

*23<sup>rd</sup> Annual*  
*National EMS Memorial Service*



**June 27, 2015**

**Pikes Peak Center  
Colorado Springs, Colorado**



JOHN W. SUTHERS  
MAYOR

June 27, 2015

National EMS Memorial Service  
2910 North Powers Blvd. #119  
Colorado Springs, CO 80922-2818

Welcome to Colorado Springs:

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the annual National EMS Memorial Service. Colorado Springs is honored to once again be this year's host of the memorial that pays tribute to America's Emergency Medical Service providers who have given their lives in service to their communities.

Colorado Springs has a long history of respect and honor for those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. We hope the families, friends and peers of the honorees find solace and support in this community during this memorial weekend.

Thank you for allowing us to be part of the tribute to the 15 individuals who will be honored at the 2015 National EMS Memorial Service.

Sincerely,



John W. Suthers  
Mayor



## *About the Service*

The purpose of the National EMS Memorial Service is to honor and remember those emergency medical services personnel who have lost their lives in the line of duty and to recognize the ultimate sacrifice they have made for their fellow human beings.

During the service a family member or agency representative will be presented with a United States flag that has been flown over the U.S. Capitol denoting the honoree's service to their country, a white rose representing their undying love, and a medallion signifying their eternal memory.

As part of the service, each person being recognized tonight is also represented by their state flag. After the last name has been read there will be a National Moment of Silence, followed by an air-medical flyover and the playing of taps.

The names of those who are honored here appear on the "Tree of Life," the National EMS Memorial.



## *Program*

### **Narrator:**

**Eric Johnson, Executive Director**  
Supporting Heroes  
Director, The National EMS Memorial Service

### **Master of Ceremonies:**

**John J. Glass, Jr., Paramedic (Ret.)**  
City of Pittsburgh EMS  
Director, National EMS Memorial Service

### **Invocation:**

**Rev. Joshua W. Rau, State Chaplain**  
Wisconsin EMS Honor Guard  
Baldwin, Wisconsin

### **Presentation of Colors:**

**2015 National EMS Memorial Service Honor Guard**

### **Pledge of Allegiance:**

**Daniel Wildman, Vice President**  
LifeCare Medical Transports, Fredericksburg, Virginia  
Director, National EMS Memorial Service



## *Program*

### **National Anthem:**

**Todd Metz, Paramedic**  
American Medical Response  
Colorado Springs, Colorado

### **Opening Remarks:**

**Dave Page, Paramedic Faculty**  
Inver Hills Community College  
Saint Paul, Minnesota

### **Song:**

**"Much Too High A Price"**  
by Donald Coles

### **Keynote Address:**

**Krista Haugen, Co-Founder**  
The Survivors Network for  
Air & Surface Medical Transport  
Gig Harbor, Washington



## *Program*

### **Presentations to Families**

#### **Reader:**

**Elizabeth Davis, President**

The National EMS Memorial Bike Ride  
Flight Paramedic, Care Flight, Reno, Nevada

#### **Presenters:**

**James W. Ingham, Major/Training Officer**

Minnesota EMS Honor Guard  
Saint Cloud, Minnesota

**Ron Schmidt, NREMT-P**

Gold Cross Ambulance  
Saint Cloud, Minnesota

**George Wright, Commander**

Missouri EMS Honor Guard  
Moberly, Missouri

**Chad E McIntyre, Paramedic**

Manager, Trauma & Flight Services, UF Health Jacksonville  
Board of Directors, NAEMT, IAFCCP and  
National EMS Advisory Council



## *In Memoriam*

### **Paramedic Raymond “Ray” Bernard Allison**

Sterling County EMS

Sterling City, Texas

Last Call: February 11, 2014

On Tuesday, February 11, 2014, Ray was attending a patient who was being transported to Shannon Medical Center in San Angelo. While en route, the ambulance was involved in a motor vehicle crash and Ray, the patient and the patient’s brother, who was riding in the ambulance, all sustained fatal injuries.

### **Flight Nurse James “Jamie” J. Butler**

TriState CareFlight

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Last Call: July 17, 2014

On Thursday, July 17, 2014, the helicopter that Jamie and two other crew members – David Cavigneaux and Rebecca Serkey – were riding crashed in rugged, isolated terrain. The helicopter was flying from Christus St. Vincent Regional Medical Center in Santa Fe to Tucumcari to pick up a patient when it disappeared from radar at 2:48 a. m. All three crew members died in the crash.

### **Pilot David Cavigneaux**

TriState CareFlight

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Last Call: July 17, 2014

On Thursday, July 17, 2014, the helicopter that David and two other crew members – Jamie Butler and Rebecca Serkey – were riding crashed in rugged, isolated terrain. The helicopter was flying from Christus St. Vincent Regional Medical Center in Santa Fe to Tucumcari to pick up a patient when it disappeared from radar at 2:48 a. m. All three crew members died in the crash.



## *In Memoriam*

### **Flight Nurse Monica Chavez**

Elite Medical Transport

El Paso, Texas

Last Call: August 27, 2014

On Wednesday, August 27, 2014, Monica was the flight nurse on a fixed wing air ambulance that was transporting a patient when the Cessna plane crashed. Monica and the other crew members – Juan Alfredo “Freddy” Martinez, and Taurean Summers – were all killed in the crash, including the patient who was being transported.

### **Paramedic Benjamin J. Finney**

Sedgwick County EMS

Wichita, Kansas

Last Call: October 17, 2004

On October 17, 2004, Lt. J. Finney worked an extended shift and responded to multiple calls including a child not breathing. He and his partner were also threatened and assaulted on another call in the shift. Within several hours of the end of that shift, J. went to the middle school where he was head coach for their football team, and began readying for practice. At 3:10 p.m. he was found unresponsive. CPR was initiated, but efforts to resuscitate him were unsuccessful.

### **Paramedic Gerald “Garry” Hammer**

Parkview-LaGrange County EMS

LaGrange, Indiana

Last Call: January 31, 2014

On January 31, 2014, Garry had worked a 12-hour rotation. During his shift he responded to multiple calls including at least two extended inter-facility transfers. Both of these transfers were emergency status and both involved a long distance, taking approximately three hours each to turn around. The last transfer ended shortly before the end of his shift. Garry went home from work and collapsed within ten minutes. He was not able to be resuscitated.





## *In Memoriam*

### **EMT Micheal “Mike” Charles Howard**

Jewett EMS, Inc.

Jewett, Texas

Last Call: September 13, 2014

On September 13, 2014, at approximately 6:00 a.m., Mike and his partner, Don Chandler, responded to a 911 call in the Flynn area. At the residence, they entered the home with the stretcher and began to evaluate the patient who had called. It was during this time that Mike collapsed with a cardiac event and could not be resuscitated.

### **EMS Pilot Juan Alfredo “Freddy” Martinez**

Elite Medical Transport

El Paso, Texas

Last Call: August 27, 2014

On Wednesday, August 27, 2014, Freddy was the EMS pilot on a fixed wing air ambulance that was transporting a patient when the Cessna plane crashed. Freddy and the other crew members – Monica Chavez and Taurean Summers – were all killed in the crash, including the patient who was being transported.

### **Paramedic Dennis Houston Rushing**

ASAP Ambulance Service

Laurel, Mississippi

Last Call: June 24, 2014

Dennis’ strong religious convictions and deep value for human life meant that he would do everything permissible to take care of people who needed him, and he did so until his final moments. On June 24, 2014, Paramedic Dennis Rushing, 31, and EMT Alan Smith, 48, were responding to a medical call on Mississippi Highway 63. As they passed two 18-wheelers, the lead truck made a left turn into the path of the ambulance killing Dennis and Alan.



## *In Memoriam*

### **Flight Paramedic Rebecca Serkey**

TriState CareFlight  
Santa Fe, New Mexico  
Last Call: July 17, 2014

On Thursday, July 17, 2014, the helicopter that Rebecca and two other crew members – Jamie Butler and David Cavigneaux – were riding crashed in rugged, isolated terrain. The helicopter was flying from Christus St. Vincent Regional Medical Center in Santa Fe to Tucumcari to pick up a patient when it disappeared from radar at 2:48 a. m. All three crew members died in the crash.

### **EMT William “Alan” Smith**

ASAP Ambulance Service  
Laurel, Mississippi  
Last Call: June 24, 2014

Alan was not just an EMT. He truly loved what he did and, in the end, he gave his all. On June 24, 2014, EMT Alan Smith, 48, and his partner Paramedic Dennis Rushing, 31 were responding to a medical call on Mississippi Highway 63. As they passed two 18-wheelers, the lead truck made a left turn into the path of the ambulance killing Alan and Dennis.

### **Flight Nurse Leslie Stewart**

Air Evac Lifeteam  
Duncan, Oklahoma  
Last Call: October 8, 2014

In the early morning hours of Saturday, October 4, 2014, the Air Evac Lifeteam helicopter was transporting a patient from Waurika, Oklahoma to Wichita Falls, TX for treatment. Shortly before they arrived at the receiving hospital, the helicopter crashed, killing the patient and injuring Leslie, and her paramedic partner Erasmus “Johan” van der Colff. Leslie died of her injuries four days later on October 8, 2014.



## *In Memoriam*

### **Paramedic Taurean Summers**

Elite Medical Transport  
El Paso, Texas  
Last Call: August 27, 2014

On Wednesday, August 27, 2014, Taurean was the paramedic on a fixed wing air ambulance that was transporting a patient when the Cessna plane crashed. Taurean and the other crew members – Monica Chavez and Juan Alfredo “Freddy” Martinez – were all killed in the crash, including the patient who was being transported.

### **Flight Paramedic Erasmus “Johan” van der Colff**

Air Evac Lifeteam  
Duncan, Oklahoma  
Last Call: October 22, 2014

In the early morning hours of Saturday, October 4, 2014, the Air Evac Lifeteam helicopter was transporting a patient from Waurika, Oklahoma to Wichita Falls, TX for treatment. Shortly before they arrived at the receiving hospital, the helicopter crashed, killing the patient and injuring Johan and his flight nurse partner Leslie Stewart. Johan died of his injuries 18 days later on October 22, 2014.

### **EMT William “Will” Russell Wiita**

Coldsprings-Excelsior Fire and Rescue  
Kalkaska, Michigan  
Last Call: September 8, 2014

Will was one of the few people in the world who helped everyone, never complained, and brought laughter and joy to many of the families at Station 6. He is remembered for his unending dedication to the people of his community. Approximately three hours after responding to a rescue/medical call on September 8, 2014, Will was found deceased at his residence from an apparent heart attack.



## *Program*

### **Tribute Video Presentation:**

*Please refrain from flash photography during the video presentation.*

### **National Moment of Silence**

### **Closing Remarks:**

**Jana Williams, President**  
National EMS Memorial Service  
VP, Strategic Operations, Med-Trans Corp.

### **Song: "God Bless America"**

**Todd Metz, Paramedic,**  
American Medical Response  
Colorado Springs, Colorado

### **Retire Colors:**

2015 National EMS Memorial Service Honor Guard

### **Formation:**

All Uniformed Personnel

### **Taps:**

**David P. Naples, Paramedic**  
City of Pittsburgh Bureau of EMS  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

### **Flyover:**

AirLife Denver  
Flight for Life Colorado  
Memorial Star  
Northern Colorado MedEvac



*Reception*

*All attendees  
are invited to attend  
the Directors' Reception  
at Pikes Peak Center  
immediately following the Service  
for light refreshment.*

*The reception is hosted by the  
National EMS Memorial Service  
Board of Directors  
and sponsored by  
National Association of  
Emergency Medical Technicians*



## *2015 Board of Directors*

**Jana Williams, President**

Chicago, Illinois

**Jason M. Jenkins, Vice President**

Kansas City, Kansas

**Steven L. Athey, Secretary**

Argyle, Texas

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**Eric W. Johnson**

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**George W. Murphy**

Marshfield Hills, Massachusetts

**Rachel Tester**

Ft. Oglethorpe, Georgia

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### **Directors Emeritus**

**Kevin M. Agard**

Carlstadt, New Jersey

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Richmond, Virginia

**Wanda Morehead**

McCoy, Virginia

**Daniel C. Wildman**

Fredericksburg, Virginia



## *Honor Guard*

### **2015 National EMS Memorial Service Honor Guard**

#### **Honor Guard Commander**

**Ron S. Quesenberry, Rescue Specialist**  
James City County Fire Department  
Williamsburg, Virginia

#### **Deputy Honor Guard Commander**

**John Soderberg, Crew Chief**  
City of Pittsburgh Bureau of EMS  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

#### **Lawrence W. Jones, Pipe Major**

City of Pittsburgh Pipes and Drums  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

#### **American Medical Response**

**EMS Honor Guard**  
Colorado Springs, Colorado

#### **Austin - Travis County**

**EMS Honor Guard**  
Austin, Texas

#### **Chancellor Volunteer Fire and Rescue Honor Guard**

Spotsylvania, Virginia

#### **Gold Cross EMS**

**Honor Guard**  
Saint Cloud, Minnesota

#### **MedStar**

**EMS Honor Guard**  
Fort Worth, Texas

#### **Minnesota**

**EMS Honor Guard**  
Saint Cloud, Minnesota

#### **Missouri**

**EMS Honor Guard**  
Moberly, Missouri

#### **PHI Air Medical**

**Honor Guard**  
Phoenix, Arizona

#### **Pittsburgh Bureau of EMS**

**Honor Guard**  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

#### **Sedgwick County**

**EMS Honor Guard**  
Wichita, Kansas

#### **Sussex County**

**EMS Honor Guard**  
Georgetown, Delaware

#### **Wisconsin EMS**

**Honor Guard Association**  
Baldwin, Wisconsin



## *Event Sponsors*

*The following individuals, businesses and organizations have directly sponsored, in whole or in part, individual events throughout the 2015 Memorial Service Weekend:*

### *Welcome/Opening Dinner*

**Penrose- St Francis  
Trauma and Emergency Services**  
Colorado Springs, Colorado

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### *Saturday Evening Reception*

**National Association of  
Emergency Medical Technicians**  
Clinton, Mississippi

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### *Family Breakfast*

**American Medical Response**  
Greenwood Village, CO





## *Sponsors*

*The following individuals, businesses and organizations have helped sponsor the many activities and events required to make the 2015 National EMS Memorial Service a success:*

**AccuMed Billing**  
Riverview, Michigan

**Chick-fil-A**  
Colorado Springs, Colorado

**Centura Health**  
Englewood, Colorado

**Get You Thinking, LLC**  
Lower Burrell, Pennsylvania

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**Robert & Barbara Morrison**  
Mineral, Virginia

**Patriot Guard Riders**  
Denver, Colorado



## *Sponsors*

**Richard & Sandra Perry**

Ashland, Virginia

*In Memory of Phil and Tommy Bagby*

**Patrick Cody**

Norman, Oklahoma

**Myles Quail**

Clinton, Massachusetts

**Matthew Shields**

Girdwood, Alaska

**Lindsay Chandler**

Holland, Michigan

**Albertsons Community Partners Program**

Bethel Park, Pennsylvania

**Tanya Zehnder**

Ambridge, Pennsylvania

**Doug Reimert**

Tomahawk, Wisconsin

**Jordynne Derrey**

Ellensburg, Washington



## *In-kind Sponsors*

*The following individuals or organizations have assisted the National EMS Memorial Service throughout the year by providing goods and/or services required to fulfill our mission:*

**American Medical Response**  
Colorado Springs, Colorado

**Brenda Wright**  
Shelbina, Missouri

**LifeCare Medical Transports**  
Fredericksburg, Virginia

**Missouri EMS Honor Guard  
Region 2**  
Moberly, Missouri

**Kevin & Maryann Agard**  
Carlstadt, New Jersey

**Association of  
Air Medical Services**  
Alexandria, Virginia

**HOPE Animal-Assisted  
Crisis Response**  
Eugene, Oregon

**City of Colorado Springs  
Police Department**  
Colorado Springs, Colorado

**Flowers, Flowers, Etc.**  
Colorado Springs, Colorado

**Mark Mennie Photography**  
Alberta, Canada

**Picnic Basket Catering**  
Colorado Springs, Colorado

**Air Medical Memorial**  
Castle Rock, Colorado

**Steve L. Davis**  
Lakewood, Colorado

**National EMS Memorial  
Bike Ride**  
Victor, New York

**Tammy L. Chatman**  
Waukesha, Wisconsin

**National EMS Memorial Foundation**  
Boston, Massachusetts



## ***Adopt-A-Family***

*The following individuals or organizations have assisted the National EMS Memorial Service by helping to offset the cost of attending the Service to the families of the 2015 honorees:*

**Marasco Family**  
West Mifflin, Pennsylvania

**Chancellor Volunteer Fire & Rescue**  
Spotsylvania, Virginia

**Loudoun County Volunteer Rescue Squad**  
Leesburg, Virginia

**Spotsylvania Volunteer Rescue Squad**  
Spotsylvania, Virginia

**Steve and Ann Athey**  
Argyle, Texas

**FirstWatch**  
Encinitas, California

**Lifeguard Ambulance Service**  
Birmingham, Alabama

**Royal Ambulance Service**  
San Leandro, California

**A-TEC Ambulance**  
Crystal Lake, Illinois

**Byron Andrews**  
Sterling, Virginia

**Brooke Fire Safety Association Inc**  
Brooke, Virginia



## *Adopt-A-Family*

**The Browne Family**  
Stafford, Virginia

**Buena Vista Rescue Squad**  
Buena Vista, Virginia

**Colonial Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad**  
Colonial Beach, Virginia

**Commonwealth Financial Solutions Inc**  
Fredericksburg, Virginia

**Concord Rescue Squad**  
Concord, Virginia

**Dave and Karla Cook**  
Woodbridge, Virginia

**Culpeper County Rescue Squad Inc**  
Culpeper, Virginia

**Buford & Dorothy Dillard**  
Fredericksburg, Virginia

**Kevin Dillard**  
Fredericksburg, Virginia

**Thomas J. and Jennifer Liebman**  
Allison Park, Pennsylvania

**LifeCare Medical Transports Inc**  
Fredericksburg, Virginia



## ***Adopt-A-Family***

**Loudoun County Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary**  
Sterling, Virginia

**Madison County Volunteer Rescue Squad**  
Madison, Virginia

**Mountain View Volunteer Rescue Squad Inc**  
Stafford, Virginia

**Orange County Volunteer Rescue Squad Inc**  
Orange, Virginia

**Sperryville Volunteer Rescue Squad**  
Sperryville, Virginia

**Stafford County Volunteer Rescue Squad**  
Stafford, Virginia

**Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad**  
Sterling, Virginia

**Rachel and Robbie Tester Family**  
Ft. Oglethorpe, Georgia

**Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads District 1**  
Nellysford, Virginia

**Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads District 10**  
Stafford, Virginia

**Daniel Wildman**  
Stafford, Virginia

**Jana Williams Family**  
Chicago, Illinois

Major Sponsors of the 2015 National EMS Memorial Service



Penrose-St. Francis  
Emergency & Trauma Services  
+ Centura Health.



**LifeCare**  
**Medical Transports**



*Flag and Rose Logo*  
Designed by  
**Phil Bagby**



*Oak Leaf Medallion*  
Designed by  
**H. Gene Knight**



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