Goodbyes are never easy.

For those of us in the fire service, we’re all too familiar with loss. We’ve all experienced joking with a brother or sister in the fire station one day and then hearing the news of their passing the next day.

It is part of the profession, and it takes our breath away each and every time that it happens.

As President of California Professional Firefighters and Chair of the California Fire Foundation, it is my honor to welcome all of you to the California Firefighters Memorial Ceremony.

Today, we say goodbye to 30 fallen firefighters, whose names will be added to the Memorial Wall of the California Firefighters Memorial. Eighteen of them passed away since the previous Memorial Ceremony. Twelve of them died in previous years, but are not forgotten.

People like Brother Glenn Allen, who missed the birth of his grandchild by a day, after perishing from injuries while fighting a house fire; Brother John “Superman” Tripodi, who contracted two forms of cancer and spent his last days helping other firefighters across the country who were also diagnosed; and Brothers Vincent Perez and Anthony Valerio, who died of injuries sustained in a flashover.

It is for these individuals … and those whom we have yet to mourn … that this Memorial stands. No matter when they may have left us, their courage lives on. Today, we honor their sacrifice.

Lou Paulson
President, California Professional Firefighters
Chair, California Fire Foundation
CA L I F O R N I A  F I R E F I G H T E R S  
M E M O R I A L  C E R E M O N Y

PRELUDE MUSIC

UNIFORMED FIREFIGHTERS PROCESSION

PRESENTATION OF COLORS  San Francisco Fire Fighters Honor Guard

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  Lew Stone, Secretary-Treasurer, California Professional Firefighters

NATIONAL ANTHEM  Amy Miller, Engineer, Contra Costa Fire Department

INVOCATION  Jim Miguel, Chief, Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department

WELCOME  Lou Paulson, President, California Professional Firefighters

“GOD BLESS AMERICA”  Sacramento Children’s Chorus

ON BEHALF OF CALIFORNIA  Governor Jerry Brown

REMEMBERING A FELLOW FIREFIGHTER  Brett Smith, Firefighter/Paramedic, Vallejo Fire Department

“CANDLE OF HOPE”  Sacramento Children’s Chorus

FLAG PRESENTATION TO FAMILIES  Demetrious Shaffer, Assistant Chief, Alameda County Fire Department

THE LAST ALARM  Dan Terry, President Emeritus, California Professional Firefighters

THE RELEASE OF DOVES  As a symbol of peace…and hope

RECESSIONAL
David Allan Kreske  
Captain, San Bernardino City Fire Department  
June 21, 2011

David Kreske was a valued firefighter and strong family man. He served San Bernardino City Fire Department for over 29 years and was known for his hard work, organization, sharp intelligence and attention to detail. He had a passion to teach young people about the fire service and the importance of becoming trustworthy and responsible adults. He loved spending time with family and friends. He enjoyed golfing, hiking, camping, snow skiing and cruising on his motorcycle. His life was cut short from complications of job-related esophageal cancer.

Anthony “Tony” Michael Valerio  
Firefighter/Paramedic, San Francisco Fire Department  
June 4, 2011

Known for his charismatic personality, quick wit, sense of humor and smile, Tony Valerio was a dedicated firefighter/paramedic for 27 years. He began his public service as an EMT in Oakland and in 1984, and was hired by the San Francisco Department of Public Health as a paramedic. He became a firefighter/paramedic in 1987. In his spare time, he was a scuba diver, surfer, hang glider, cook, world traveler and spoke several languages. He was 53 when he died from injuries sustained in the line of duty, doing the job he loved.

David Lawrence Powell  
Assistant Chief, California Emergency Management Agency  
May 29, 2011

David Powell had an unparalleled passion for the fire service. He started out his career with the Reedley Fire Department, where he worked his way through the ranks to fire chief before joining Cal EMA. His work ethic, passion and professionalism rubbed off on all who knew him and the departments he worked for. Outside of the job, David enjoyed farming, cooking and spending time with family, especially his four grandchildren. David passed away after a long battle with job-related kidney cancer.

Vincent Aceves Perez  
Lieutenant, San Francisco Fire Department  
June 2, 2011

Vincent Perez grew up in Bernal Heights in San Francisco and remained loyal and close to the friends he grew up with. He graduated from St. Charles Elementary School and Archbishop Riordan High School. Vince had a great sense of humor and loved restoring vintage cars and cruising his classics down Mission Street. A US Marine Corps veteran, Vince was previously a Deputy Sheriff in Alameda County and joined the San Francisco Fire Department in 1990. Vince lost his life while fighting a house fire.

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Scott Monroe Lynn  
Captain, CAL FIRE  
May 4, 2011

Scott Lynn, known by the nickname Rhino, had a lifetime of love for wildland firefighting. A native of Silverado Canyon, he began with the US Forest Service as a “hot shot” firefighter with the El Cariso Hot Shots. He later joined the Orange County Fire Department as a paid call firefighter and was promoted to an engineer and lieutenant for San Onofre Fire Department. In 1988, Scott moved with his family to the Lake Tahoe Basin, accepting a firefighter position with Tahoe City Fire Protection District. He reached a lifetime career goal transferring to CAL FIRE as a captain in 2002. He died of a job-related heart attack at 53.

Hank Zavaleta  
Captain, Long Beach Fire Department  
April 22, 2011

Hank Zavaleta was a devoted firefighter who always put family, friends and acquaintances before himself. He retired as a captain in 2003, after 17 years of service. When he was diagnosed with brain cancer, his true character was revealed, as he diligently forged ahead and never asked, “Why me?” Instead, he became an advocate for others who were newly diagnosed. He relished every moment he had with his family before he lost his battle to job-related brain cancer in 2011.

John Bruno Tripodi  
Firefighter, Central Fire Protection District of Santa Cruz County  
February 23, 2011

Firefighting is known to be a demanding occupation that requires commitment, perseverance, resilience and fitness. John B. Tripodi, or “Superman” as he was nicknamed by his friends, displayed those qualities in spades. John spent 16 years in the fire service working for the Central Fire Protection District of Santa Cruz County, but was medically retired after contracting two forms of cancer on the job. In the six years after his diagnosis, John didn’t just fight for his own life but became extremely active in helping other firefighters diagnosed with cancer across the nation.

Glenn L. Allen  
Firefighter/Paramedic, Los Angeles City Fire Department  
February 18, 2011

Firefighter/paramedic Glenn L. Allen followed in the footsteps of his father, an LAFD engineer, and joined the Los Angeles City Fire Department as an ambulance driver in 1974. He became a paramedic in 1976 and later cross-trained as a firefighter, spending just over 36 years serving the citizens of Los Angeles. Glenn had a true servant’s heart, always seeing to it that the needs of others were met before his own. To his family, he was a loving example of what a husband, father, brother and son should be. Glenn was 61 when he gave his life in the line of duty. His first grandchild was born the following day.
Scott Carnevale was a dedicated father and husband and an avid adventurer and outdoorsman. He was loved and respected by his colleagues, friends and family for his calm, integrity, dedication and dependability. Scott came to the Alameda Fire Department in 1997 and rose from driver to captain in 2010. He was a mentor to new firefighters, taking great pride in their success at mastering skills. He was also Captain Fix-it, able to fix whatever was broken at the station. Off duty, he piloted a Learjet 35 all over the U.S. for a drag racing team. He died of a heart attack after fighting a chimney fire. His son Robert continues in his footsteps as a firefighter for Quincy Fire Department.

Terrence Gee began his career in the fire service with the Sacramento Fire Department in 1985. He served as a firefighter for 25 years and was promoted to captain. He was acting emergency medical services captain and public information officer. His chief described him as the sound voice of reason. He was elected to the Board of Directors for Florin Fire District and guided the district through a merger with the American River Fire District. A strong family man, Terry coached his son and daughter in soccer for over 10 years. He died of job-related lung cancer at 54.

Scott Carnevale
Captain, Alameda Fire Department
January 3, 2011

Terrence Gee
Captain, Sacramento City Fire Department
December 20, 2010

James C. Saunders
Firefighter, Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District
October 7, 2010

James C. Saunders was a Navy veteran and a firefighter for Sloughhouse Fire, American River Fire and Sacramento Metro Fire Station 101 and 103. He was on the Board of Directors for American Legion Post 108 Ambulance Service and was assistant chief for Jackson Volunteer Fire Department. He had a heart attack while fighting a grass fire and died on October 7, 2010. He was 52. His last selfless act was to donate his organs.
**Gary L. Clark**
Battalion Chief, Los Angeles City Fire Department  
September 22, 2010

For 31 years, Gary Clark was a compassionate and hard working team member of the Los Angeles Fire Department. A graduate of USC, he rose through the ranks from firefighter to fire captain to battalion chief, leading and teaching by example. He was an exemplary role model to all he encountered and was always ready to encourage and mentor the young men that crossed his path. He was highly respected in his profession and was a great influence on many who joined and promoted within the fire department. He died from duty-related heart problems.

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**Mark E. Franks**
Captain, Brawley Fire Department  
September 20, 2010

Mark E. Franks dedicated 29 years of his life to the fire service in California and Texas as a well-respected, highly trained, hardworking member of the team. Though he held many fire certifications (EMT, Investigator, Haz Mat, etc.), it was his work as a certified FBI-trained bomb technician that he was especially proud of. He provided bomb tech assistance to both local incidents and high-profile events and received many honors for his work. Mark’s greatest joys in his life were his children and spending time with his family. He died of a job-related heart attack.

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**Rick Pascall**
Engineer, San Miguel Fire District  
October 1, 2010

Rick Pascall was hired by the San Miguel Fire District in October 1993, after a brief time serving with the US Forest Service. He became a fire engineer, which he called the best job in the world. He was humbled and honored to be a part of the amazing brotherhood he found at San Miguel and proudly drove his dream car, Engine 23. Off duty, he enjoyed taking cruises with family and friends and traveling to Montana. Rick passed after a valiant 2 ½-year battle with job-related melanoma. His favorite place in the world was Yellowstone National Park, where his ashes rest.

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**James Michael Owen**
Firefighter/Paramedic, Orange County Fire Authority  
September 16, 2010

James Michael Owen, who was better known as “Jimmy O,” joined the Orange County Fire Department in 1980, where he served as a paramedic, Haz Mat firefighter and Federal Urban Search and Rescue Team member. Those who knew him remember him as a compassionate, faithful husband, father and firefighter, who would literally give you the shirt off his back. Off duty, he enjoyed camping with his family, off-roading and surfing. He was also an avid fisherman, who often volunteered as a deckhand on a recreational fishing boat. He died of cardiac arrest while on duty.
t. 2002 • Honoring California’s Bravest
David A. Eden
Engineer, Santa Barbara County Fire Department
August 21, 2010

David Eden joined the Santa Barbara County Fire Department Hot Shot Crew right out of high school. In 1980, he became hot shot crew leader and in 1991, he became a fire engineer/inspector. During his career, Dave attended Allen Hancock College and later used his expertise to teach fire behavior and weather patterns and would make fire maps for the department. He was awarded Fire Fighter of the Year. A long-time resident of Lompoc and a member of Peace Lutheran Church, Dave loved spending time outdoors, especially camping and taking day trips with his family. He died of work-related brain cancer.

John W. Callahan
Fire Chief, San Luis Obispo City Fire Department
August 18, 2010

John Callahan was the epitome of a public servant and served his community with pride, commitment and integrity as fire chief for the City of San Luis Obispo from 2005 to 2010. He accomplished many tasks during his time with SLOFD including planning a new dispatch center. He was a member of the Los Angeles Fire Department for over 32 years prior. He was known for his quick wit, devotion to his family and for volunteering locally. He was an accomplished scuba diver, fly fisherman, softball player and loved to fly. He died of a job-related heart attack.

Leonard Karl Jenkins
Captain, Ventura County Fire Department
September 27, 2009

Leonard Jenkins had always dreamed of becoming a firefighter. His dream became a reality in 1974 when he was hired by the Ventura County Fire Department. He moved through the ranks to become captain, but his first love was being an engineer. He particularly enjoyed working with the hand crew and the dozer operators. Leonard was an inspiration to many, always encouraging others to reach their full potential. Off duty, he was a family man, who enjoyed waterskiing, building houses and riding horses, motorcycles and tractors. After retirement, he moved to Texas and got his pilot license. He loved flying. He died of job-related cardiac arrest.

David Parks Jr.
Captain, CAL FIRE
February 5, 2010

David Parks was known for his contagious smile that would light up the room and his love and passion for being a fire fighter. He loved his job and lived for it. His career began at Riverside City. In 1981, Parks took a position as a fire apparatus engineer with CDF and was promoted through the ranks to fire captain. He finished his career as captain at the Emergency Command Center in Perris. He passed away from job-related lung cancer at 54.

David Eden joined the Santa Barbara County Fire Department Hot Shot Crew right out of high school. In 1980, he became hot shot crew leader and in 1991, he became a fire engineer/inspector. During his career, Dave attended Allen Hancock College and later used his expertise to teach fire behavior and weather patterns and would make fire maps for the department. He was awarded Fire Fighter of the Year. A long-time resident of Lompoc and a member of Peace Lutheran Church, Dave loved spending time outdoors, especially camping and taking day trips with his family. He died of work-related brain cancer.

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**Ralph D. Urquiza**  
Firefighter, Los Angeles City Fire Department  
September 20, 2009

Ralph Urquiza wanted to join the fire service at an early age. The challenge and excitement of battling a burning building and helping others fueled his passion to master his trade. He received a Medal of Valor when he helped rescue a victim trapped in the rubble following the Northridge earthquake. He devoted his time to mentoring the Explorer Program. He was also a member of the original USAR Task Force and was working on his certification to travel worldwide as a USAR team member. His hobbies included camping, hiking and running, as well as spending time with his family. He died of a job-related aneurism at 52.

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**James Rose**  
Lieutenant, Brawley Fire Department  
February 3, 1997

James Rose started working with the Brawley Fire Department as a paid call firefighter on October 16, 1971. He was hired as a full-time firefighter nearly two years later. During that time, he moved on as an acting captain and assisted the battalion chief on duty. He was known for being a big part of the community, serving as a coach for the local little league team for many years. He passed away in 1997, after a long battle with job-related throat cancer.

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**Robert R. Nelson**  
Captain, Long Beach Fire Department  
May 3, 1997

Known as “RR” on the job he truly loved, Robert R. Nelson served for 21 years as a firefighter, paramedic and captain at the Long Beach Fire Department. The most important thing in his life was his family and he particularly enjoyed watching his son, Cameron, play football and never missed a game. His other off-duty passion was riding his Harley, often taking long trips with his wife and close friends on the department. His life was cut short when he succumbed to job-related lung cancer at the age of 53.

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**Elbert Roy Nelson**  
Captain, San Diego Fire-Rescue Department  
October 12, 1985

Elbert Nelson, known as “Nellie” by his crew, spent his 30-year career on the San Diego City Fire Department, beginning in 1952. He enjoyed taking on a multitude of additional responsibilities such as first aid captain, hose captain and often worked “out of classification” as battalion chief. He was responsible for training all San Diego firefighters in first aid, which later became the genesis of the paramedic program. He loved international travel, building block walls, pouring concrete and building his dream house for fun, all while doing anything for his kids. He died of a job-related dissecting aortic aneurism.
John Stanton Gallup III  
Firefighter, McClellan AFB  
March 1, 1977

Keith D. Kroll  
Engineer, Los Angeles City Fire Department  
December 9, 1979

Rodney E. Greeley  
State Forest Ranger I, California Department of Forestry  
November 12, 1984

Clifton Andrew Graves  
Assistant Chief, Sunset Whitney Fire Department  
May 20, 1983

John Stanton Gallup III

Strong, social, dedicated. This is the John Gallup his family, friends and colleagues will remember. A native of Vermont, John came to California in the early 1950s, where he served active duty at McClellan AFB in Sacramento. Post military, John became a civil servant at McClellan AFB as an aircraft mechanic and firefighter. With great pride, he served his town of Loomis as a volunteer firefighter for South Placer Fire for nine years, while running his quarter horse ranch. He became quite a skilled horseshoer. Soon after his disability retirement at the age of 47 and just days after becoming a grandfather, John died of job-related leukemia.

Keith Douglas Kroll was born on March 23, 1935. He began his career with the San Marino Fire Department in California before being hired on April 20, 1963 by the Los Angeles City Fire Department. During his 16-year career with the LAFD, he held the ranks of fireman, fire prevention inspector and engineer. Kroll died from job-related lung cancer at the age of 44.

Rod Greeley began his career as a seasonal firefighter with CDF in Mariposa County right after high school. In 1963, he received his first full-time position as an engineer in Tipton, Calif. During the next 16 years, he transferred to Visalia, Del Norte Ecology Center and Mt. Bullion CYA Camp, where he held positions of captain and fire crew supervisor. He ultimately found his way home to the Madera-Mariposa Ranger Station as a Ranger I. Rod’s devotion to his family and friends was obvious to everyone who knew him. At 41, he died unexpectedly from a job-related heart attack.

When family and friends think of Cliff Graves, they will always remember him as strong, dedicated, quick witted and good hearted. He had a great sense of humor and could put a smile on anyone’s face. He was also quick to lend a helping hand to anyone in need and was dedicated to his family, friends and the Sunset Whitney Fire Department. He collapsed of a heart attack while fighting a structure fire in the neighboring community of Loomis and died en route to the hospital. He was 39.
Lowell H. Wilcott
Engineer, CDF
October 28, 1972

Lowell Wilcott, better known as “Bob” in the fire house, spent nearly 20 years in the fire service as an engineer with CDF. A Navy veteran, Lowell worked at Northern California fire stations including Martinez, Contra Costa, Oroville and Manzanita during his career. Everybody loved him and he will be best remembered for his sense of humor. On his off-duty hours, he enjoyed camping, reading, dancing and traveling and particularly enjoyed taking day trips with his family and stopping at every fire station that they encountered along the way. He died of a heart attack, while on duty.

Donald Lee West
Patrolman, US Forest Service
August 14, 1958

Donald Lee West was only 27 years old and a 10-year veteran of the US Forest Service when he was killed on the job while patrolling for lightning fires in the San Bernardino Mountains. Don and firefighter Dennis W. Brayton climbed to a vantage point to observe for smoke. They noticed a storm developing behind them and started to leave the area for their safety. As they were retreating from the vantage point, both were struck by lightning. Don was killed by the strike and was unable to resuscitate.
Remembering My Father

Even before the loss of my father, Enrique “Hank” Zavaleta, the fire family has always been there for us in every way possible. Knowing that I can always rely and count on the men and women of the fire service is such a good and comforting feeling and I will always know that I am being helped and supported with everything that I do.

The California Firefighters Memorial is such an honor to just think about. Knowing that there is a memorial out there made for the fallen firefighters in California means the world to me.

To see my father’s name on the memorial makes me even more proud of him than I already am. I know that he is honored to have his name placed next to hundreds of other great men and women before him.

One of the most important and inspiring people in my life is my father. He raised me to be the person I am today. He taught me to be loyal, kind to others and he gave me a funny sense of humor. My dad went up and above his calling in the fire department and mapped areas that had no addresses for which he got firefighter of the year. I remember being so proud of him. My father was a good man and I looked up to him. When my dad got sick with cancer, it was a hard adjustment. My father changed into a different person due to the disease and he fought a hard fight. He could have let the sickness get the best of him but he wouldn’t let it. To this day, I still believe he was hanging on to see one of his kids graduate; he still wanted to watch my brother and I grow up. He always supported me in my life goals when I was younger and the dreams I wanted to pursue. I will always remember my father and the huge battle he went through and respect him and admire him deeply.

Tricia Eden and Jessica Zavaleta, whose fathers are honored today, are two of the 11 recipients who were awarded $2,000 Daniel A. Terry Scholarships this year. The California Firefighters Endowment was created to build a permanent and reliable funding stream to boost these scholarship awards for the children of these fallen heroes. The Endowment will change lives, open doors and preserve the opportunities for the children of firefighters who die in the line of duty.
decade in the making, the California Firefighters Memorial was dedicated on the historic grounds of the State Capitol in April 2002. Since its unveiling, the Memorial has embodied the honor, courage, duty and sacrifice of those firefighters and first responders that we have lost in the line of duty. They will not be forgotten. Today, we once again memorialize these hallmarks of the firefighting profession.

The centerpiece of this remarkable tribute is the Memorial Wall, where the names of over 1,100 firefighters who have died in the line of duty since California became a state in 1850 are inscribed. Adjacent to the wall are two statues.

_Fallen Brother_ reminds us of the shared sorrow that comes with every line of duty death. Built of bronze by Sacramento Battalion Chief Jesus Romo, it depicts an anguished firefighter pulling a lifeless brother from the flames.

_Holding the Line_ showcases four firefighters working a hose line to fight an unseen blaze. It captures the tenacity, teamwork and trust that are the hallmarks of the firefighting profession.
The Pipes and Drums of California Professional Firefighters

In the noble tradition of honoring our fallen brave, the Pipes and Drums of California Professional Firefighters was created to pay tribute to those who have sacrificed in the line of duty. The 26-member band is comprised of career or retired front line firefighters.