



Nassau County PBA NEWSLETTER

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MINEOLA, N.Y.

In Memoriam



Michael J. Califano

Nassau County P.B.A.

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From the Editor

by Brian Engelhardt

This edition of the PBA's newsletter is dedicated to the memory of Police Officer Michael Califano. All other PBA business and advertising for this month has been suspended in Mike's honor.

As you read the tributes and memories written by family, friends and co-workers you get a real sense of Mike's personality and his ability to touch those he came into contact with on a much deeper level. His undeniable love for his family, his compassion for the public he served and the support he displayed on a daily basis to the men and women he worked next to everyday is evident as you page through the articles and photos that follow.

Mike made the ultimate sacrifice doing his job and it is now our job, our mission, to protect the health, safety and welfare of his family. This tragic event has brought all of us, families, friends, co-workers and the public, the realization of the dangers of the job we do. We now must embrace this tragic unwanted experience, channel all of our energies and resources and help those who need us now as much as we possibly can.

When you sit back and realize that Mike was doing a job that we all do day in and day out, and that what happened that night could happen to anyone of us at moment's notice. It is now our job, our responsibility, to make sure that Mike's family is taken care of. That his wife Jackie does not need for anything, that his kids- Michael, Christopher and Andrew- are taken care of and never have to wonder how they can afford college.

The police family came together stronger than ever during this emotional period in our lives, from those in the department to those outside the department who volunteered their services and support. But I would be remiss if I didn't identify the PBA representatives that spent almost every waking moment making sure that Mike's family made it through this difficult time- Highway Trustee Bill Staker, Delegates Mike Vannes, Conor Walsh, Bob Delsignore and Adam Constantino and from the 1st Pct-Trustee John Carroll and Delegates John Bilello, Mark Lentini, Tommy Costello and Sean Mulligan.

1st Vice-President

by Pete Paterson

President's Message

by James Carver

POLICE OFFICER MICHAEL J CALIFANO NCPD SHIELD 2852 JUNE 6, 1966-FEBRUARY 5, 2011

On February 5, 2011 the Nassau County Police Department lost one of its finest, Michael J Califano, when he was struck by a truck while in his RMP on the LIE. I received a call at 2305hrs on the 4th from PO Alex Phillippas of the 3rd Pct who notified me it was a bad accident. After responding to the scene I then headed over to NUMC where the family was in the midst of being told of the circumstances. As the night went on and the ER continued to fill with friends, family and coworkers we all began to realize what type of man Mike was.

Mike was a man not only dedicated to his job but to his family as well. He was well respected by all who came into contact with him. During the days following his death while preparing for Mike's funeral I spent time with those that were close to him who relayed stories about his life. During those conversations I began to learn about his family. How he went through such tragedy after losing an infant daughter, Michaela, at the age of 6 and a half months. Losing her made his family stronger, made his faith in God stronger and made him stronger. They talked about how Mike was the type of man you would want to marry your daughter. That speaks volumes.

When we lost Mike that day we all lost a piece of us.

When we first discussed dedicating this month's newsletter issue to Police Officer Michael Califano, we felt that this should be done for several reasons. Everyone wanted to express some sort of recognition to Mike, not only for the ultimate sacrifice he made, but also to tell the story of a true hero; both on and off the job.

After his death, I spoke to a lot of co-workers and friends that knew Mike very well. Each member I spoke with said the same thing; Mike was just one of these great guys, everybody liked him. This was just not one or two guys saying this, this was everyone who knew him, or ever had any contact with him. A first precinct police officer relayed a story to me that when he was new, Mike was one of the first persons to approach him and offer any help that he needed. When you become a Police Officer, your first days on patrol are usually the most stressful. Every situation you face is new to you and you have a lot of questions and concerns. Mike recognized this and reaching out to a new cop to help him out was what Mike was truly about; being there for you.

I worked in RMP315 in the third precinct and one of my former partners, Jim Kelly, always used to say "as a cop, your reputation is everything. You have to earn it. What you do or don't do will determine this". Michael apparently lived his life to this belief. He was a great cop on the job as well as a great person off the job. His reputation will always be remembered and respected by all the members of the Nassau County Police Department and we will always be proud to have Michael as a member of our police family.

We will never forget the ultimate sacrifice that he made, and we will never forget the dedication and commitment to our department during his years as a Nassau County Police Officer. If you want to remember and respect Michael in the way that he truly deserves, then never forget him or his family. Be there for them, and never let his memory fade.

I would like to thank all the PBA representatives, especially the Trustee of H.Q.3, Bill Staker, delegates Conor Walsh, Mike Vonnies, Bob Delsignore, and Adam Constantino as well as the PBA Representatives from the First Precinct, where Michael formerly was assigned, Trustee John Carroll, delegates Tom Costello, John Bilello, Mark Lentini, and Sean Mulligan. All these guys were there for Michael's family the entire time and words cannot express their dedication and assistance to them. I also want to recognize all the members of the Nassau County Police Department who came out and did what they could to show their respect for our fallen brother. This was truly a family effort on behalf of the department.

Sergeant-at-Arms

By James McDermott

I just want to take this time to remember P.O. Michael J. Califano of Highway Patrol. As we all know Michael was killed in the line of duty on the LIE last month. Although I didn't personally know Michael, it still hurt like hell! I, along with hoards of other officers filled the corridors of NUMC Emergency Room. We were there in support of each other, family & friends. We all knew that the news of his condition was already determined, but we stayed, until there was nothing else for us to do.

Being there at the hospital, it was easy to sense what type of man Michael was. How many people he touched, what type of husband, father, brother, son, cousin, etc. from the painful emotions expressed upon hearing the tragic news. It became even more evident in the days to follow. As relatives, neighbors, friends poured into the Massapequa Funeral Home for the two days of wakes. The PBA Funeral Committee of Mark Lentini, Mike Schmitt, Brian McQuade, Bill Kennedy, Kevin Mullick, John Robertazzi, John Blanthorn, Tommy Houghton, John Meehan, Mike Covais & I were also accompanied by John Carroll, John Bilello, Sean Mulligan and Billy Purcell stood guard & greeted all who attended the wakes. Trustee Bill Staker, delegates Bobby Delsignore, Mike Vonnies, Conor Walsh & Adam Constantino stood by the Califano family throughout & tended to their every need. I watched as every person came in to pay their respects & tell us over & over again about how wonderful a father, coach, friend, neighbor, etc. Michael was!

I just want to give my whole-hearted thanks to everyone who attended the Funeral at Maria Regina Church in Seaford! We showed up in masse to show our support and for that we can be forever proud!

Family & Friends

Our son-in-law, Michael Califano, was recently killed while performing his duty as a Highway Patrolman. The death of Michael was devastating to all who knew him, but the devastation to his wife and sons is beyond words.

Michael went out of his way to help friends, family and even those who were just acquaintances. He always had time to lend a hand whenever possible. He was a man of faith and tried his best to live life as was expected of him.

When little Michaela was born and there was no hope for her to survive, Michael and Jackie never failed to be by her crib at St. Mary's Children's Hospital. The daily visits lasted for six months - without complaint - always thankful for another day with their little girl. When she passed hearts were broken, but God's will was accepted by Mike and Jackie.

Mike had a dry, but great, sense of humor, even if the joke was on him. He was a loyal friend, devoted father, son and husband. He would always put other's feelings and considerations before himself. As we all know, he worked hard to provide the best for his family. He took great joy participating in the activities of his sons. He even didn't mind doing lunch duty at school when necessary.

We all know, there are no words to express how much Michael will be missed, as holidays and celebrations will never be the same. We know he is watching from above - walking the streets of Heaven with his perfect little Michaela, and he will be watching over Jackie, Mikey, Chris and Andrew.

Rest in Peace Mike.

John & Lillian Yanch



Mike's family were guests of the Islanders on Friday, February 12. Top Row: Officers David Chiusa, John Bilello, Conor Walsh, Mike Vonnies, Dan Clarke, Michael Quagliano. Bottom Row: Jackie Califano, Michael's sons Christopher, Andrew and Michael; Jackie's sister Karen Greenwood and Jackie's brother John Yanch (on floor).



Mike at a costume party for his one year old niece this past October 2010.



Mike, Joe, Jordan and Michael.

Mike was a good friend of mine. He had a way of making us laugh at normal everyday things. Our families have the same interests. Mike and myself liked a lot of the same music. Often when our families got together we would play a little game kinda like "Name That Tune". I have a very large selection of music. Mike would always try to stump me with a song that he would bet I didn't have. Boy did we laugh at some of the requests he came up with. He stumped me once with the song, "Leader of the Pack" by The Shangri-Las. I swore I had it. I lost a couple of bucks cause I didn't.

The most unusual song he ever requested was a song called "Honeycomb" by Jimmie Rodgers. I never heard of it. Mike with all his talent attempted to sing it. Well that was funnier than the actual request. I said it was an unfair request because nobody on the planet except Jimmie Rodgers bandmates and maybe his mother knew the song. Well needless to say Mike stuck to his guns and won the debate. We raised up our Heinekens and had a wonderful weekend.

Regrettably, Mike had two more songs to surprise me with on our next ski trip, that I'll never know. We're gonna miss you Mike.

Love, Joe, Kathy, Joseph, Zach and Jordan Bortko

I planned to write about Groupon.com today, but unfortunately news taking place over the weekend redirect my thoughts to something far more important. We traveled "up island" this weekend. The plan was to stay the night at my in-laws on Saturday. Then on Sunday we'd watch the Superbowl at my buddy Jim's house. With my in-laws as built-in babysitters for the evening, we called friends to go out for drinks.

Eight of us were sitting at the table talking about random topics. Then Bob and Gav,

who are both cops, begin a conversation about a fallen police officer.

They explain that on Friday evening an officer named Mike Califano pulled over a truck on the Long Island Expressway. While he was writing a ticket a flatbed truck veered off the road and demolished Mike's squad car from behind. Mike was killed.

We spoke about the terrible tragedy for an hour. That led into conversations about Mayor Mike Bloomberg's new battle cry to rework (lower) the pension plans for civil servants. As you can imagine, Bob and Gav were defending their salaries and pensions. "We put our lives on the line, how much is that worth?" It's impossible to disagree with their argument, especially when considering the reality of unpredictable events, i.e., losing your life on the LIE.

The next morning I was eating breakfast with my father-in-law while he read an article about Mike Califano's tragic death. A retired New York Fireman, my father-in-law is all too familiar with the aftermath families face when losing their spouse or parent to a senseless death. He added his two cents, "You have no idea what this family will be going through in days and weeks to come."

Roughly ten minutes into our conversation my iPhone buzzed. I had a new email from an old classmate. She sent a broadcast blast to all alumni, it read: "Say a prayer for Jackie Yanch and Mike Califano." I sat in disbelief. Although Mike was the topic of my conversations for the past 12-hours, I didn't dwell much on his last name. It turns out he is the husband of my friend, Jackie.

I hadn't seen Jackie in decades. However, when I invit-

ed friends to my private screening of KING of the HAMPTONS, she was the first person to claim a seat. Warm smile, positive attitude, welcoming presence, Jackie is a really nice person.

Really nice people typically attract other really nice people, so I am left to believe Mike Califano was a really good person, to say the least. It pains me to think Jackie and her children must face the painful reality of losing Mike.

I am sure Jackie and her children will ask the question "WHY" over and over and over and over again in the days, weeks and years to come. They will cry as they are forced to say goodbye without a final hug, a farewell kiss, or a last chance to exchange the words we all live for, "I love you."

The civil servants who put their lives on the line each day are special people who take risks the rest of us cannot fathom. They deserve every penny and then some for the work they do today. They deserve every penny of the pension they will depend on tomorrow. However, Mike Califano will never get the chance to retire. He will never reap the benefits of a well-earned pension. He never had a chance to say goodbye to those he loved most. That's unfair.

Rest well Mike. Good luck Jackie.

Dennis M. Lynch

Mike loved dogs. He would always go out of his way (even when he was running late) to say hello to our dog Monte and the Campo's dog Shelly. He called our dog Monte Boy. Monte loved like too. Monte is a 110 lb. American Bull dog. Needless to say, he is very strong and when he wants, he can pull you to the ground.

Often, as Mike would be leaving for work, he would come over and give Monte a big hello and tons of attention. As he would start to walk away, Monte would try to follow Mike to his car. Mike would open his window and call, "Monte Boy" and then he would start to pull away as Monte would chase his car pulling me down the street until I let go of his leash (or fell on my face). Mike would be crackin' up and I would be screaming at him to stop. Mike was always the joker. One of the many qualities we loved about Mike. We will always miss him very much.

Love,

The Guidices

ESU

As I sit down to write some of my thoughts and memories on the recent tragic loss of Mike Califano. Let me first start out by saying that I am not a writer so if my spelling and grammar are less than perfect, please forgive me. When I heard that next month's PBA news letter would be devoted to the memory of Mike Califano. I thought to myself, what a great tribute to a great guy. As I began to think about this tribute, I felt the need to share some of my own memories of Mike. So, here I start I met Mike Califano

over 20 years ago when we were just two young guys working as corrections officers at the Nassau County Jail (AKA "The Nassau County Country Club"). I can recall even back then Mike and I talking about one day becoming Nassau County police officers. Well, we eventually both did become Nassau County police officers and so continued our careers in law enforcement. I can still recall those many years ago that Mike was always that same down to earth, true gentlemen that many here in the police family and the Sheriffs dept. came to know. In the years I have known Mike, it never mattered how much time would pass between seeing one another, we would always pick up the conversation as if we had just seen each other the day before. That of course was typical Mike. He possessed a great personality which always made you feel like one of his closest friends. It seems to me now that no matter where our career paths took us, he would always seem to appear out of nowhere and we would once again share some stories of our time at the jail, our families and what was new in our lives. When Mike was assigned to Highway Patrol we saw each other quite often. I can remember having many conversations with Mike in E- building and out on the streets we patrolled. I always remember the conversations ending in Mike saying "Wow, we been talking awhile, I have to get back out there". Those conversations also always ended with Mike smiling and chuckling which was also a Mike Califano staple.

As I now look back on those many years, I have come to realize that Mike left me, as well as the rest of us, with many great memories. It has also become clear to me that in the days and weeks that have passed since we lost Mike to the tragic events of that February night, Mike is still creating new memories for me and hopefully for all of you. My memories of responding to the scene at exit 39 on the LIE that night are very vivid. I can still see all the people from all different walks (Police officers, AMTs, fire dept. personnel and civilians) working together to free Mike from that wreckage. For me that will always be the hardest job I have ever had to undertake in my law enforcement career. The events of that night truly showed us all exactly what is meant by the word sacrifice. Today, as I reflect back on that night I also realize that Mike once again gave me some lasting memories. As our PBA president Jimmy Carver arrived at scene, I spent some of the early moments of this tragedy with him. He showed me why we chose him to be the leader of our PBA. He immediately set out to insure that Mike was properly cared for and that his family would be looked after. He also made sure that all of us at the scene were properly taken care of as well. All of our PBA representatives impressed me with the way in which they took control of this tragedy and in doing so helped Mike's family, as well as all of us to get through this extremely difficult and horrible time. I can also still see our very own Chief Kirby as he walked up the LIE toward us. From the time he arrived at that scene right up until I saw him standing shoulder to shoulder with all of the Highway Patrol family he has never once wavered in his support of Mike, his family and each and every one of us. He showed

us all what it means to step up in a time of need and why he has always said that Highway Patrol is his family. There are so many people I could list that helped us through a terrible time but what it always comes back to for me is that even though Mike is no longer with us, he was and still does have a tremendous impact on all of our lives.

When I now reflect back to Mike's wake and funeral. I am reminded of the tremendous number of people, again from all different walks in life, who turned out in support of Mike and his family. It was truly overwhelming to say the least. To see the love and admiration for this great man was the ultimate testament of who Mike was and what he meant to so many of us. As I walked around and shared some of my own thoughts and memories of Mike with those who had gathered to pay their respects to Mike, I was struck by the number of people who knew Mike too and how every story began and ended the same way and that is, what a truly nice guy, great family man and great cop Mike really was. For those who did not know Mike, they certainly came to know him in those many days after this tragedy and they too realized what we all lost that night. So, looking back I have come to realize that as many people as Mike touched in life, he has touched so many more since his passing. For me and I am sure for Mike's family that is one of the greatest things Mike has done for all of us.

I am also amazed at the strength that Jackie, their children and Mike's family have shown in their loss. I know that the strength they have shown us all is forged in the love that Mike had for all of them and the love that they all shared with him as their, husband, father, brother and son. I know that Mike was always very proud of his family and spoke of them often. We shared many family accomplishments together in our many conversations over the years. I know that as he looks down on all of them today, he is very proud and once again smiling just as he always did when he was still here with them.

I am sure at this point Mike would be saying, " Ok, enough already, this is not necessary", We all know this to be true because Mike was of course very humble and would be more concerned about his family and friends than himself. Unfortunately, Mike, we will not be able to honor that request. We will pay tribute to you and the sacrifice you have made for a long, long time to come. In a profession that is often times judged on numbers. Mike stood out as someone that I would think we would all aspire to be. He gave of himself to all the residents of Nassau County and in the end made the ultimate sacrifice for all of us and those very residents that he and all of us promised to protect when we raised our right hand. He was always a cop you could count on. I'm sure that you will hear over and over again about handling the many calls we as cops face each day, such as, car stops, domestics, fights or any of the many different types of calls we may encounter in a routine day. The one thing you will always hear from the many cops that worked with and alongside Mike is, "I turned around and Mike was always right there to lend whatever assistance was needed. "I can recall him being right in the thick of things on the many calls we handle on a regular

basis in ESU. He was always hands on in his assistance to us and always there to do whatever needed to be done. I am sure as I sit here today typing this that the stories you will read from the 1st Pct. and Highway Patrol officers who worked with Mike will be many. So, now that Commissioner Mulvey has assigned Mike to the Nassau County Police Depts. Emergency Service Unit, Mike will now be known from that day forward as an ESU cop. I for one, as I am sure that all of my fellow ESU cops and bosses are very proud to have Mike Califano as an eternal member of the Emergency Service unit. Seems that just as we started out together all those years ago at the Nassau County jail that now I will still have the honor and privilege of seeing Mike's name on our members plaque each day I go to work.

In closing, I would just like to say to Jackie their 3 boys and the entire Califano family that we will never forget Mike. He will live on in our hearts and minds forever. I know for myself and many of us, that when I think of Mike it will be with a smile on his face and that ever present chuckle. I wish to Thank You for sharing Mike with all of us. As they have been since that tragic night my thoughts and prayers are with you always. God Bless you all and may Mike Rest in Peace.

Ray Navarra Nassau County Sheriffs Dept. 1987-1993

Nassau County Police Dept. 1993- present

HPB

I met Mike shortly before we got into highway together in July 2008. Mike was a wonderful, laid back person with a great sense of humor and always in a good mood. He was a pleasure to work with and be around. We shared a lot of laughs, late night food runs, and BS-ing with the fellas. It was easy to come to work knowing Mike would be in the car next to yours. It won't be the same without Mike and he will truly be missed by all.

Rich Kerzner





L-R Standing: Rich Kerzner, Spiros Vouthos, Joe Oliveri. Seated: Mike Califano, Jimmy Martin, Frank Brynes.



L-R Standing: Rich Kerzner, Spiros Vouthos, Joe Oliveri. Seated: Mike Califano, Jimmy Martin, Frank Brynes.

First Precinct

When I started to work with Mike it was at a time when he and his family were going through and extremely stressful period dealing with the illness of his daughter, Michaela. Even though Mike was under a great deal of stress and strain you would never know it. Mike came to work, did his job and at the end of his tour he got dressed and went to the hospital to visit and care for Michaela. This continued for several months until Michaela's untimely death. The strength and courage that Mike showed day in and day out was incredible. His devotion and inner strength was greatly admired by myself and fellow members of the first precinct.

Mike was a very good cop who knew his job and he did it well. His outgoing and friendly nature allowed him to be well known and liked by cops, supervisors, detectives and civilians that worked in the First. Mike was never shy to be involved in a practical joke and he would often be seen laughing almost uncontrollably at a funny story or a practical joke.

Mike had a special gift that he was able to truly touch people in a positive manner. In the subsequent days after his death many stories were relayed to me about the funny and fond memories friends had of him. Mike has left a lasting impression on us all and he will be greatly missed. In times like this it might be cliché to say, "He was a great guy"

but in this instance Mike truly was, "A great guy". I'll cherish the time we had together and I'm proud to call him my friend and partner. Mike, I'll see you again someday. Rest in peace.

When you go home tonight don't forget to hug your family and keep Jackie and her boys in your thoughts and prayers.

Dan Clarke



FIRST PRECINCT GOLF OUTING: L-R: P.O. Daniel Clarke, Det. Mark Maniet, P.O. Carl Tedeschi, P.O. Michael Califano,



FIRST PRECINCT GOLF OUTING: L-R: P.O. Daniel Clarke, P.O. Michael Califano, P.O. Carl Tedeschi, Det. Mark Maniet.

ONE OF A KIND...

On our bus ride home from the First Precinct ski trip to Hunter Mountain on February 4th, I noticed the LIE was closed in both directions. There were emergency vehicles everywhere and the roadway was lit like it were daytime. Unbeknownst to us, one of our own was involved in the accident we had just passed. As we returned to Jackie Rielly's, everyone unloaded their ski gear and headed for home. That's when the calls started to come in. At first, I received a call informing me that it was Mike Califano who was seriously injured in the accident we had just witnessed. My brother-in-law Henry, a Great Neck Estates police officer, was with me and asked what was wrong. I told him about my friend Mike that I have worked with for ten years was in that accident and in serious condition. I

prayed for Mike at that point and about a minute later I received another call from a fellow police officer informing me that Mike had been killed.

I was in total disbelief. I didn't know what to think. How could this be? How could Mike not be with us anymore? Although I couldn't speak with so many thoughts going through my mind, I knew I had to call Danny Clarke, his former partner. It was a long ride home, I just couldn't accept what had happened. When I finally got home, I told my wife and cried.

When I woke up the next morning, I was hoping it was a bad dream. Seeing it on the news, it was reality.

Mike was a member of the First Precinct for 10 years and a long-standing member of Squad 2 (as we like to say "Squad 2 is second to none"). Mike, always even-keeled, was a great cop. He eventually found himself partnered in RMP 117 with Danny Clarke. I was fortunate enough to work alongside Mike and Danny in Roosevelt and we developed a great friendship. Mike was the quiet one, always sitting back and listening to the ribbing we gave one another. When he did chime in, however, he could barely keep it together. Breaking out in a belly laugh that would bring us all to tears.

Family was everything to Mike. Jackie and the boys meant the world to him. Back in 2003, Mike and Jackie suffered the loss of their daughter. We were there for him, providing support, he was not alone. We're a family.

Spending many hours, I got to know Mike rather well. I learned about his interests (as well as his quirks!).

He enjoyed his Harley and had a passion for working out and being fit. (As I see it, he had no choice....he had to carry around Danny Clarke for all those years!)

Skiing was another of his interests. He liked to take his family up to the in-laws place up in Vermont. On occasion, he would ski with the boys. Once, when skiing with George Hoeler, we were getting ready for the day at Hunter Mountain. Mike walks out of the room sporting a silver/ta shiny men's one piece ski suit...just dwell on that a moment...Mike in a too tight shiny one piece! George and I laughed uncontrollably. Hence, the name "Suzy Chapstick" was bestowed upon him... I didn't think that after the 70's they made them any more. Knowing Mike, he bought off a clearance rack. The more we made fun of it, the more he relished wearing it.

On the topic of Mike's frugality, one could write a book...For example, every year for the golf outing it was impossible to squeeze a nickel out of him in advance to pay for it. He would ask me if he could go on a payment plan of two dollars a week. Furthermore, he would explain, that he would probably not finish all 18 holes and would appreciate a pro-rated fee. I just shook my head at him. Undoubtedly, when ski season came around, he would try to strike up a similar deal to pay off the ski trip as well.

Then there was the time he was shopping around for a bicycle for himself...watching paint dry took less time that it took him to find "the best deal".... and finally, the renovation of his house... There were two types of contractors

that worked for Mike...those that were fired and those that wished they were! I'm really going to miss him.

I would like to extend my gratitude to all who were involved at the scene of the accident. As well, I would like to thank the PBA Executive Board for everything that was done in the days to follow for the Califano family. In addition, I would like to recognize Billy Staker, Mike Vannes, Connor Walsh and Bobby Delsignore for providing comfort to the family in the time of need.

Finally, I would like to extend my deepest sympathy and condolences to Jackie and the Califano family.

John Bilello



Michael Califano and son Michael, Ira Tobias and son Blake.

A TRUE BLUE BROTHER

On February 5th, 2011, we lost a Man who represented more than just a Uniform, a Patch or a Shield. We lost a man who every cop should emulate and strive to be. We lost a man who exemplified what it means to be a Nassau County Police Officer. We not only lost a friend but we lost a "Brother in Blue." What we "found" was, the Nassau County Police Department coming together as a collective group and delivered what Michael J Califano and his Family deserved, the outpouring of support that a family needs in this time of sorrow. This outpouring of support was incredible. From the members who stood with the family to make sure they had whatever they needed, to the members behind the scenes who took care of all the details that come along with such a tragic event. I would personally like to commend Billy Staker, Bob Delsignore, John Bilello, Mike Vannes and the many other members who sacrificed time from their own families to be with Mike's during these dark hours. I would also like to give accolades to Sgt Lebrun and his staff, for not only their professional-

ism and for coordinating the Funeral and Wake details, but for also withstanding the frigid temperatures during the viewing hours. Thank you to members of the 7th Pct who watched over Mike's house and also those who had the traffic detail outside the Funeral home. A special thanks to the PBA Executive Board for all their support and assistance to the Califano Family, HPB and First Precinct Trustees and Delegates.

I know Mike is more thankful than anyone at the caring and support that his Family is getting. Mike also knows that he will not be forgotten and that his Wife and Family will be looked after for years to come. May God Bless Mike's Family and help them get through the tough road ahead.

Mike started out as a Sheriff at the jail. Then he became a Member of the First Pct when he joined the ranks of NCPD. He eventually ended up in Highway Patrol Bureau. There are probably a dozen acronyms that could describe Mike but these I feel are his best attributes:

S-strength	F-friend
	I-integrity
	R-resolve
	S-spirit
	T-thoughtfulness
H-honor	
P-professionalism	
B-brave brother	

As Policemen, we go through our daily routines taking a lot of things for granted. I feel that one of the most underappreciated aspects of our job is the performance of EAB and the AMT's. They provide a tremendous service to our County residents and fly under the radar on a consistent basis. They respond to infants having seizures, to the elderly coding on a regular basis. On the night of Mike's passing I personally witnessed the response and professionalism of AMT Daniel O'Keefe. Danny was present in the Trauma room after Mike was pronounced @ 0027 hrs. Without going into detail he took complete and utter control of the situation. He orchestrated the entire staff present in the trauma room to get Mike ready to be presented to the Family. I observed his caring and sensitivity to Mike's brother Charley who was also present. Danny deserves to be recognized for what he did under the strenuous pressure. His quick thinking and calmness will not be forgotten.

Please keep Mike and his family in your Hearts and in your Prayers!!!

Thanks to each and every Member of the PBA and Police Department.

Thomas Costello, 1st Precinct Delegate

I met Mike seven years ago in the first precinct. Like many of us I came from the city and the transition to Nassau was to say the least a culture shock. But meeting Mike and working with him truly showed what this job was really about! He took time and care with each assignment and exemplified what professionalism means. We should all hope to be the cop, the father, and the friend he was to everyone. Mike you will be missed.....Rest in peace brother.

Chief Mahepath

Michael Califano was one the nicest men I have ever met in my lifetime, when you would meet him he always reminded me of a true gentleman. I knew him at work and I met up with him at school with his sons, Mike would always say hello with a big smile and he never seemed to have a complaint about anything, very rare these days. I was sorry to see Mike leave the precinct, he really was a professional Police Officer, he will not be forgotten.

Kevin Driscoll



L-R: Mike Califano, John Hanrahan, Dan Corry, Brian Shea.

Corrections Dept.

I was grief stricken with the tragedy involving Mike Califano. I had known Mike since we attended the Nassau Sheriffs Dept. Academy in 1988/89 where Mike became a friend and a fine officer.

After Mike left the Sheriffs Dept. for the NCPD & Highway Patrol, we would occasionally cross paths in the NUMC prison ward. There we would catch up on our careers, families and friends and have a great time through Mike's contagious laughter and caring personality.

We were all better off with a person like Michael J. Califano in our lives. Ask anyone who knew him and they would immediately say "nicest guy in the world."

Hopefully, the incredible show of support from all agencies has eased the burden of grief somewhat for Mike's wonderful family.

We miss you Mike!

John Kellington, NCSD

FAREWELL TO A QUALITY OFFICER

Before he was a police officer in Nassau County, Michael Califano was a correction officer at the county jail ["In the line of duty," News, Feb. 11]. It was my honor to work with this young man. He was what every officer in law enforcement strives to be:

He was respectful, professional and extremely competent. Mike always had a hello for you, along with a smile. The police department's gain was our loss, and now we share in their tragic loss.

My heartfelt sympathy goes out to his entire family not only as a colleague of Mike's but also as the mother of a police officer. I will always have fond memories of a wonderful person whose life was a testament of what a quality person should be.

Ann Grella, retired correction officer



Second Precinct

I write this in tears with a heavy heart:

I remember when Mike was a rookie assigned to the 1st Precinct. He was a quiet guy always smiling and having a look of enthusiasm. As I would find out talking with him, both Mike and I had 10 years of previous law enforcement experience, Mike, with the Nassau Sheriffs Dept and me with the NYC Police Dept. The thing that stood out with me about Mike was his smile and optimism (something I believe I had lost along the way). You could just tell he was so happy to be a Nassau Cop! I had lost that feeling after 14 years but I found, after speaking with a cop like Mike, I could find it again. The few times I worked with Mike I'm sure I did several unorthodox things or told war stories that, hopefully, he got a laugh out of. I did leave the 1st Precinct shortly after Mike arrived, but I have had the privilege of working with him for several years doing security. I would see Mike periodically here and there and he would always be sporting that smile and optimism, that same smile and optimism that gave me rejuvenation in doing

this job. Mike will forever be eternal in my heart. He would be proud to know that his boys have that same look even in sorrow. May God Bless Mike and his Family..... Our Family.

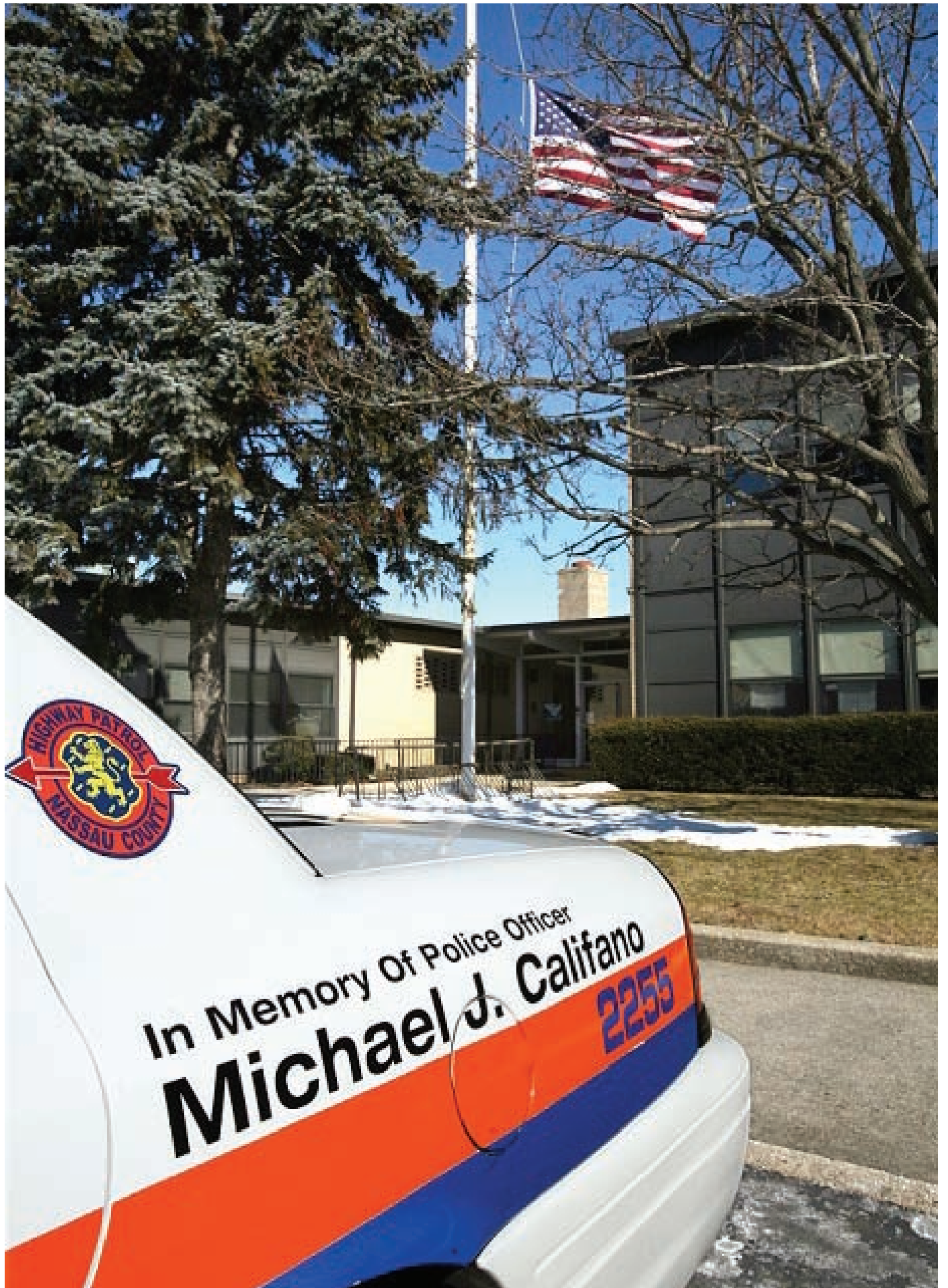
Paul Catanzaro

2nd Precinct Delegate

Third Precinct

When the PBA made the decision to create a commemorative newsletter in the memory of Mike Califano, I couldn't pass up the opportunity to express my feelings about a truly genuine person. I have known Mike for about 23 years. Mike and I worked as Correction Officers at the Nassau County Correctional Center for six years in the same platoon (squad). I left the jail in 1993 for the NCPD. About four years later, Mike called me at home and told me that he had just been called for the Nassau PD but wasn't sure he wanted to take the job. I completely understood where he was coming from, since, at the time, the jail was a great place to work. The camaraderie amongst our co-workers was second to none, the money was good and to say it was an interesting place to work would be an understatement. With that said, I proceeded to tell Mike that he would be out of his mind if he did not take this job. Sure, it's a little tough at first, having to go through another academy and making ends meet with the starting salary what it was, but I told him that it was the best move that I had ever made and that he would be perfect for this job. Well as you all know, Mike took the job, went through the academy and was assigned to the First Precinct. Every time I ran into Mike thereafter, he had a big smile on his face and told me that he couldn't be happier with his decision to take this job. Mike was a pretty quiet guy on the outside, but once you got to know him, you realized what a funny guy he was. Most of all, Mike was the ultimate gentleman who would give you the shirt off his back. I never met Mike's family, but it is very easy to believe the recent stories that I have heard about the type of great father and husband he was. I will miss him and think about him often. I will also think about Mike's family and keep them in my prayers. I went to the Islanders game on the Friday after Mike was laid to rest where Mike's wife and three sons were in attendance. They had a very nice ceremony before the game honoring Mike where his picture was shown on the scoreboard during a moment of silence. The Islander players acknowledged Mike's family by skating to the corner of the arena and pointing their hockey sticks toward the sky box where Mike's family was seated. I understand the kids received Califano Islander jerseys and were visited by injured Islander defenseman Mark Streit who signed autographs and informed the family they would be taken to the Islanders' locker room after the game. As a seventeen year season ticket holder, I

continued on page 14





Third Precinct Continued from page 11

thought this was one of the classiest things that I have ever seen and my thanks go out to the Islanders' organization. All of that was not even the most amazing part of the night. The announcer had said, prior to the game's start, that the Islanders were dedicating the game to Mike. The Islanders are having a horrible season, but on that night, they looked like the greatest hockey team of all time. The Islanders played their hearts out and trounced the Pittsburgh Penguins by the score of 9 to 3 in a fight filled game where 20 players were ejected. I haven't seen that kind of determination in the Islanders in all my years as a fan. Mike, if your listening.....I don't know if you had anything to do with that game or not, but if you did, I would appreciate it if you could deliver a Stanley cup to Long Island in the next couple of years. I am very proud to call myself a Nassau County Police Officer and to be part of a Police family who really came together in their support of our fallen brother and his family. Mike and his family will be in our thoughts, always

Bill Purcell.

I was fortunate to have known Mike Califano. We were hired by the Nassau County Sheriffs together in 1988. I sat next to Mike in the Academy at the Welwyn Estate, Glen Cove. We had a good class, Pete Fusco and Mike Larmony were with us also. Mike was 21 already confident, always calm with that great sense of humor. We would push each other during P/T runs up and down those North Shore hills, sometimes laughing while we were running.

Those were some good times. We worked the tiers together for a few years, I went to P.D. I remember the phone call like it was yesterday, "Billy, I just got called for P.D. 'Wow, Mike.' Yeah, but Billy, I got 10 years on here in corrections. I'm not sure if I want to start over"

"That's great Mike, but you are calling me so I can talk you into coming over to P.D., right?"

I knew that Mike wanted to, I knew that he would.

Mike was the coolest guy...did anyone ever see him lost that cool? I never did.

My deepest sympathy goes out to Mike's family, friends, everyone lucky enough to have known and loved Mike.

We have lost our best!

William Detmars

Fourth Precinct

I was friends with Mike Califano. We used to talk and joke around at CTS, he was a great guy, he was a dedicated father and husband, and he was the type of guy who would help anyone out at any time. It's a terrible thing what happened to him.

Ryan McGauley

As someone who had the pleasure of knowing and spending time with Michael Califano only one term comes to mind "WHAT A GREAT GUY". I graduated the Police Academy with Michael in company 98-3. It was a tremendous loss losing a fellow Police Officer and a classmate of 98-3. During the years of seeing Mike at the range or various training, he always had a smile on his face and laughing about something with that great sense of humor. I was speaking to a fellow 4th Pct member Billy Ditmars at Mike's wake. At the time I did not know that Billy also was a classmate of Mike's in the Sheriffs Academy. I could already predict what Billy was about to say before he said it "WHAT A GREAT GUY" which is exactly what Billy said about Mike. It is a tremendous loss to lose someone like Michael Califano from this department who was such a well respected Police Officer amongst his peers and his friends.

Joe Paduano

Fifth Precinct

It was an honor and a pleasure to know Mike Califano. I was lucky enough to have Mike as an FTO in the first precinct. Mike taught me everything an FTO is expected to teach, and a lot more.

During field training, Mike impressively noticed an expired inspection sticker on a southbound vehicle while we were heading northbound. After stopping the car and running the license, we returned to the RMP. With the guy's license in one hand and one leg out the car door, Mike leaned over to me and asked expressionlessly, "So ... what do you want to do?" His leg still out of the car meant my answer determined whether we were staying or going. I responded like a politician, with colorful ideas but gave no real answer. I finally decided to give the guy a nice hand full of paper and we drove off. Afterwards, we talked about the use of discretion, which lead me to believe it was a test on my indecisiveness. It wasn't ... which I later figured out. What Mike was telling me was to do what I feel "I" should do. He'd always ask me what I thought we should do. He always deferred to me.

With Mike, the only place where there was no room for "opinions" was when he talked about putting away time and money for our benefits. He was very knowledgeable about the ins and outs of benefits and retirement, which as a recruit, was the furthest thing from my mind. Both Mike and I were disappointed our prior time as peace officers did not carry over so putting away money and time for family was especially important to him, and he urged that I do the same. We talked about this as if it was a graduation requirement,

and over the course of field training, we would return to this same conversation time and time again.

When we were in the first precinct gym, another P.O. came over to me and said "look guy I'm gonna have to move ya". Mike was on another machine and said "Brendan you don't have to move anywhere". Small recruit vs. large sweaty cop ... I of course moved and said, "no problem". Mike though smiling, went on non-stop for the rest of our workout lecturing the cop ... of course without missing a beat on his own workout. The guy finally apologized and asked if I thought he was as rude as Mike said he was. I told him it was ok and suspended honesty for the moment. Our conversation for the remainder of that day was about how to talk to people, whether they are civilian, cop, or recruit ... there is no caste system here. Mike made that very clear. He was a true "cop's cop".

I remember we were at the relieving point one morning, standing outside, joking with some of the guys. Mike standing with his arms folded, pointed with his head at a guy's belt and calmly stated "So ... no gun today?" His pal only moved two things ... his eyes, which shot open a good 2 inches, and his right arm which flew to his holster at a speed that would make the range personnel proud. Of course his gun was there. His buddy sounded a sigh of relief and showed a grin that mirrored Mike's, which meant, "OK ... you got me".

One time I ran into Mike at detention. Unfortunately, we were able to exchange only a few words because as you all know ... the door, the gun-belts, the prisoners, the yelling to hurry up and come in, or hurry up and get out, all get in the way of having a legitimate conversation with people who are coming and going. I was however able to tell him that I loved the fifth and I'm doing ok, he responded with "I know" as he was still shaking my hand backing in as I was backing out the door. I never got a chance to thank Mike for not screaming at me for putting the car in drive instead of reverse and scraping the under side on a concrete divider. He only looked straight ahead and said 5 words calmly ... "nope, no good no good". I guess he figured the embarrassment was punishment enough. Or maybe then he "knew" I would be good regardless. How could I not be, I was trained by Mike Califano.

There are too many people in the department for us to all meet one another. If you never had the pleasure of meeting Michael Califano you missed out on knowing a great person. What you don't have to miss out on was what he stood for: Treat all people, cops and civilians, alike with the respect you would wish for yourself or your family. Good cops are made from good people. An imbalance in one will affect the other. Put away time and money for your family. That is why we are all here. Enjoy the times you have with your family and friends and the people you do this job with ... and now we all know why.

Sincerely and proudly,
Brendan Gibbs

The responsibilities and tasks that are placed upon the woman or man involved in Law Enforcement make their job the hardest in the world. As such, it takes a very unique and special individual to become a Great Police Officer.

Michael J. Califano was that special person and Great Police Officer. When Police Officers would judge each other, Mike would always come out on top. He was the Officer that his peers would want to work with. All officers in the First Precinct knew very well that by working with Mike, they would have an extremely competent, capable, brave, well-grounded, composed, and fair partner that day. We would all jump at the opportunity to work with Mike!

In his private life as well, Mike exemplified all of the positive attributes that any great person would want to possess. To list all of these qualities would take forever. Some, however, need to be pointed out. Mike was a great Dad, always proud and loving of his family. Mike was also a great Catholic, practicing a living faith. Mike was always positive and fair in his dealings with the public and coworkers alike. Mike had a great sense of humor and he was a very giving person. In addition, Mike was a patient person. If you encountered Mike somewhere, he would take time out of his hectic day to speak to you about how *your* life was going. Clearly, Mike's actions and words proved that he was a Gem of a man both in his work life and his personal life.

I think I speak for all of my fellow Nassau County Police Officers who have known or worked with Michael J. Califano when I say that it was our Pleasure and Great Honor to have known and worked with him! To honor and pay tribute to our great friend Mike's life, we should all try to emulate him in our daily lives from this moment forward.

Sergeant Vincent E. Polera
First Precinct P.O. - 1987-2008
Fifth Precinct Sgt. - 2008-Present

Sixth Precinct

In Memory of Police Officer Michael Califano

The loss of a loved one is a very hard thing to deal with. The loss of Michael was a blow to his family and friends, as well as to his extended family in the Nassau County Police Department, and the community he served. One doesn't realize when you sign on and take this so called "job" that you become a part of something much bigger. I say so called "job" because to most of us it becomes more than just a job, it becomes who we are, a piece of the fabric that makes us the individuals that we are, and we all become part of one big family. On my way to the church the day of Michael's funeral service, I was walking on Hicksville Road with a group of other Officers when an elderly woman slipped and fell on some ice in the roadway. Immediately she was surrounded

by Police Officers assisting her to her feet. As Police Officers we are always on duty, being ever so watchful, alert, observant and helpful, it becomes second nature to volunteer and to help. The same thing holds true for the large and ever present Police Family that we become a part of. We take care of our own, and we will be there to lend a hand or a shoulder to cry on. We will be there when times are tough and help is needed. We will be there to support, guide or even just to talk. I didn't know Michael personally, but the things I have learned about him from speaking to people who did makes me feel like I missed an opportunity to know someone great. If he was half the man that people say he was it would have been an honor to have known him. Michael's spirit will live on in all of us just as the others who have passed before us. Every time a Police Officer helps an innocent victim, a sick or injured person or takes a bad guy off the streets, Michael's spirit will be there with the spirit of all the fallen Officers giving us strength to carry on.

Ed Conroy.

THE FINAL INSPECTION

The policeman stood and faced his God,
Which must always come to pass.
He hoped his shoes were shining.
Just as brightly as his brass.
"Step forward now, policeman.
How shall I deal with you?
Have you always turned the other cheek?
To My church have you been true?"
The policeman squared his shoulders and said,
"No, Lord, I guess I ain't,
Because those of us who carry badges
can't always be a saint.
I've had to work most Sundays,
and at times my talk was rough,
and sometimes I've been violent,
Because the streets are awfully tough.
But I never took a penny,
That wasn't mine to keep....
Though I worked a lot of overtime
When the bills got just too steep.
And I never passed a cry for help,
Though at times I shook with fear.
And sometimes, God forgive me,
I've wept unmanly tears.
I know I don't deserve a place
Among the people here.
They never wanted me around
Except to calm their fear.
If you've a place for me here,
Lord, It needn't be so grand.
I never expected or had too much,
But if you don't.....I'll understand.
There was silence all around the throne

Where the saints had often trod.
As the policeman waited quietly,
For the judgment of his God.
"Step forward now, policeman,
You've borne your burdens well.
Come walk a beat on Heaven's streets,
You've done your time in hell."

Author Unknown

Seventh Precinct

In the early morning hours of February 5, 2011 I received the message that Mike Califano was fatally injured in the line of duty. On behalf of the 7th Precinct, our deepest sympathies go out to the Califano family - we pray that God watches over them and protects them.

I had the pleasure of meeting Mike two short years ago on the side job we both worked. Due to our chart we shared many of the same days off, making our side job schedules coincide. I often worked with Mike and cannot think of a time that he did not greet me with his infectious smile followed by a funny story to get our day started in a positive way. Even after just finishing a night tour, Mike was ready to go without a complaint.

I never had the pleasure of meeting Mike's family, but I felt as if I knew them from the stories Mike shared. It was clear that Mike was a family man and loved them very dearly. Those of us who were fortunate enough to know Mike are truly blessed - he will be missed, but never forgotten.

Tom McCaffrey

Eighth Precinct

February 5 2011, we all felt the tragic loss of one of our fellow officers. I had the honor of knowing and working with " Michael Califano. We worked together in the First Precinct, squad 2. He was a hard working honest cop who always had your back. His quiet likeable disposition made everyone feel welcome. Whether he was at a call, relieving point or family party he always had a smile. When most of our crew left squad 2 to go to different commands, we left Mike and his partner, Danny Clarke, in 117 car. The two of them were a perfect fit. The laughs we had will never be forgotten.

Mike's good-natured demeanor never changed even when he was going through his own personal tragedy. We all know that he is in heaven now with his little girl Michaela. Mike has left a solid foundation of good values for his boys and was truly an astounding family man.

Mike will be greatly missed by all especially in his one piece Suzy Chapstick ski suit on the slopes. On behalf of the Eighth Precinct supervisors, cops, detectives, civilians and myself we send our deepest sympathy to Jackie and the Califano family.

Your friend and brother in blue,
Joe Gaffney

Michael Califano was a cops cop a true gentleman. The Nassau County Police Department is a brotherhood and now we must be here for one of our own. All of us are now the aunts and uncles to Mike's children. We must reach out and do all we can do for Jacqueline in her time of need. In closing I want everybody to remember Mike and his family in their prayers.

James Rail
8th Precinct

THE WIDOW'S BADGE

She packs away the folded flag so true
With his uniform of blue,
She packs away his shiny boots,
And finally, his blue hat too.

She holds his badge in her hand
Her tears reflecting in its shine,
Wishing with her broken heart,
That she could hold him instead, just one more time.

Her fingers trace his badge
Almost with a life of their own,
As tears fall silently down her cheeks
And the rising winds began to moan.

Caressing his badge
As it lies in her hand,
She stares at its number 2852.
The badge once worn with such delight.

Became a widow's badge tonight,
As it reflects her sad face in its shine,
She wipes another tear away
and just holds her children tight.
Still wishing for one more night
she could hold her husband tight.

Headquarters

After learning about the tragic death of a dear friend Police Officer Michael Califano I took it very hard and found it very difficult to take. Never in my adult life have I ever felt such sadness as I did on February 05, 2011.

I have worked with Mike for over 23 years in Nassau County Law Enforcement. I knew him both personally and professionally. Together we worked over at the Nassau County Sheriffs Department and I can honestly say that Mike was a fun, caring, sweet guy that had your back each and every day no matter what. Both of us left there and made our way over to the Police Department. Mike always cared about others. When he and I saw each other he would always ask how I was doing. I will always remem-

ber his voice telling me "don't you worry about anything Zak, things are good"

For the last few years I have had the privilege of maintaining the officer's memorial stone out in the front of headquarters and the front lobby display case of officers KLOD. From now on the displays will take on an even deeper feeling for me. I will always keep Mike's memory alive.

Rest in peace brother.

.Steve Zacchia

Air Bureau

This past month brought home the fact of the dangers of our job. On February 5th we lost a brother, Michael Califano. Michael was killed while performing a traffic stop on the Long Island Expressway. I didn't know Michael, but other members in our unit who knew him and worked with him told stories of what an outstanding person he was. He was proud to be one of Nassau's Finest, and proud to be a husband and father. Going to the wake and seeing the massive amount of people or turning for the final approach with the helicopter flyby and seeing the 'sea of blue' outside the church is a true testament of love and support from family and friends and 'the job' to the Califano family.

Our thoughts and prayers will continue to be with them. Thank you to New York City, Suffolk, and New York State Aviation Units for having your helicopter be part of the flyby for Michael's funeral.

Ted Plezia

Columbia Police Assoc.

On February 7, 2011, the Officers and members of the Columbia Police Association voted unanimously to make Police Officer Michael J. Califano an honorary member of our association. The association constitution and by-laws state that an honorary member is a person that has good morals and character and brings honor to the association. Mike was one of Nassau's finest and a Hero to many. Mike will be long remembered for his kindness, morals, and friendship as well as his role as a loving husband and father. Our prayers are with him and his family. May God bless him and may he rest in peace.

Shomrim Society

The Shomrim Society mourns the passing of Police Officer Michael Califano. May god bless him and his family.

Emerald Society

Sadly, on behalf of our Executive Board and entire membership, it is my duty to extend our condolences to the Family, friends and colleagues of Police Officer Michael J. Califano of the Nassau County Highway Patrol who was killed in the line of duty last month. Please keep his loved ones in your prayers. May he Rest In Peace.

Retired Members

The Retired Members send their deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Michael Califano. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

My name is Michael Beil, Serial Number 4573, Sh.239, retired from HPB Nassau 10/09/92. I went off the Job as a result of a disability incurred while making an arrest.

I am heart broken over the recent loss of Michael Califano and would like to extend my sincerest condolences to his family. At present I am the Grand Knight of the Fr. Jeremiah J. Reilly Council # 6561 Knight of Columbus, Sacred Heart Church, Merrick, NY. At our council meetings we are including a prayer in memory of Michael Califano and his family. May the Lord Our God look after his family and keep them safe.

Mike Beil, Grand Knight.

ARPO

All the officers and members of ARPO express our deepest sympathy to the Califano family on the tragic death of husband, father and Police Office Michael Califano of the Nassau County Highway Patrol Bureau. May he rest in peace.

Running Club

In remembrance of our fellow officer Police Officer Michael J Califano

"When a great man dies, for years the light he leaves behind him lies on the paths of men"

- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

"Those to whom we say farewell are welcomed by others" - Anonymous

"It is not the length of life but depth of life"

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

"One life. A little gleam of time between two eternities"

- Thomas Carlyle

"A friend who dies its something of you who dies"

- Gustave Flaubert

"Our dead are never dead to us until we have forgotten them" - George Eliot

"He kept at true good humour's mark the social flow of pleasure's tide

He never made a brow look dark

Nor caused a tear but when he died"

- Thomas Love Peacock

"The courage of life is often a less dramatic spectacle than the courage of a final moment, but it is no less a magnificent mixture of triumph and tragedy. A man does what he must, in spite of personal consequences, in spite of obstacles and dangers and pressures and that is the basis of all morality" - John F Kennedy

"There are few things more difficult to appraise the work of a man suddenly in his youth; to disentangle "promise" from achievement; to save him from that sentimentalizing which confuses the tragedy of interruption with the merit of the work actually performed"

- Ezra Pound

"There can be no rainbow without a cloud and a storm"

- JH Vincent

"The dead cannot cry out for justice. It is a duty of the living to do so for them" - Lois McMaster Bujold

"Some people come into our lives and leave footprints on our hearts and we are never ever the same - Flavia Weedn

"Good night sweet prince, and flights of angels sing thee to thy rest" - William Shakespeare

Rocco Sinisi





I now have a new and much loved extended family.

*There are not enough words to express my gratitude
to everyone in the Nassau County Police Department*

—Jacqueline Califano







Michael J. Califano Memorial T-Shirt

Donations Are Being Collected For Mike's Family.

\$20 For Short Sleeve Black T-Shirts

\$25 For Long Sleeve Black T-Shirts

(The above logo is printed on the left chest area)

Sizes Available:

Youth Medium And Extra Large and Adult Small through 4XL

To Make Donations:

Contact Your PBA Trustees & Delegates

OR

Chris Venezia - HPB - 2253 - Squad 5

631-514-1284 - Cell





Patrolman
Alexander N. Benedict
02/03/1930



Lieutenant
John E. Dowd
04/30/1929



Patrolman
Fred S. Hirsch
05/06/1931



Patrolman
Alvin J. Borgwardt
02/25/1932



Patrolman
Milton E. Verity
02/23/1932



Patrolman
John D. Kennedy
07/12/1932



Patrolman
Lawrence E. Duncan
10/12/1925



Patrolman
Arthur J. Klepper
12/01/1921



Patrolman
Alexander N. Benedict
02/03/1930



Patrolman
Charles H. Shaw
09/06/1940



Lieutenant
Alexander H. Shaw
07/02/1920



Patrolman
William K. Schubers
05/13/1954



Detective
John E. Daly
10/28/1957



Patrolman
Louis A. De Francesco
11/28/1957

A Policeman's Prayer

*Lord, I ask for courage;
Courage to face and conquer own fears...
Courage to take me where others will not go.*

I ask for strength;

Strength of body to protect others...

Strength of spirit to lead others.

I ask for dedication;

Dedication to my job to do it well...

Dedication to my community to keep it safe.

Give me, Lord, concern;

For all those who trust me...

And compassion for those who need me

And, please Lord, through it all; be at my side



Patrolman
William Trifemuk
05/14/1961



Detective
Kathleen M. Reilly
12/25/1967



Patrolman
Richard B. Rose
12/29/1971



Police Officer
Matthew F. Giglio
12/16/1975



Police Officer
George R. Kappen
11/14/1976



Patrolman
Michael J. Kavanagh
05/29/1977



Sergeant
Robert L. Pickwick
05/17/1978



Police Officer
Daniel J. Coote
12/16/1979



Police Officer
Gary L. Coote
03/07/1991

In Memory of
Michael J. Califano



End of Watch: February 5, 2011



PLEASE SEND DONATIONS TO:

**The Michael J. Califano Memorial Fund
c/o Nassau County P.B.A.
89 East Jericho Tpke.
Mineola, NY 11501**