In
The
Line
Of
Duty

2017 California
Peace Officers’
Memorial Ceremony

Memorial Magazine
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They stand tall. At about nine feet, they cast a long shadow. They have to. For the three bronze figures represent more than 1,580 peace officers who have died in the line of duty since California became a state.

Vic Riesau, who retired in 1977 as a Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Division Chief after a 25 year career, started a new career as an artist and sculptor.

His bronze figures depict a county sheriff of the 1880s, a state traffic officer of the 1930s, and a city patrol officer of the 1980s.

The three look down on a life-size bronze figure of a mother comforting her child sitting on a bench, representing the grief-torn families left behind.

“We pledge our best efforts to stand behind the men and women who stand behind the badge,” said Governor George Deukmejian in dedicating the memorial. “The job of a peace officer is perhaps the most difficult and challenging one of all in our society. We are very thankful to those willing to risk injury even death in order to provide greater protection and safety for all of us.”

“While it can surely be said that these men and women who have placed their lives on the line for the safety of their fellow man are heroes, we must recognize that simply donning the uniform of a peace officer has in itself become an act of courage,” said dedication speaker David Snowden, Chief of the Costa Mesa Police Department.

“In 1962, President Kennedy proclaimed May 15th as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15th falls, as National Police Week. Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in...
In Remembrance of Those who Paid The Ultimate Price

**Honored Officers**

**Deputy Scott Ballantyne**  
Tulare Co. Sheriff’s Department  
EOW: February 10, 2016

**Officer Nathan Daniel Taylor**  
CHP – Gold Run Area  
EOW: March 13, 2016

**Officer Michael J. Katherman**  
San Jose Police Department  
EOW: June 14, 2016

**Officer Jonathan “JD” De Guzman**  
San Diego Police Department  
EOW: July 28, 2016

**Sergeant Steven C. Owen**  
Los Angeles Co. Sheriff’s Department  
EOW: October 5, 2016

**Officer Jose Gilbert “Gil” Vega**  
Palm Springs Police Department  
EOW: October 8, 2016

**Officer Lesley Zerebny**  
Palm Springs Police Department  
EOW: October 8, 2016

**Deputy Jack Lanceson Hopkins**  
Modoc Co. Sheriff’s Office  
EOW: October 19, 2016

**Sergeant Alfonso “Al” Lopez**  
Los Angeles Co. Sheriff’s Department  
EOW: October 24, 2016

**Deputy Dennis R. Wallace**  
Stanislaus Co. Sheriff’s Department  
EOW: November 13, 2016

**Enrolled from Prior Years**

**Officer Paul M. Carlisle**  
Oakland Police Department  
EOW: December 1, 2015

**Sergeant Thomas J. Fonte**  
Los Angeles Co. Sheriff’s Department  
EOW: October 2, 1990

**Deputy Marshal Frederick F. Moore**  
Los Angeles Co. Sheriff’s Department  
EOW: January 16, 1947

**Constable Charles W. Winston**  
Los Angeles Co. Sheriff’s Department  
EOW: April 3, 1926

**Deputy Arthur J. Solomon**  
Los Angeles Co. Sheriff’s Department  
EOW: August 7, 1917
Born into a military family at Fort Campbell in Kentucky, Scott Ballantyne lived in Visalia, California, North Carolina, and Iran before his family settled back in Visalia in 1968. After graduating from Redwood High School in 1982, he attended College of the Sequoias and Fresno State. While seeing the world, Scott had many interesting experiences, like riding a camel in Iran. However, he felt most at home in Visalia where his grandparents Al and Teresa Burkdoll lived. He remained in the area after college, joining the Tulare County Sheriff’s Office in 1989.

Deputy Ballantyne filled many roles during his 27 years with the department, starting as a corrections deputy at Sequoia Field Detention Facility, which was later renamed the Bob Wiley Detention Facility. He also served as a patrol deputy, evidence technician, and courtroom bailiff before landing his dream job as a Tactical Flight Officer for Sheriff One in 2014. Partnered with Pilot James Chavez, Deputy Ballantyne enjoyed being the sheriff’s “Eyes in the Skies.” Sheriff One responded to public safety calls, including deadly accident scenes, dangerous drag races, and even fires in the hills. Chavez and Ballantyne communicated with and protected deputies on the ground. They busted large scale marijuana grows, interrupted burglaries in process, and helped take down gang members.

Sheriff One assisted in an average of three felony apprehensions per week, but they also helped the community in other ways. In just two of their many high-profile search and rescue missions, Ballantyne and Chavez were able to locate a lost 3-year-old child and an Alzheimer’s patient during their 18 months together. After spending so much time in the air, Deputy Ballantyne and his pilot became close friends.

The afternoon of February 10 started like any other shift for the two friends as they assisted with the arrest of a man brandishing a handgun near Springville. As they turned to leave the scene, Sheriff One crashed into a hillside killing both men. Deputy Ballantyne is survived by his mother Jean Ballantyne, his brother John and his wife Stacy, his sisters Marcy Benson (David), JoAnn Coleman (Dennis), three nieces Shannon Moore, and Ashley and Hayley Ballantyne. He is also survived by his uncle and aunt William and Marylin Silveira and cousins Matt (Leslie) and Amy Silveira. He was preceded in death by his father Ret. Lt. Col. Stanley Edward Ballantyne and his nephew Colton Moore. In his memory, Scott’s family has established a scholarship with the Tulare County Deputy Sheriff’s Association to financially assist talented persons who are interested in making a career in law enforcement.

Remembered not just for his enthusiasm working in the air, Deputy Scott Ballantyne was always quick to assist anyone in the department. “If you knew Scott was coming to be your backup, you’d breathe a sigh of relief,” Bailiff Tracy Mellow said. “That man had your back.”
Long before Officer Nathan Taylor became a California Highway Patrol officer, he was already striving to be a Good Samaritan. Earning his Eagle Scout as a teenager, he gave service and tried to make his community a better place. Taylor attended Del Oro High School until 1997, after which he attended Sierra College and American River College. He eventually earned a bachelor’s degree in history from Brigham Young University. During his college years, he took time off and spent two years in Venezuela serving as a church missionary. Shortly after returning home, he met the love of his life, Becky Tanner. They quickly became inseparable and were married the following year.

In 2010, Officer Taylor completed California Highway Patrol cadet training, and was first posted in San Jose. He later transferred to the Gold Run office in 2013. In both areas he became known as an officer who extended himself to help others. He always carried a fully equipped tool kit and universal jack while on duty. He assisted stranded motorists, helped repair vehicles, purchased cross country bus tickets, and gave emotional support when he could. He received so many thank you notes from people that his colleagues jokingly accused him of writing the notes himself. His generosity and selflessness were never off duty, and his family often witnessed him helping people around home.

Officer Taylor instilled his compassion in his three sons. Taylor’s oldest son still prays for a motorist whose father was dying when he was pulled over. The officer had promised he and his family would pray for them. His sons often witnessed their father helping people—his generosity and selflessness was never off duty.

During a snowstorm on March 12, Officer Taylor was directing traffic near Truckee when he was hit by a young woman who lost control of her vehicle. Despite his courageous battle, he succumbed to his injuries the following day.

Taylor left behind his wife Becky; his three young sons Preston, Wyatt, and Joshua; his parents and grandparents; one sister; and three brothers, one of whom is a California Highway Patrol officer. He also left behind hundreds of California residents whose lives he touched while on duty.

During the funeral for Officer Nathan Taylor, his wife Becky asked everyone to honor her husband by being the change they wanted to see in the world: “If each of us went out of our way for a stranger, how would our community change?” Many people have taken up this challenge and are trying to “be like Nate.”

"You are what you choose to be."

-Hogarth Hughes
from "The Iron Giant"
Even as a young child, Michael Katherman dreamt of working in law enforcement. Raised in San Jose, he graduated from Valley Christian High School and earned his bachelor’s degree from Simpson University. As a freshman in college, Katherman met his future wife April, who encouraged him to follow through with his dream to be a police officer.

The two love birds both worked hard to graduate college a semester early in order to get married. They were married on May 29, 2004, and in July 2005, Officer Katherman joined the San Jose Police Department. As a patrol officer, Officer Katherman earned the department’s Outstanding Police Duty Award in 2009.

Having fulfilled his dream of becoming a police officer, Officer Katherman and his wife turned their focus on another of his dreams—to have two sons. His dream came true as he and April were blessed with their sons Joshua and Jason. He modeled for his boys what it truly means to be a man of God, integrity, and respect. Officer Katherman shared his love of baseball, fishing, music, riding dirt bikes, and camping. He particularly enjoyed coaching his sons in basketball, a sport he honed while playing in college, even traveling to China to run basketball clinics. He also passed along his sense of humor and zest for life.

Officer Katherman’s career was very important to him, but so was his love for Jesus Christ, his family, and his friends. He always wove his faith into his work as an officer, serving as director on the police chaplaincy board and vice president of the Keith Kelley Club, providing support for officers and their families during times of need.

In September of 2015, Officer Katherman joined the San Jose Police Department motor unit. As an avid rider and dirt-biker, this was truly a dream assignment, and he thrived as a motor officer. All of his dreams had come true.

While on duty on June 14, Officer Katherman was fatally injured when his police motorcycle collided with a minivan. Along with his wife April and sons Joshua and Jason, Officer Katherman is survived by his parents Tom and Dianna Katherman, his brother Nate Katherman, and a large extended family of in-laws, grandparents, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins who love him dearly.

Officer Michael Katherman’s father remembered his son as a hero, both as a father and a police officer: “Michael loved putting on that uniform and he loved those who served with him. I’m sure for those who know him, you would agree, he is a hero.”

Isaiah 6:8

“Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here I am, send me!”

8 California Peace Officers’ Memorial
Officer

JONATHAN “JD” DE GUZMAN
San Diego Police Department
EOW: July 28, 2016

Born and raised in the Philippines, Officer Jonathan “JD” De Guzman, emigrated to the United States when he was 20 years old. He worked hard to learn English so he could serve his new country. As the eldest son, Officer De Guzman always cared for his siblings and his cousins, serving as a positive role model. This carried over to his career search in the states.

Shortly after settling in the United States, Officer De Guzman met his wife Mary Jane. They were married five years later in 1998. Together they have two children: daughter Amira and son Jonathan II. Officer De Guzman played an active role in his children’s activities in Chula Vista and was a familiar face at their schools.

Finally finding his calling, Officer De Guzman joined the San Diego Police Department in 2000. His family questioned if he was just too nice to be a police officer, but it was this kindness that made him so good at his job. No matter where Officer De Guzman was assigned, he took a special pride in his beat, getting to know the members of the community.

On his first day with the department, Officer De Guzman drove during a pursuit of a robbery suspect. Excited for so much action on his first night, that enthusiasm persisted through his entire career. He worked patrol in the Mid City, Northern, and Central divisions before joining the Gang Suppression Team. He was also a member of the department’s SWAT unit.

Officer De Guzman received several honors for service including the department’s Purple Heart in 2003 after being stabbed during a traffic stop. Even after being injured on the job, Officer De Guzman remained determined to join the elite Gang Suppression Team. He finally landed the position in 2010. Patrolling the streets with the unit, he was determined to learn everything he could about the neighborhoods and their gangs.

On the afternoon of July 28, Officer De Guzman, as he always did, prayed with his parents before heading to work. Later that evening, he was fatally shot in Southcrest. His partner on the Gang Suppression Team, Officer Wade Irwin, was shot, but thankfully survived his injuries.

Remembered for his devotion to his family and a great sense of humor, Officer De Guzman’s friends and colleagues speak most often of his contagious smile and his love of karaoke. Officer Jonathan “JD” De Guzman lived his life as an inspiration to so many, selflessly putting his family, friends, and loved ones above himself in every aspect of his life.

JD philosophy “Luctor et Emergo”
Latin meaning “I Struggle but Emerge”

I am the gentle breeze
That whispers through the trees.
I am the brightest star at night.
A rainbow on a stormy day,
Or a golden shaft of light.
I am a fiery sunset in the twilight sky
That turns daylight into night.
I am the warm morning sun
That gently touches your face at first light.
So I am not gone, I’m just fine,
I have just returned home
To the Heavenly house of yours and mine.
You may miss me and mourn,
But please not for long.
Weep not for me,
For I am not gone.

—Reverend Sgt. Gerry Bedard (retired)
In Antelope Valley it seems that everyone knew Sergeant Steve Owen. Owen spent most of his 29 year career working the streets in Lancaster and Palmdale. He was known as “a cop’s cop.” Even after promoting to sergeant five years ago, he was committed to working the streets where he could have the biggest impact on protecting the community. He was a hard worker, a strong leader, and a compassionate person. As a result, he was respected by his fellow deputies, community members and even the criminals he encountered.

Sergeant Owen received numerous accolades throughout his career. He earned the Meritorious Conduct Medal in 2014 after safely rescuing a hostage being held at gunpoint by armed gang members. He also received recognition for his relentless efforts to locate a kidnapped child, saving that child's life. Although he was known for his pursuit of criminals, Owen could also be found mentoring and counseling them. He took pride in helping individuals who were headed down the wrong path in life. Many people he arrested sang his praise when they heard of his murder, something highly unusual. But Sergeant Owen was an unusual cop who attributed his outlook on life to his strong devotion to God and his faith in the Lord.

When off duty, Owen volunteered as a football coach and youth mentor. A passionate equestrian, Owen rode his horses Max, Moose, and Mikey in the sheriff’s department’s mounted enforcement detail, often working crowd control at local events. Sergeant Owen was always the one everyone turned to in stressful situations. Fellow deputies felt at ease when Sergeant Owen was present because he was relaxed and controlled and knew how to handle any situation.

Sergeant Owen’s wife, Tania, works as a detective in the Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department’s Arson Explosives Detail. They blended their families and together raised two sons and a daughter, who are all now adults. As a family they enjoyed going on dirt bikes rides, waterskiing and anything having to do with the outdoors. He was a devoted family man.

On October 5, 2016, Sergeant Owen responded to assist a deputy with a burglary call at an apartment complex. As he responded to the rear of the location, he was confronted by an armed suspect who shot and killed Sergeant Owen. He survived just long enough for his family to say goodbye at the hospital. Owen is survived by his wife Tania, his sons Chadd and Branden, his daughter Shannon, his mother Millie, his brother David, and their families. Sergeant Steve Owen’s death impacted not just his family and coworkers, but an entire community. Everyone in the community recognized him as one of their own. He was a father, a brother, and a mentor to so many. “Rest assured, he will always be patrolling the streets of our community; you may not see him but he is there.”

Who is this person?
The man in the green?
Never thinking of danger,
or though it may seem.
He worked days and nights,
and not for the pay.
But that he can come home,
at the end of the day.
More precious than gems,
and all riches on earth.
You can't put a price,
on this angel's worth.
For everyone who's in jail,
and serving their time.
They're there cause our angel,
put his life on the line.
He never leaves home,
without kissing his kids and wife.
He knows that his job,
could cost him his life.
But always he gives,
and never thinks twice.
This must be an angel,
to make such a sacrifice.
Such pride in his duty,
he does it with love.
This man in the green
was sent from above.
Only God could send us,
such a wonderful gift.
Someone to bring justice,
that’s powerful and swift.
An angel in green,
he never will fall.
He’s here to protect us,
and uphold the law.
Don’t call him a hero,
he avoids the spotlight.
Just thank God for our angels,
when we pray at night.
But who is this man,
who doesn’t want fame?
He’s our Guardian Angel,
and Sgt. Owen is his name.
Officer Gil Vega was born in Texas and moved with his migrant farmworker parents throughout the Southwest with his siblings—five brothers and four sisters. They finally settled in Coachella when Vega was about six, and he grew up in the Fred Young Farm Labor Camp in Indio.

At Indio High School, Vega ran track and cross country and dreamed about being a police officer. When he enrolled in a police academy near Ontario, some of his extended family members were wary of one of their own becoming law enforcement, but Vega just wanted to help people and change people's negative opinions of police. He wanted to use his experiences as child to help guide others facing similar situations.

For almost 35 years, Officer Vega dedicated himself to being a role model, both for those in his community as well as for other officers. Vega began his career in 1982 as a reserve officer in Indio before transferring to Palm Springs. He was hired as an officer in 1985. Vega received several community awards during his career, including Officer of the Year twice—in 1992 and 2011. His wife Susana and youngest daughter Vanessa accepted a posthumous service award shortly after his death, adding to his distinguished list of awards.

Over the years, Officer Vega worked as a detective and a training officer. He also served in the Mounted Enforcement Unit. Having considered retiring for five years, Officer Vega had stayed on to train new officers, having trained more than 30 while with the department. He had already filed his paperwork to retire in December, although even those closest to him didn’t know if he’d actually go through with it; that’s how much he loved his job.

With eight children, eleven grandchildren, and five great grandchildren, Officer Vega spent much of his free time with his family. He passed along a love for running and encouraged his children to give back to the community. He’d even convinced his brother to become a citizen volunteer with La Quinta Police Department.

Officer Gil Vega and Officer Lesley Zerebny were among the officers who responded to a domestic disturbance call on the afternoon of October 8. The suspect opened fired through a metal security door, killing the two officers and wounding another. Officer Vega was 63 years old.

Survived by his wife, eight children, and dozens of nieces, nephews, and grandchildren, Officer Vega’s family mourned the tragedy together. His daughter Vanessa, speaking for the large extended family, said, “It wasn’t my father’s turn, but he will always stay in our hearts and our minds.”

My husband Gil always wanted to be a police officer. That was his goal and he accomplished it. The paths of his life were guided by his humility and modesty. He was trustful, honest and honorable. He believed in justice and was respectful to all that he encountered. He took pride and honor in protecting our community. He was a great man that loved his friends and family. We will never forget your advice and practical wisdom. You were our protector, and shared your love and patience with this.

Now, he has been called upon. Our refuge are the holy scriptures. They comfort us in all our trials, where the hope of a resurrection for all of us as promised by Jehovah.

My loving husband, caring father, there are no words that can describe how much you are missed. We love you. Susana, Vanessa and family

**JOB 14: 14 - 15**

“If a man dies, can he live again? I will wait all the days of my compulsory service until my relief comes. You will call and I will answer you. You will long for the work of your hands.”
Officer Lesley Zerebny was born and raised in Hemet, the spunky daughter of a California Highway Patrol officer. As a child, she’d run barefoot through the mud on her family’s wooded property, with a BB gun strapped over her shoulder. She graduated from West Valley High School knowing she wanted to follow in her father’s footsteps.

Small in stature, Zerebny was fearless and often described as spunky. Perhaps being the youngest of three children in her family made her a bit tougher. While in school, she routinely stepped in to defend classmates against a bully. Whether she knew the person or not, she felt a need to protect them and would quickly make a new friend.

While in high school, Zerebny played softball, wearing the number nine with the Mustangs. Her love of sports continued into adulthood. She also loved the outdoors and was always ready for an adventure. After high school, she lived for a while in Oceanside where she could surf as much as possible.

Along the way, she married her best friend, Riverside County Sheriff’s Deputy Zack Zerebny in November of 2011. She later graduated from the Riverside County Sheriff’s Academy. While she lived in her hometown of Hemet, Zerebny was sworn into the Palm Springs Police Department as an officer in January 2015 and dedicated herself to protecting that city. Her father pinned her badge on.

Officer Zerebny gave birth to her first daughter Cora in June 2016. Full of life, she approached family life the same way she did everything—with a sense of fierce protection, plenty of compassion, and a whole lot of humor. You could often hear her singing to her beloved daughter. While no one would argue that becoming a police officer made Zerebny happy, giving birth to her daughter completed her.

Officer Lesley Zerebny and Officer Gil Vega were among the officers who responded to a domestic disturbance call on the afternoon of October 8. The suspect opened fired through a metal security door, killing the two officers and wounding another. Officer Vega was Zerebny’s training officer and they’d become good friends.

Officer Zerebny, who was only 27 years old, had just returned from maternity leave after giving birth four months prior. She is survived by her parents Lulu and David Kling, her husband Zack, daughter Cora, her sister Britta, her brother Peter, and her numerous brothers and sisters in blue.

The communities of Hemet and Palm Springs mourn the loss of their hometown hero. Officer Lesley Zerebny will be remembered as an amazing friend, a proud daughter, and a devoted mother.

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It takes a special person
To don the boots we wear;
And step into a world
where certainty is rare.

We bravely venture
where others never would;
Fighting to ensure that evil
Never triumphs over good.

It’s a calling that’s reserved
for just a chosen few;
Represented here today by
this sea of tan and blue.

The job is never easy
Certainly not for faint of heart.
Occasionally there is an officer
That shines from the start.

Strong and fierce,
And always with a smile;
She learned early on
She would be blessed with a child.

She glowed when she spoke
About the little girl;
That had suddenly become
The center of her world.

Now she has been ripped
Away from our grasp.
It is all too soon
And much too fast.

It was an honor and privilege
to serve alongside;
A hero taken
before her time.

Rest in peace,
We will take it from here.
Your family is in good hands
Never fear.

To Lesley’s family,
We grieve with you;
We remember her as our partner,
our friend, our sister in blue.

Our hearts ache
And we are shaken to our core;
We love you, we miss you,
...Paul 524
Born in Livermore, Deputy Jack Hopkins was raised in Siskiyou County at the northern tip of California. He was named after his grandfather, who was the first mayor of Rolling Hills Estates. Growing up on a cattle ranch with his family, he spent his youth exploring the beautiful Shasta Valley area. Hopkins was a proud member of the Choctaw Nation in Oklahoma.

Training with Mitch Klier in martial arts, Hopkins earned a black belt in karate and won a World Championship title in 2001. He started at the dojo in fifth grade and stayed eight years, mastering technique and learning honor. After graduating from Yreka High School in 2004, Hopkins attended Butte Community College. He returned to Butte College to attend the police academy with his older brother, graduating in 2013.

Before joining the Modoc County Sheriff’s Office in 2015, Deputy Hopkins had served with the Alturas Police Department. Law enforcement seemed a perfect fit for Deputy Hopkins who found contentment when helping people in his community. Officers on the Alturas Police Department said he was the nicest person, a loyal friend, and a dedicated officer.

Aside from loving his job, Deputy Hopkins enjoyed listening to music, dancing, fishing, exploring the great outdoors, playing poker, and hiking with his beloved rescue dog, Bandit. When looking at photos of Deputy Hopkins, it’s hard to miss his illuminating smile, which his colleagues on both departments said was seemingly always on his face, even while issuing a ticket to a motorist.

On October 19, Modoc County Sheriff’s Deputy Jack Hopkins was shot and killed while responding to a domestic disturbance call in a rural area 10 miles south of Alturas. He was just 31 years old. Growing up in a small close-knit community meant that Deputy Hopkins’ death rattled cities across Northern California. His procession started in Alturas and traveled to Redding before continuing to Yreka the following day. Hundreds of people gathered to support his family and proved what a strong impact Deputy Hopkins had on his communities during his short life.

Deputy Hopkins is survived by his parents, Lance and Carroll Hopkins; three sisters, Amanda, Rebekah, and Christina; two brothers, Samuel and Joshua; and a large extended family. Samuel Hopkins, a Police Officer in Weed, California, spent many hours “lawman to lawman” on the phone with Jack while they both were on duty. Amanda Hopkins Taylor adored Jack from the minute he was born, holding him first at the hospital. Sam and Amanda thought it always their job to protect Jack. Joshua Hopkins trained in karate with Jack and they traveled many miles together attending a variety of tournaments. Rebekah Hopkins loved her brother unconditionally. He was the heart and soul of her world. Christina Mokrane, who lives in Texas, spent numerous hours on the phone with Jack. He always had an open ear to listen, observe, and just be there for the good and bad in his siblings lives. All family members miss and love him greatly. His mother and dad carry the knowledge and love knowing their son was the Best of the Best. “He died with his boots on!”

A NOTE FROM OFFICER SAM HOPKINS
Older brother to slain Modoc County Sheriff Deputy Jack Hopkins.

The sheep do not want the dog around. He looks too much like the wolf. He reminds them that danger lurks out there, just beyond the relative safety of the fence.

The wolf also hates the dog. He knows it is the dog that stands between him and his prey. It is because of the dog that he is lean. The dog is the reason the wolf is forced to stalk the darkness.

The dog knows these facts. Undeterred, he stands watch, ever ready to do battle. Despite that he is an unwelcome guest in their mist. The dog is ready, at a moment’s notice, to give his life in defense of his flock. It is simply who he is.

To my law enforcement brothers and sisters: I love you all and be safe.

To all black belts: Live by my brothers values; honor, respect, and discipline.

To Butte Law Enforcement Academy Class 131: “Go Hard, To go Home.”

And may I remind the few... If ill of us they speak, that we are all that stands between the monsters and the weak!!

Thank You,
Officer Sam Hopkins, L391
Sergeant Alfonso Lopez joined the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department shortly after graduating from Duarte High School. His 26 year law enforcement career shaped his life, making him a dedicated husband, father, and friend.

Sergeant Lopez joined the department on January 5, 1990 and quickly earned a reputation for having a big heart. While working patrol in East Los Angeles, he was nicknamed “Big Al” a name that followed him throughout his career. He also worked at the lockup at the Hollywood Courthouse, and while in East Los Angeles, he was a Training Officer and COPS team member. However, for more than half of his career, over 14 years, Sergeant Lopez worked as a detective in the Special Victim’s Bureau.

Specializing in child sexual abuse cases, he investigated hundreds of cases in that time, working with young victims. While known for always being able to get a confession from a suspect, Sergeant Lopez also had an amazing connection with victims. He truly cared about them and getting them justice, but he also made sure they felt comfortable.

Working in the Special Victims Bureau can be emotionally draining on a deputy and is one of the department’s toughest assignments, but Lopez never let that detract from his dedication to his wife and family. Together they gave each other hope and strength. His grandsons stated that they never knew if Papa had a rough day, because if they were there it seemed like his whole world revolved around them.

In November of 2015, Lopez was promoted to sergeant and transferred to the Compton Station, where he enjoyed being back on the streets and mentoring young deputies. He truly valued passing on his knowledge to the next generation. His experience over 26 years inspired the deputies he worked with, but they also saw the love he still had for the job every day.

Just before sunrise on October 24, Sergeant Lopez responded from the Compton Station to cover deputies involved in a pursuit involving a stolen vehicle. While on route, he suffered a fatal heart attack prior to his vehicle colliding with a fence at low speeds. At only 47 years old, Sergeant Lopez left behind his beloved wife Cheryl, two adult children, three grandsons, and a loving extended family.

During his memorial service, Sheriff Jim McDonnell spoke of Sergeant Alfonso Lopez’s absolute commitment to helping others: “Al didn’t just work, he was a champion for the victims of crime. He protected those who could not protect themselves, especially children. He cared for those who needed care.”

I AM A WARRIOR
by Jon F. Hooper

I fight not for glory or fame,  
For they are momentary. 
I fight for those who can’t. 
I fight for Justice.

I fight for the oppressed and the down trodden. 
And if I should lose my life for these just causes, 
then I have no regrets, 
For I serve to protect the innocent. 
It matters not where or when, 
For evil knows no boundaries. 
Be it fire, flood, or the threat of tyranny, 
I will not flee. 
Justice is my weapon. 
Faith is my shield. 
Hope is my armor. 

Cry not at my passing, 
For it was my Honor to fight for you. 
Shed not tears of sorrow, 
But tears of joy, 
For now, 
I stand with God.
When remembering Deputy Dennis Wallace, it is hard to separate his life from the lives of the students and children whose lives he impacted during his 20 year career in Law Enforcement. Born in Ceres and raised in the Modesto area, Wallace never ventured far from the community he loved. He finally settled in Hughson where he made it his mission to serve and protect while on and off duty.

After graduating from Downey High School, Wallace worked for a time in security for E.J. Gallo Winery, which is headquartered in Modesto. It was while working there that he met his wife Mercedes who worked at the glass plant. They fell in love and were married in 1997, spending the last 30 years completely devoted to each other.

Wallace followed his brother Dave—who is currently a detective with the Modesto Police Department—into law enforcement. Their father Officer Dennis Taylor Wallace had been a California Highway Patrol officer. The senior officer was killed in an off-duty crash in 1985.

No local agency would sponsor Dennis Wallace in the academy, so he paid out of his own pocket to attend the night academy. He was hired by the Hughson Police Department in 1995. Hughson later contracted with Stanislaus County and Wallace became a deputy sheriff.

Deputy Wallace started in patrol, before becoming a DARE and School Resource Officer in 1999. He spent much of his time serving on the Dena Boer Elementary School campus in Salida, but was just as dedicated to his own community. He refereed football and started a soccer program in Hughson.

While Deputy Wallace and Mercedes had no children of their own, their 10 siblings gave them 31 nieces and nephews who were all part of the family. The home of Deputy Wallace was never off limits to his family, the children of Hughson, or their teachers and coaches who came to him for advice or assistance. His goal was to keep children focused on success and their future.

Wallace entered the Fox Grove fishing access on the morning of November 13 to investigate a suspicious vehicle and person. When backup arrived, they found Deputy Wallace had been fatally shot. He had planned to retire in March and hoped take his wife to Italy for their anniversary.

Deputy Dennis Wallace wasn’t just taken from his wife and family, but from his entire community. From NFL players to Air Force Airmen, Deputy Wallace will be remembered as the person who was always there for them as children, not just as a deputy, but as a friend.

Today, we say goodbye to a champion and friend
Dennis’ life here on earth has come to an end
He went in places where others fear
He did it wearing policeman’s gear
One day he crossed paths with evil and hate
But now Dennis stands at heaven’s gate
I realize that Dennis’ death has left a big hole
But remember he now has a much bigger role
Dennis always gave to others from the heart
GOD has said that is the most important part
On bended knee he served our youth
He never wavered and told the truth
I believe that GOD will help us all heal
Because he is good, and his love is real
Never let or think that evil won
Or believe our jobs are ever done
For remember that to allow evil to win
We would all have to succumb and give in
So in honor of Dennis we must continue to fight
To stand tall and do what is right
Our memories of him will continue to live on
We must remember that he is not really gone
As we say good bye to this great man
Remember to carry out GOD’s plan
Officer Paul Michael Carlisle graduated from California State University at Hayward on the same day he was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the United States Army. Born and raised in Oakland, he never thought twice about returning to civilian life protecting the people of his hometown of Oakland.

Officer Carlisle’s life was dedicated to service from the start. As a child, he progressed through the ranks of the scouts to Eagle Scout. He spent two years in the Army before joining the Oakland Police Department. His fellow officers remember a man who went out of his way to keep his partners safe. Retired Deputy Chief Greg Lowe described Officer Carlisle as “the most courageous and positive person” he’d ever known.

On November 23, 1976, Officer Carlisle stopped a stolen vehicle in Downtown Oakland and was shot by the driver. Hit just outside his vest, he survived the shooting, but was left paralyzed and confined to a wheelchair. Oakland Police Department lost a dedicated officer that day. Despite his serious injuries, Officer Carlisle lived a full life with his wife of 50 years, Jan; their children Angela, Anthony, and Andrei; and six grandchildren.

Like his father and uncle before him, Paul was an outstanding mechanic. He loved tinkering on classic autos and mentoring the neighborhood kids and his three children in auto repair. The challenge of working on classic cars culminated in his beloved Daimler sports car. His sister Annette, who passed away just a few months earlier, also had quite the collection of classic cars, including a 1937 Cadillac.

A trivia buff with a knack for history, Officer Carlisle never missed a Jeopardy answer and enjoyed pouring over maps for hours. He passed on the love of history and trivia to his grandchildren. Using the skills he learned as a Scout, Officer Carlisle loved the outdoors and went camping as much as possible. He also enjoyed motocross and riding his Harley.

Almost 40 years after being shot on duty, Officer Paul Carlisle passed away on December 1, 2015, due to complications from his injuries sustained 39 years prior. Seven months later, his death was ruled a homicide and a line-of-duty death. Officer Carlisle will be remembered for living life to the fullest and persevering through every challenge thrown at him. His courage, both on the Oakland Police Department and after his injury, will continue to inspire everyone who knew him.

W. H. Auden

Stop all the clocks, cut off the telephone,
Prevent the dog from barking with a juicy bone,
Silence the pianos and with muffled drum
Bring out the coffin, let the mourners come.

Let aeroplanes circle moaning overhead
Scribbling on the sky the message He Is Dead,
Put crepe bows round the white necks
of the public doves,
Let the traffic policemen wear black cotton gloves.

He was my North, my South, my East and West,
My working week and my Sunday rest,
My noon, my midnight, my talk, my song;
I thought that love would last forever: I was wrong.

The stars are not wanted now: put out every one;
Pack up the moon and dismantle the sun;
Pour away the ocean and sweep up the wood.
For nothing now can ever come to any good.
Before joining the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Tom Fonte was a brick mason, who personally laid all the brick on the wall in front of the Clara Shortridge Foltz Courthouse. Perhaps that inspired him to join the department. On September 26, 1978, (then) Deputy Thomas Fonte and his partner rescued 40 employees of a manufacturing facility that was burning out of control. Not only did they clear the exit blocked by large drums of paint engulfed in flames, but they also entered the facility twice to carry unconscious employees out of the building. Both deputies received the Medal of Valor for the daring rescue. Having been promoted to sergeant, Fonte worked for several years after that heroic afternoon. Due to the exposure to toxic chemicals during the rescue operation, Sergeant Fonte required numerous surgeries. During one of the procedures he received a transfusion containing contaminated blood. As a result, Sergeant Fonte contracted the AIDS virus and succumbed to the illness on October 2, 1990.

On the evening of May 25, 1911, Los Angeles Police Officer Arthur Crusey pursued a burglary suspect just north of the federal building on Main Street. The suspect fired several shots at the officer. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy Arthur J. Solomon arrived on scene shortly after one of those shots struck Crusey. Before collapsing from his wounds, he notified Solomon that the suspect had likely emptied his revolver, having already fired six shots. Armed with that knowledge, Deputy Solomon chased down the suspect, grabbing his shoulder. As the suspect turned, he fired one shot, hitting Solomon on the left side of his mouth. After being caught, the suspect was brought to the hospital where both Crusey and Solomon identified him. Patrolman Crusey succumbed to his wounds later that night, while Solomon survived another six years. Having never fully recovered from the bullet wound, Deputy Arthur Solomon passed away on August 7, 1917, while at home with his wife and three children. It was due to Deputy Solomon’s death that the Policeman’s Widow Fund was substantially increased to assist the family of peace officers killed in the line of duty.
You can help the families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty by donating to the “California Peace Officer Memorial Foundation” at www.camemorial.org.
Who we are…

The California Peace Officers’ Memorial Foundation (CPOMF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable foundation whose mission is to recognize and honor California’s peace officers who gave their lives ‘In The Line of Duty’ serving the citizens of this great state. The CPOMF has grown to not only recognize our fallen heroes, but to provide services, financial assistance, advocacy, and support to the surviving families left behind. Our foundation is also responsible for the construction and maintenance of the memorial monument.

Our board of directors is composed of active and retired peace officers from across California, representing all ranks of law enforcement, all appointed by their respective associations. Our Special Advisory Committee includes law enforcement personnel, survivors and other individuals fully dedicated to the CPOMF mission. We are proud and fortunate that all directors, advisors, and our Executive Director volunteer 100% of their time and resources.

The California Peace Officers’ Memorial Foundation is funded solely by donations from individuals, corporations, and law enforcement associations.

www.camemorial.org
What we do...

IMMEDIATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
Upon the death of a peace officer in the line of duty, CPOMF representatives personally deliver financial assistance to the primary survivor to help in their moment of need.

Scholarship Program
Children and spouses of California peace officers who died in the line of duty are eligible to receive annual scholarships from the CPOMF. In the past 10 years the scholarship program has granted more than 100 scholarships totaling over $350,000 in assistance.

Survivor Support Groups
The CPOMF financially supports the three California chapters of Concerns of Police Survivors, a peer support group made up of survivors, which provides on-going assistance to the families of our fallen officers.

Annual California Peace Officers’ Memorial Ceremony
Every May preceding National Police Week, the CPOMF underwrites a two-day memorial service honoring California’s fallen heroes. Thousands of surviving family members, citizens, and public safety officers join at the Memorial Monument in unity to pay tribute to California’s fallen heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice protecting our communities. The names of peace officers lost the previous year are added to the monument in a formal ceremony attended by the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Chief Justice, and other state dignitaries.

Remembering Our Heroes... You Can Make A Difference

There are many ways to show your support for California’s fallen heroes:

State Tax Return “Check-Off”
The California resident income tax form allows taxpayers to make charitable contributions to the California Peace Officers’ Memorial Foundation. Ask your tax preparer, or simply indicate the amount to be donated where instructed on the tax return form.

Become a Sponsor or Corporate Partner
Without the assistance of our sponsors and corporate partners, the programs and support provided by the California Peace Officers’ Memorial Foundation would not be possible. For more information on how you can become a sponsor or corporate partner, please contact the California Peace Officers’ Memorial Foundation administrative office.

One-Time Donation
Make an on-line donation with your credit card directly from our website: www.camemorial.org.

Peace Officers Payroll Program
Participants designate an automatic monthly donation of their choosing through their employer’s payroll system.

For more information in establishing this program, please visit our website: www.camemorial.org.

“My sincere gratitude to the Memorial Foundation board members for their dedication and respect shown to the fallen officers and their families. The honor bestowed upon me has been a pivotal point in my strength and healing.”

KELLY J. BAKER
Widow of Sergeant Loran “Butch” Baker
Santa Cruz Police Department
EOW: February 26, 2013

About the Memorial Monument...

Over a decade in the making, The California Peace Officers’ Memorial Monument was formally dedicated by Governor George Deukmejian in 1988.

Standing over 14 feet tall, the bronze sculpture represents an evolution of California law enforcement depicted by a county sheriff of the 1880s, a state traffic officer of the 1930s, and a city patrol officer of the 1980s.

Inscribed on the monument pedestal are the simple, yet profound words “In the Line of Duty.” Providing additional reverence, a bronze, life-sized sculpture depicts a woman comforting her child as they sit together looking at the memorial monument. Alongside the woman on the bench lies a bronze American flag folded into a triangle, symbolizing our Nation’s gratitude and respect to our fallen heroes and their families. More than 1,580 honorees grace this hallowed monument, located directly across from the State Capitol in Sacramento.

www.camemorial.org
## Scholarship Recipients for the 2016 – 2017 Academic Year

CPOMF Scholarship Program Assists Surviving Spouses and Children

"Your financial generosity will assist me with my educational costs and allow me to get one step closer to reaching my goals. The scholarship has also inspired me to help my community and give back to others."

– JACOB ORTIZ

"Thank you for giving me the opportunity to continue my college education. The aid you provide is greatly appreciated! I take pride in being part of your Foundation and am grateful for your contribution. Have a good year and stay safe!"

– KRISTIN OLCOMENDY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Dependents of California Peace Officers who have died in the line of duty</th>
<th>EOW</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASHLEY BAKER</td>
<td>Sergeant Loran “Butch” Baker</td>
<td>Santa Cruz Police Department</td>
<td>February 26, 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANDRES CORTEZ</td>
<td>Officer Gilbert Cortez</td>
<td>CA Dept. of Corrections &amp; Rehabilitation</td>
<td>March 25, 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SARAH DILLON</td>
<td>Special Agent Patrick Dillon</td>
<td>California Department of Justice</td>
<td>April 7, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEPHANIE FETTERMAN</td>
<td>Officer Noreen Vargas</td>
<td>California Highway Patrol</td>
<td>November 8, 1996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISAIAH GRAY</td>
<td>Officer Stephan G. Gray</td>
<td>Merced Police Department</td>
<td>April 15, 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHANTELLLE ISAAC</td>
<td>Deputy Jeffrey Isaac</td>
<td>Fresno Co. Sheriff’s Department</td>
<td>September 8, 1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUSTIN KELLEY</td>
<td>Deputy Yevhen Kostiuchenko</td>
<td>Ventura Co. Sheriff’s Office</td>
<td>October 28, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOMINIC MONEGO</td>
<td>Deputy John Monego</td>
<td>Alameda Co. Sheriff’s Department</td>
<td>December 12, 1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KRISTIN OLCOMENDY</td>
<td>Inspector Brian Olcomendy</td>
<td>San Francisco Police Department</td>
<td>July 26, 2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELISSA OLCOMENDY</td>
<td>Inspector Brian Olcomendy</td>
<td>San Francisco Police Department</td>
<td>July 26, 2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELODY OLIVER</td>
<td>Deputy Danny P. Oliver</td>
<td>Sacramento Co. Sheriff’s Department</td>
<td>October 24, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JACOB ORTIZ</td>
<td>Deputy Jerry Ortiz</td>
<td>Los Angeles Co. Sheriff’s Department</td>
<td>June 24, 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRIANNA POWELL</td>
<td>Deputy David Powell</td>
<td>Los Angeles Co. Sheriff’s Department</td>
<td>November 30, 2002</td>
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<tr>
<td>RICHARD SHARRA</td>
<td>Deputy Allen T. Sharra</td>
<td>Kings Co. Sheriff’s Department</td>
<td>December 27, 1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIANA VALENZUELA</td>
<td>Detective Danny Valenzuela</td>
<td>Brea Police Department</td>
<td>May 23, 1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASHLEIGH VARLEY</td>
<td>Officer Rick Cromwell</td>
<td>Lodi Police Department</td>
<td>December 9, 1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHITNEY WHITE-DIBB</td>
<td>Officer Mark White</td>
<td>Roseville Police Department</td>
<td>February 10, 1995</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dependents of California peace officers who have died in the line of duty are eligible to receive annual scholarships from the California Peace Officers’ Memorial Foundation.

Since 2003, the CPOMF has awarded over $682,000 in grants to survivors attending graduate school, four-year colleges and universities, two-year community colleges, and trade schools. Funded by donations from member law enforcement associations and corporate sponsors, the CPOMF’s Scholarship Program continues to award scholarships on an annual basis.

Dependents of CPOMF’s Honored Officers are eligible to apply. Applications must be received by June 1 to be considered for that year’s scholarship awards. Donations to this tax-deductible program are accepted on an ongoing basis. More information and an electronic application can be found on the CPOMF website at https://camemorial.org/scholarship-program/
THE CALIFORNIA PEACE OFFICERS’ MEMORIAL FOUNDATION PROUDLY RECOGNIZES OUR 2017 “WALK OF HONOR” SPONSORS

Mr. Chris Kelly and Ms. Jennifer Carrico-Kelly

Thank You To All Who Support The California Peace Officers’ Memorial Foundation

41st ANNUAL CALIFORNIA PEACE OFFICERS’ MEMORIAL CEREMONIES
May 7 & 8, 2017 • 10th Street at Capitol Mall • Sacramento
I never dreamed it would be me, my name for all eternity, recorded here at this hallowed place, alas, my name no
more my face. "In the line of duty," I hear them say; my family now the price will pay. My folded flag
stained with their tears; we only had those few short years. The badge no longer on my chest, I sleep
now in eternal rest. My sword I pass to those behind, and pray they keep this thought in mind.
I never dreamed it would be me, and with a heavy heart and bended knee; I ask for all here
from the past, Dear God, let my name be the last.

GEORGE HAHN, RETIRED SERGEANT
Los Angeles Police Department