware. He is survived by his wife, Ria Mayer, his parents, August P. and Mildred Mayer, and three sisters, Elizabeth, Myrtle and Margaret.



For An Instant

Ria Mayer

One day you wake up and realize you must have survived because you are still here, alive and breathing. But you don't remember the infinitely small steps and decisions you took to get here.

Your only awareness is that you have shed miles of tears on what seems to be an endless road to sorrow. One day... one glorious day, you wake up and feel your skin tingle again, and you forget just for an instant that your heart is broken... and it is a beginning.



Harold B. Rupert

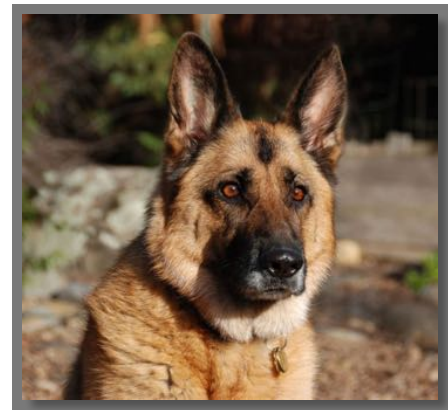
1928 - 1962

Harold B. Rupert was born on March 26, 1928 to Harold and Catherine Rupert in Reading, Pennsylvania. He was one of three children, his siblings being Katherine Sudduth and Garrison Rupert. In 1946 he graduated from Alexis I. DuPont High School in Wilmington and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. In November 1948, he married the former Abigail Piper. During the Korean War he re-enlisted

in the Marine Corps. Upon the completion of his tour of duty; he returned to Delaware and found employment with the DuPont Company.

While working at the DuPont Company, Harold continually dreamed of becoming a Delaware State Trooper. During his youth, one of his role models was his Uncle Harold McEwee of the Pennsylvania State Police. Becoming a State Trooper was always one of his greatest aspirations. His dream came true when he graduated from the Delaware State Police Recruit School on September 27, 1956.

Stationed at Troop 1 at Penny Hill in Wilmington, his interest was particularly aimed at the K-9 Division. He trained and worked with one of his new partners, **Rocky**, a German Shepherd.



One of his favorite pastimes was scuba diving along with his fellow troopers, Jim Maucher, John VanSant and Rick Palmer. When he was not diving he greatly enjoyed fishing and hunting.



Trooper Rupert was killed in the line of duty, in an automobile accident, during a high speed chase on April 19, 1962. At the age of 34, he left behind his wife Abigail and five daughters; Colleen, married Dennis Quinn and has four sons, Eric, Jeremy, Sean and Christopher; Lorraine has four children, William, Kenneth, Joshua and Abigail; Patricia married C. Michael Scott and has one child, Ashley; Maria married Robert Thomas and has three children, Christina, Rebecca and Robert; and Kathleen married Eric Andersen and has two children, Emma and Eric.



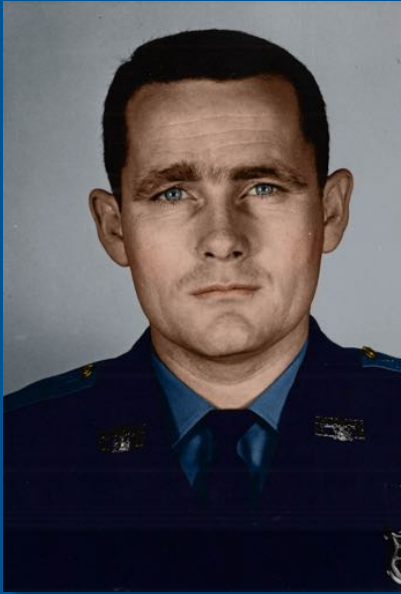


The Rosary

*The hours I have spent with thee, dear heart,
Are as a string of pearls to me;
I count them over - every one apart -
My rosary, my rosary.*

*Each hour a pearl, each pearl a prayer;
To still a heart in absence wrung;
I tell each bead unto the end,
And there, a cross is hung!
Oh, memories that bless and burn,
O barren gain and bitter loss,
I kiss each bead, and strive at last to learn,
Sweetheart, to kiss the cross.*

- Robert Cameron Rogers -



Robert A. Paris

1935 - 1963

Some kids dream of becoming star athletes but Robert Paris' childhood dream was to be a state policeman. "He wanted to join the State Police ever since he was a child" relates his dad, Ralph Paris. The dream came true. Robert Paris joined the State Police on May 1, 1959. On October 17, 1963, Detective Robert Paris made the supreme sacrifice - he gave his life.

Assigned with Trooper Robert Forenski to investigate the burglary of television sets from motels on the DuPont Highway in New Castle, Delaware, Trooper Paris was murdered by three armed perpetrators. The entire State of Delaware was shocked by this senseless tragedy. The following statement was issued by the Governor's office concerning Robert Paris' death.

*The death of Robert Paris is a misfortune of the greatest magnitude...
Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family and friends of this
dedicated and courageous man who gave his life in the line of duty.*

Mourners by the thousand paid tribute to Trooper Paris at his funeral at St. Elizabeth's Church. Father Karnis began the eulogy "It is a divine command that men shall return to their Maker... Trooper Paris died while serving as an instrument of Almighty God in keeping law and order. Policemen know what this job means and they love it as Trooper Paris did..." Robert Paris was interred for eternity in the All Saints Cemetery, Wilmington, Delaware.

Those who knew him characterized Trooper Paris as a hard worker with a good sense of humor. “He was always smiling ear to ear...” Neighbors stated, at the time of his death, “...everyone loved him... he was always getting the boys in the neighborhood to play ball or something...” Trooper Paris was survived by his wife, Sally Ann and two daughters Kim and Beth. Kim is a graduate of the University of Delaware and is now Kim Paris Stitik. She has two children, Paul and Hunter. Beth Glyn Paris is a graduate of St. Francis School of Medical Technology and is employed by Dade International.

Baseball



Basketball



Football





Crossing the Bar

Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me,
And there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea.

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark; For tho' from out our bourne of time and place
the flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.

~ Alfred Tennyson ~



Eugene B. Ellis

1926 - 1967

On September 11, 1967 Colonel Eugene Ellis, who was to retire in 15 days as Superintendent of the Delaware State Police died as a result of a heart attack. Born in Delmar, Delaware on May 26, 1926, Eugene Bradley Ellis was the son of Paul and Ada Ellis. He had one brother, Paul, and a sister, Alma Lee (now deceased).

Colonel Ellis served in the U.S. Navy for two years during World War II prior to joining the State Police, October 6, 1947. He was married to Ida Mae Russell of Georgetown. The couple had no children.



After serving as an aide to Governor Elbert Carvel, Eugene Ellis became the Director of Driver Improvement. In 1960, he was named acting Motor Vehicle Commissioner (the only active member of the State Police ever to act in that capacity). He was promoted to Colonel on April 11, 1963 and served in this position until his death.



Colonel Ellis was a mason and his affiliates included the Franklin Lodge AF and AM No. 12 of Georgetown and the Nur Temple of the Shrine. Eugene Ellis was laid to rest in the Union Cemetery Georgetown, Delaware.



In his last public appearance some five hours before his death Colonel Ellis “... called for respect for law and order...” Unfortunately the only contact the public has (with policemen) is when they receive a traffic citation. But I don’t suppose (they) would want to deal with drunks, degenerates, and criminals that we do...”

There's a Wideness

*For the love of God is broader
Than the measure of man's mind,
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more simple,
We should take Him at His word;
And our lives would be all sunshine
In the sweetness of our Lord.*

- Frederick W. Faber -





William C. Keller

1947 - 1971

Trooper William C. Keller, 23, a member of the Delaware State Police Drug Unit, was killed in a fatal accident at Tybouts Corner on January 22, 1971. Trooper Keller, at the time of his death, was enroute to the Dover area when a truck pulled into his path.

William Keller joined the Delaware State Police, January 1, 1969, fulfilling a life long dream. His

wife, Janet Walls Keller, bore him a beautiful daughter, Nicole. Both Janet and Nicole were a source of great happiness and pride for Bill. He was filled with love and happiness.

Though his lifetime was short as a trooper, he was devoted and very dedicated, not only to his profession but, also to his family and friends. He was, his Mom relates:

*A dear and proud American, hoping to eradicate the evils of drugs and all crime.
He would be proud of the profession Nicole, his daughter, chose as a counselor
and Janet, as a teacher of little children, both serving others.*

Trooper William Keller was buried in Dover following services at the Trader Funeral Home.

In addition to his wife and daughter, he is survived by his parents, Thomas and Delsie, and two brother, Thomas and James.

Bill

My heart is filled with photographs
And loving thoughts of Bill.
There is a special place apart
that he alone can fill.

God gave him love, compassion,
And willing, working hands;
To fight with dedication the evil
that enslaves and brings degradation
in ours and other lands.

I thank God for lending us such a fine son
for only a little while and for
the manly traits displayed.
A man in whom there was no guile.

I see your smiling face where once
you walked. Though years have passed
since last we talked and it may seem
we're far apart. That's only an illusion.
For you have never left the hearts of all
who loved you.

- Mom -

Son

You are loved for the
little boy you were,
the special man you became
and the
wonderful son
you will always be.



Ronald L. Carey

1943 - 1972

Trooper Ronald L. Carey, 29 years of age, and his partner, Trooper David C. Yarrington, 24, attempted to capture two hold-up suspects at the Concord Motel, U.S. Route 202, Johnson's Corner, Pennsylvania, on January 5, 1972. The result of this valorous act ended in tragedy as both Carey and Yarrington were killed. This dual tragedy was perhaps best summarized by Ronald Carey's mother, who said of her son, "I

suppose if he had to go, this is the way he wanted to go, but I didn't think it would be so soon".

Ronald Carey became a trooper because he wanted to be respected. To his classmates, at the State Police Academy, he was the '*perfect cop*' (and) the kind of guy you hope your son grows up to be. Lt. Raymond Deputy, Assistant Director of Training, characterized Carey as "dedicated, solemn, and trustworthy... he didn't talk much".

Trooper Carey leaves a wife, Elizabeth Lee, and three children, Lynne Elaine, Jeffrey Ronald, and John William, to carry on without him. Ronald Carey was the "ideal husband, helping with the diapers, dishes, and feeding the children".

Trooper Carey was buried in the Lawn Croft Cemetery, Boothwyn, Pennsylvania on January 10, 1972. One thousand, two hundred policemen joined the family and friends of Trooper Ronald L. Carey at his funeral service and burial.



John Harrington, National President of the Fraternal Order of Police said it (Carey's funeral) was the largest funeral ever in the nation. Pastor Randy H. Carroll, of the Marcus Hook Baptist Church, put the death in perspective, stating, "the best appreciation you can show for his sacrifice is to be the kind of officer he was".

From Mrs. Ronald L. Carey

I've gotten hundreds of cards and offers of help from people I don't even know. It just goes to prove that there are so many good people in the world.

There just aren't words that would be nearly strong enough to show how I feel.

My husband was very proud of what he was doing, and I'm proud that he was associated with a group of men as fine as the Delaware State Police.





David C. Yarrington

1948 - 1972

At 3:41 AM on January 6, 1972 the following message was broadcast over the State Police Radio:

“To all cars, Trooper Yarrington expired at 2:45 AM this morning”. Trooper Yarrington, 24, a fellow classmate of Trooper Ronald Carey, became the second policeman killed in the hold-ups of two Pennsylvania - Delaware state line motels.

Nationwide attention was focused on Delaware, January 8 - 9, 1972, as funeral rites were held for the two officers. Troopers Yarrington and Carey are only the second and third troopers to die by gunshot since the force was formed in 1923. Governor Russell Peterson expressed sorrow over the deaths. “This is a tragic reminder of the dangerous and courageous job that’s being done every day by our Delaware State Police. On behalf of the people of Delaware, I extend my deepest sympathy...”.

Trooper Yarrington was, according to Lt. Raymond Deputy, the opposite of Trooper Carey. Yarrington was, to quote the Lieutenant, “a fun loving guy who got a big kick out of everything”. David Yarrington, as remembered by a public school classmate, was “...the toughest kid around until the 7th grade and then he suddenly calmed down”. He became active in the Assembly of God Church and spoke of becoming a minister.

David Yarrington is survived by his wife, Janice M. and a son, David Jr.

Trooper Yarrington was laid to rest in burial ceremonies at Silverbrook Cemetery, Wilmington, Delaware.



“Reach out for the good in man”. This is what my husband, David C. Yarrington, lived by and died for.

For fear I may forget one single person who has sent their prayers and love, I take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation and love to you all.

May I also express my appreciation to the Delaware State Police and the many law enforcement agencies for the great tribute paid to my beloved husband and father of my son.

- Mrs. David C. Yarrington -



George W. Emory

1946 - 1972

On Friday, June 2, 1972, Trooper George Emory was killed in an accident on U.S. Route 13 near Harrington. George Emory was on his way home after a tour of duty at Troop 3 near Camden when his patrol vehicle, which was part of a take home program, was struck in the rear. Trooper Emory was removed from the accident scene and taken to Milford Memorial Hospital where he was

pronounced dead. George Emory was born in Lewes, Delaware. He was a graduate of Seaford High School and served with the U.S. Army in Vietnam. Trooper Emory was awarded the bronze star and two presidential unit citations. He was appointed a State Trooper on May 15, 1970.



Trooper Emory was not married and is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Emory, two brothers, Christopher and A. Wade, and a sister, Barbara Ammons. Services were held at St. Luke's Church with interment in the church cemetery.

The Reign of Peace



Some day, some happy day
All forms of strife shall cease,
And may it be not far away —
The time when all is peace;
On every sea, on every shore,
The sound of war shall be no more.
Some time, some happy time,
And may that time be near —
Injustice, cruelty, and crime
From earth shall disappear;
For Christ shall come to be our King
And every tongue with joy shall sing.
That time, that happy time,
Which this whole world shall bless,
Will bring to view a sight sublime —
The reign of righteousness;
For Christ alone shall be our King,
And every tongue His praise shall sing.
His love, His wondrous love,
Shall soften every heart,
As it comes down from heaven above,
While sin shall then depart,
And every tongue with you shall sing,
When Christ has come to be our King.
- Mary Starck -



William I. Jearman

1937 - 1979

On May 12, 1979 Lieutenant William Jearman, 42, died in the Delaware Division Hospital, Wilmington, Delaware after a short illness. He was serving, at the time of his death, as the Assistant Director of the Traffic Section for the Delaware State Police. Lt. Jearman, was at home, preparing for departure to attend and out of state law enforcement course.

In 1963, William Jearman entered police work as a patrolman with the Ocean City, Maryland Police Department. The following year he was appointed to the Delaware State Police.

Lieutenant Jearman is survived by his wife Alice and two daughters, Tracy and Patricia. Following funeral services, he was buried in the Roxanna Cemetery, Roxanna, Delaware.



Prayer

*Lord, what a change within us one short hour
Spent in Thy presence will avail to make!
What heavy burdens from our bosoms take!
We kneel, and all around us seems to be lower;
We rise, and all, the distant and the near,
Stands forth in sunny outline, brave and clear;
We kneel, how weak! We rise, how full of power!
Why, therefore, should we do ourselves this wrong,
Or others — that we are not always strong —
That we are sometimes overborne with care —
That we should ever weak or heartless be,
Anxious or troubled — when with us is prayer,
And joy and strength and courage are with Thee?*

~ Richard C. Trench ~





David B. Pulling

1956 - 1987

On November 18, 1987 Corporal David Pulling, 31, a six year veteran of the Delaware State Police, was killed when an explosive device detonated at the F.B.I. Bomb Data Training Center, Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Alabama. Corporal Pulling joined the State Police on September 8, 1981 and during his career was assigned to the K-9 Unit, at Troop 3, Camden, Delaware.



David Pulling was born in Fort Lauderdale, Florida on January 22, 1956. He moved to Dover in 1968 with his parents, Richard and Jacqueline, and his brother, Richard, Jr.



Corporal Pulling attended Dover High School and the University of Delaware. After graduation David worked with his brother, for four years, at the Petersburg, Virginia Police Department. He moved back to Delaware in 1981, joining the Delaware State Police.

Corporal Pulling was married to his wife Elizabeth in 1981 and was the father of two boys, George, his step son, and Jonathan. The boys were very important to Dave.

Funeral services were held at the Odd Fellows Cemetery, Camden, Delaware.



Our Master

*We may not climb the heavenly steeps
To bring the Lord Christ down;
In vain we search the lowest deeps,
For Him no depths can drown*

*But warm, sweet, tender, even yet
A present help is He;
And faith has still its Olivet,
And love its Galilee.*

*Through Him the first fond prayers are said
Our lips of childhood frame;
The last low whispers of our dead
Are burdened with His name.*

*O Lord and Master of us all
Whate'er our name or sign,
We own Thy sway, we hear Thy call,
We test our lives by Thine!*

— John G. Whittier —



Kevin John Mallon

1965 - 1990

Trooper Kevin J. Mallon, 24, was killed on March 20, 1990 in a fatal accident on Delaware Route 16, west of Milton. Flags at State Police barracks were flown at half staff in honor of the trooper who died when his patrol vehicle ran off the road and struck a tree. Trooper Mallon was enroute to an alarm at a photography studio at the time of his death.

Kevin Mallon was born on April 25, 1965 in Meadowbrook, Pennsylvania. He was a graduate of Bishop Shanahan High School and Kutztown University, receiving a B.S. in Criminal Justice (1987). Trooper Mallon was employed at the Chester County Juvenile Detention Center prior to his appointment to the Delaware State Police in July, 1989. Kevin enjoyed all sports, especially the Philadelphia Eagles. He is deeply missed by his mother, Betty, stepfather, Richard, and his brother and sister, Ed and Kathleen.

A ranking fellow officer remarked that, "Kevin, in the short period of time he was with the troop, had developed a lot of friendships and was seen as a bright and energetic person with an excellent future ahead of him... (his death) is a tragedy that will be with us for a long time..." Kevin Mallon was laid to rest, on a snowy afternoon, (March 24, 1990) in the cemetery at St. Thomas the Apostle, Glen Mills, Pennsylvania.



The Life that Counts

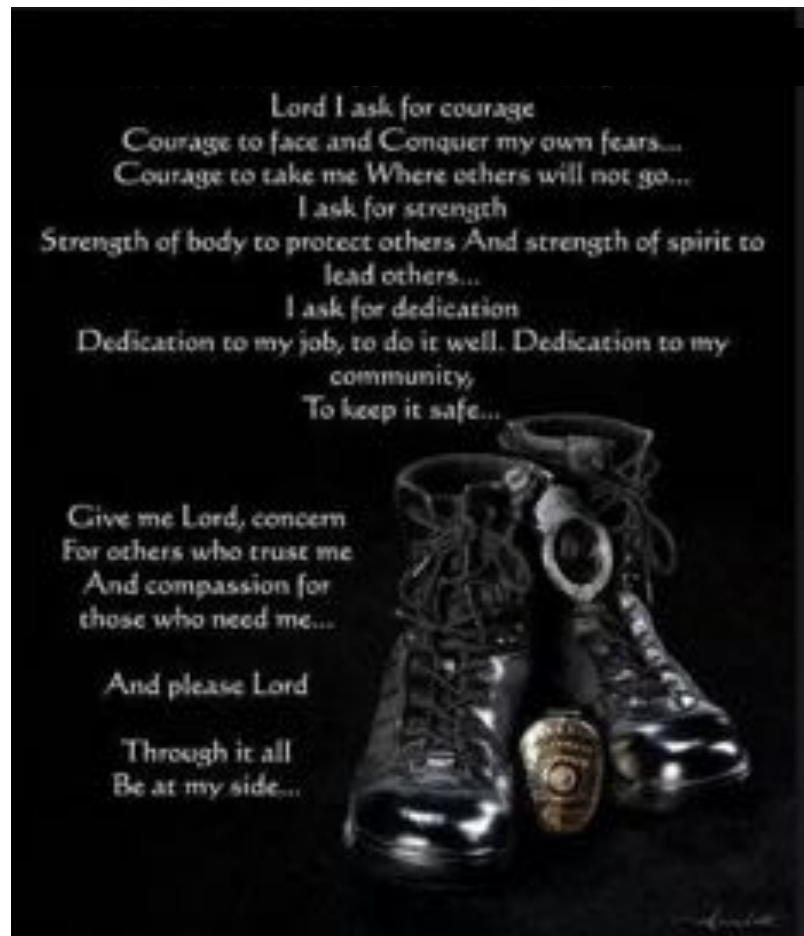
*The life that counts must toil and fight;
Must hate the wrong and love the right;
Must stand for truth by day and night:
This is the life that counts.*

*The life that counts must aim to rise
Above the earth to sunlit skies;
Must fix its gaze on Paradise —
That is the life that counts.*

*The life that counts must helpful be;
In darkest night make melody;
Must wait the dawn on bended knee —
This is the life that counts.*

*The life that counts must helpful be;
The cares and needs of other see;
Must seek the slave of sin to free —
That is the life that counts.*

~ A.W.S. ~



In Valor There Is Hope



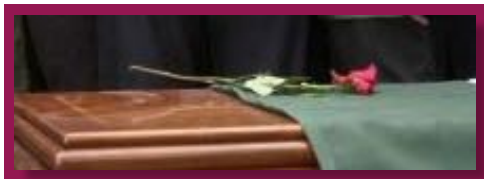
Gerard T. Dowd

1962 - 1990

Trooper Gerard Dowd, 28, was killed in a fatal accident September 11, 1990, when his patrol vehicle collided with a tractor trailer at the intersection of Delaware Route 54 and Maryland 353. He was at the time of his death, responding to an emergency call to assist a fellow officer at a fight in progress near Frankford, Delaware. Gerry Dowd was assigned to the Patrol Division at Troop 5, Bridgeville, Delaware.

As flags waved in the breezy afternoon and a bagpipe player filled the air with the song “Amazing Grace”, Trooper Dowd was buried, September 15, 1990, at Lady of Lourdes Cemetery, Seaford. Putting perspective to the funeral, Sergeant David Citro, P.I.O., stated, “We had one funeral six months ago for a trooper and we hadn’t had one in years. People are just stunned by it (Dowd’s death). It allow us to sit back and reflect on how precious life is”.

Trooper Dowd is survived by his parents, Robert. F. and Jean Cameron; two brothers Robert J. and Frank Jf. and three sisters, Molly, Katy and Ann.



Tribute to a Son

"Gerry" was born on July 16, 1962, in Seaford, Delaware. He was the third son of a family of seven children. Gerry was educated in the Seaford School District, graduating in 1980, and was a member of our Lady of Lourdes Church. He excelled in football, wrestling and track. He played in the Blue-Gold Football Fame in 1981. Gerry was an avid fisherman and bow hunter and loved the outdoor life.

As a life guard and instructor of swimming for years, he taught many of Seaford's young people how to swim. He had many friends in all walks of life - from the farmers on whose land he hunted, to the children he taught, to his peers with whom he ran cross country and played football, and to the many parents who appreciated the example he set for their children.

The Seaford Lions Club scholarship was awarded to Gerry, and he used it to attend Bridgewater College in Virginia. While there, he played four years of varsity football and was a middle distance runner on the track team. He graduated in 1984 with a Bachelor of Science degree in health and physical education.

After graduation, Gerry taught and coached for a year in the Sussex Central School District. He then worked for the Delaware Social Service Department as a case worker. Finally, Gerry applied and was accepted as a candidate for the Delaware State Police.

He graduated as a Trooper in 1989. Gerry found his "calling" as a Delaware State Trooper. He loved what he was doing and was proud of his profession. Sadly, though, his life ended in a tragic accident while answering a call for help from a fellow officer.

Gerry was truly loved by his family and friends. Everyone remembers him for his sense of humor and his honesty; he is greatly missed.

~ Mom and Dad ~



Robert H. Bell

1942 - 1993

On January 14, 1981, while on duty with the Delaware State Police, Corporal Robert Bell saw a young man preparing to commit suicide by jumping off the Cranston Heights Bridge in Wilmington. He intervened and pulled the young man to safety but eventually lost his own life because of the incident. Twelve years later Corporal Bell died from complications of A.I.D.S., received from a blood

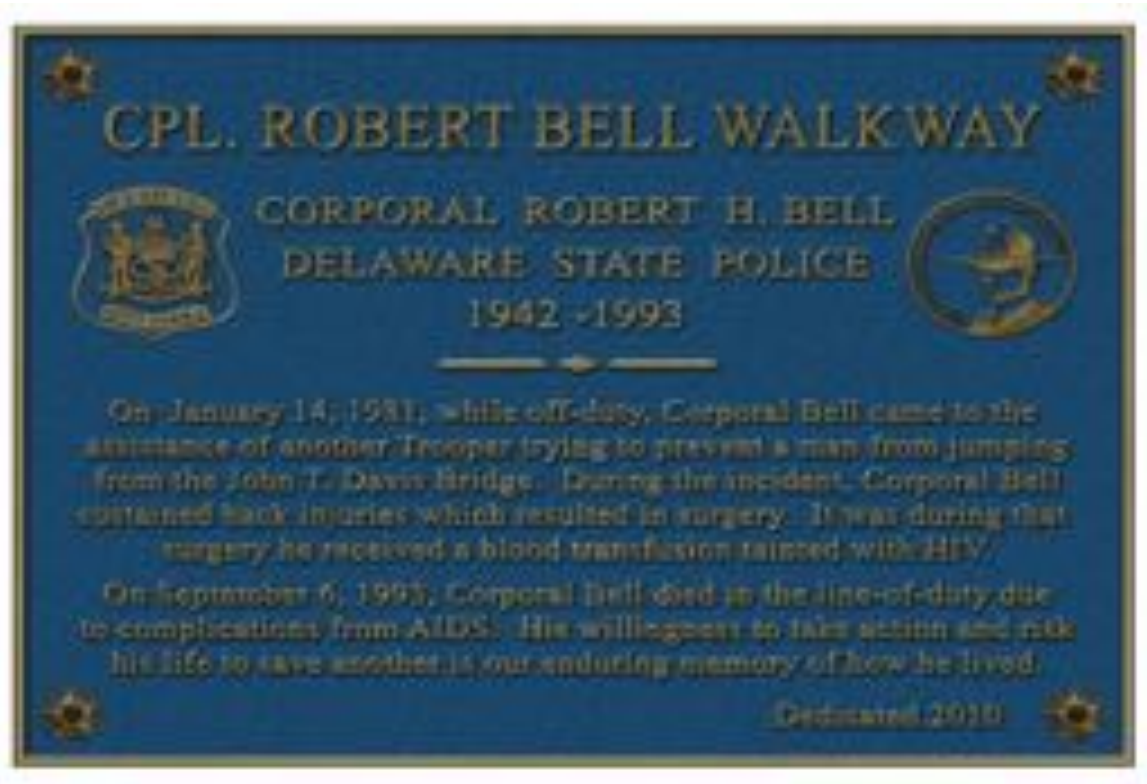
transfusion, as a result of surgery for injuries he sustained in the heroic rescue.

Corporal Robert Bell's wife, Linda, relates in a testimonial to her husband that, "...one day Bob says let's take a ride". So Bob, myself, and our four children hop in the car and off we go. Next thing I know, we pull up to the old Troop 6 (Troop 2A) and he says, "I'm going in for an application. I'm going to be a trooper". His dream came true on January 15, 1971. He was, at the time, 29 years old. Myself and a few others took turns shuttling Bob and other fellow troopers, who lived close by, back and forth to the Academy.

Bob protected us the best he could from all the tragedies in the world and selected to tell me and the children happy aspects of the job. He never bragged of his deeds and on a number of occasions was cited for heroism. which made us very proud.

In the summer of 1985 Bob went to give blood, and we were later informed he was H.I.V. positive. He had received tainted blood from a man who was also H.I.V. positive. Bob became the first person infected through a transfusion from another person affected through a transfusion. As the years wore on the disease started taking its toll on him. He eventually lost his struggle on September 7, 1993: *this trooper, this husband, this father, this hero.*

All the children are grown and have families of their own. George is a New Castle County Police Officer; Kim is a Trustee for the Northern Region for C.O.P.S.; Scott is a plumber's apprentice and Daniel is a landscaper.



Good-Bye

It was cloudy, dark, and raining the night we said Good-Bye

The rain filled the gutters and the tears filled my eyes.

*This precious love we shared would last for eternity, if I could
have another chance, to keep you here with me.*

The lightning flashed the sky, it broke my heart in two.

This cloudy, dark, and raining night would be the last with you.

It was a storm that I would remember for all time, the night that

I last saw you and had to say Good-Bye.

*You were the best father, any man could ever be, a kind, warm,
and caring soul, you gave a lot to me.*

*The preacher said, "you were the best, the world would miss you too,
because people came from miles around to spend this night with you".*

*As I stared at your casket, the tears filled my eyes, your time had
come too quickly, I hated to say Good-Bye.*

*Two years have now passed, since I've spent that night with you, that
cloudy, dark, and rainy night I said Good-Bye too soon.*

~ Kim Bell ~





Sandra Marie Wagner

1968 - 1996

Sandra M. Wagner, 28, is the first female State Trooper to die in the line of duty. She was killed on April 5, 1996, when she pulled her police vehicle into the path of a tractor trailer on Delaware Route 404 in Bridgeville, apparently intent on stopping a speeding motorist. Trooper Wagner was just two hours into her third solo shift.

Her Troop Commander at Troop 5, Bridgeville, spoke in measured tones, “self motivated, organized, prepared, intelligent, all of the traits of a good cop, she had ‘em all. Trooper Wagner wasn’t going to be a good trooper, **she was a good trooper**”. Governor Thomas Carper said, in a statement issued from his office, “Only a few months ago, I shook her hand at (recruit) graduation... She was filled with the determination and hope of a new State Police Officer... Little did she know that would end up sacrificing her life... I want to extend my heartfelt sympathy to her family, friends and colleagues”.

Trooper Sandra Wagner, once said of herself, “I knew I always wanted to do something to help people and society, but I wasn’t sure what it was, but I did know that I did not want to sit at a desk the rest of my life”. As a member of the Delaware State Police she was about to fulfill that prophecy, unfortunately it was cut short.

She was laid to rest for eternity on April 10, 1996 at the All Saints Cemetery.

“Sandi” Wagner is survived by her mother, Patricia; her father and stepmother, Joseph and Betty Wagner; sister, Candace and Kristen; stepsister and stepbrother, Denise and Dennis Risner; paternal grandmothers, Ruth Bruce and Myra Wagner; and maternal grandparents, Milton and Helen Znovenka.

Trooper Thomas Carver, a classmate, synopsised the tragedy stating, “There’s a feeling of being invulnerable, feeling on top of the world. This really has brought us all right back to earth real quick”.

The Ultimate Sacrifice



Rest in Peace



“The Thin Blue Line”



My Creed

*I would be true,
for there are those who trust me;
I would be pure,
for there are those who care;
I would be strong,
for there is much to suffer;
I would be brave,
for there is much to dare.
I would be friend of all — the poor — the friendless;
I would be giving and forget the gift;
I would be humble,
for I know my weaknesses;
I would look up — and laugh — and love — and lift.*

~ Howard Arnold Walter ~



Frances M. Collender

1962 - 2001

On February 6, 2001, Corporal Frances Collender, 39, became the second female State Trooper to die in the line of duty. She was killed as she attempted to assist a disabled motorist on Delaware Route 1 south of Odessa. Severely injured, when a passing vehicle struck her patrol car, she died the same morning.

Captain David Baylor, Troop 9 voiced these thoughts

regarding Corporal Collender. He stated “her actions today were consistent with how she was a trooper. What she did was protect somebody else from getting hurt, and it wound up taking her life...”.

Her funeral was held February 9, 2001 at Our Lady of Fatima Church in Wilmington Manor. Franny Collender was laid to rest at Gracelawn Memorial Park. She is survived by her daughters, Samantha and Taylor; her parents, Joseph and Eleanor Allione; her brother and two sisters.





Living My Life Without You



*Living my life without you, tell me what am I going to do?
Some days I feel like screaming ~ tell me,
am I still dreaming?*

*Living my life without you, tell me why am I so blue?
Some days life seems so unfair ~ tell me,
does anyone really care?*

*Living my life without you, tell me do you miss me too?
Some days I'd like to fly away ~ tell me,
what is heaven like each day?*

~ Anonymous ~

Posted at <http://www.odmp.org/officer/reflections/15502-corporal-frances-marie-collender/25>



Christopher M. Shea

1972 - 2004

The Delaware State Trooper killed in a head on collision early Sunday morning has been identified as Corporal Christopher M. Shea of Lewes, a four year veteran of the department.

The driver of the other car, who also was killed, was identified as Philip Healy of Wilmington, lead singer and songwriter for the local pop band 'The Knobs'.

Shea, 31, died at 2:54 AM, at Milford Memorial Hospital, about an hour after the crash on Delaware Route 1, a mile south of Milford, State Police Superintendent Colonol L. Aaron Chaffinch said this morning.

Healy, 41, was pronounced dead at the scene. Chaffinch said Healy was driving north in the southbound lanes of Route 1, fleeing a minor traffic accident that had happened about eight minutes before the fatal crash.

Preliminary tests indicated Healy had been drinking. His blood alcohol content was determined through tests by the State Office of the Medical Examiner, Chaffinch said.

Before the fatal crash, Healy struck a car driven by Barbara Bradley of Dover as she tried to turn from Delaware Route 1 onto Delaware Route 16, Chaffinch said. She suffered a hand injury and was treated at Milford Memorial Hospital.

There were no passengers in either of the cars involved in the fatal accident.

Shea, who joined the police agency in July 2000, had been promoted to Corporal effective the previous Friday. He is survived by his wife, Susan and two children, 3 1/2 year old Christopher Jr. and 11 month old Elizabeth.

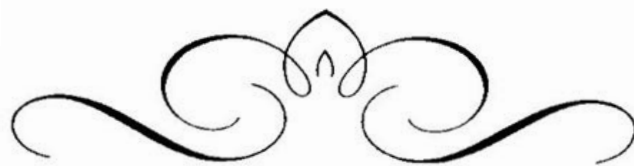
State Police spokesman Corporal Jeffrey Oldham said Shea's public identification was delayed while police reached his family in New Jersey, where Shea grew up.





Stephen J. Ballard

1985 - 2017



Cpl/1 Stephen J. Ballard, 32, was shot and killed on Wednesday, April 26, 2017. Stephen Ballard joined the ranks of the Delaware State Police on October 31, 2008 as a member of the 80th Delaware State Police Recruit Class. At the time of his death, Stephen was assigned to the Patrol Division at Troop 2, Glasgow. He had previously served at Troop 4, Georgetown and Troop 3, Camden. Cpl/1 Ballard was a member of the DSP Conflict Management Team and was temporarily assignmented to the Drug Diversion Unit and served as a School Resource Officer. He also mentored children in several communities.

On that fatal day, Cpl/1 Ballard was investigating a suspicious vehicle complaint at the Wawa store in Bear. The vehicle in question was occupied by two individuals. After making contact with the persons in question, Cpl/1 Ballard ordered the passenger out of the automobile. As the passenger exited the vehicle he engaged Ballard in a hostile manner. A witness stated the suspect, later identified as Burgon Sealey, Jr., was observed turning on Cpl/1 Ballard, removing a handgun from his waistband and shooting at the Trooper. The bullets fired struck Stephen in the upper body. As Cpl/1 Ballard attempted to find concealment, he stumbled to the ground. As he lay on the pavement, Cpl/1 Ballard was shot several more times by Sealey.

Cpl/1 Stephen J. Ballard was transported to the Christiana Hospital where everything humanly possible was done to save his life. Despite the heroic efforts of citizens, his fellow Troopers, paramedics and a tremendous emergency room staff, Stephen lost his battle to over come his mortal wounds.



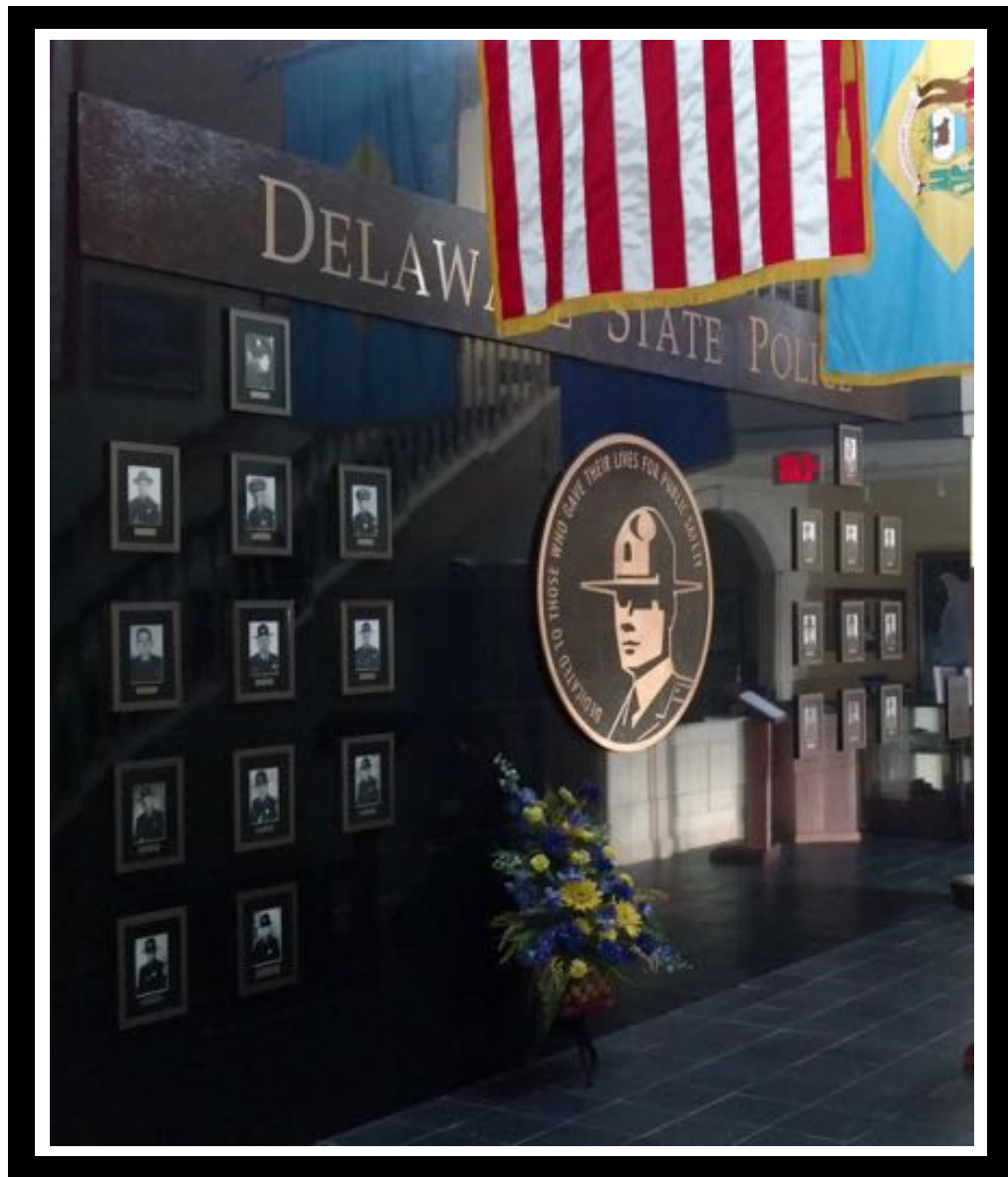


Friday, May 5th, began as a dark and dreary day. A somber tone was set for the Celebration of Life Service that was held at the Chase Center on the Riverfront. Rain fell upon those family members, friends, indebted citizens and thousands of police officers from 36 states that gathered to pay homage to Cpl/1 Stephen J. Ballard. Governor John C. Carney, Jr. remarked that, “Corporal Ballard dedicated his career to noble service, putting his life on the line to protect the rest of us. We owe Corporal Ballard - and all the officers who serve on our behalf - an enormous debt of gratitude. We should remain mindful of their service today and every day”. Cpl/1 Ballard was laid to rest in Gracelawn Memorial Park.

Colonel Nathaniel McQueen, Jr., Superintendent of the Delaware State Police stated that, “Stephen was a dedicated Trooper who exemplified the highest standards and dedication to serving the citizens of Delaware. His life and his service touched every County in this State. He had the true heart of a servant”.

Stephen is survived by his wife, Louise Cummings Ballard; his daughter, Abigail Lewis; parents, Kevin and Robin Ballard; paternal grandmother, Ruth Noble; mother-in-law, Sharon Cummings; his fellow Delaware State Troopers and a grateful State and Nation.

The Memorial Wall



*Dedicated to all the Delaware State Troopers that
gave their lives in service to the citizens of Delaware.*



**This book originally presented by the
Delaware State Police Memorial Committee**

Written and Edited by: Sergeant John R. Alstadt
Delaware State Police Historian

Revised by: Debbie Geiser
Museum Volunteer

Front Cover Photograph by: Elisa A. Vassas
Back Cover Painting by: Fred Rothenbush



