

City Mourns Loss of One of Our Own

DATE: April 8, 2008

CONTACT: Fire Chief, Tony Pol 814/870.1400

apol@erie.pa.us

(ERIE, PA) - Firefighter Michael David Crotty, 24 years old, Deputy Chief of Lawrence Park Volunteer Fire Department, and a newly hired Firefighter for the City of Erie Fire Department.

Tuesday afternoon @ 3:54 pm, Lawrence Park Fire Department, in mutual aid support of the Harborcreek Fire Department, along with Brookside, Fairfield, Wesleyville, and the North East volunteer departments were summoned to Port Erie Plastic Company, 909 Troupe Road, Harborcreek Township.



Michael Crotty

Firefighters were fully engaged in fighting the blaze, located next to the main complex of the facility. Deputy Chief Michael Crotty of the Lawrence Park Fire Department assumed command of the fire grounds. Several firefighting apparatus were being utilized to fight the fire. In the course of the incident, Deputy Chief Michael Crotty suffered fatal injuries.

The circumstances surrounding the death of Michael Crotty are currently being reviewed by Fire officials, in conjunction with the Erie County District Attorney's Office and the Pennsylvania State Police.

Michael Crotty was a member of the Lawrence Park Fire Department of the last 6 years; he was hired by the Erie Fire Department on January 14, 2008, and assigned at Engine 6, 3rd Platoon; he was a US Air Force Medic, honorably discharged on August 25, 2007. He was currently on the list for the New York Fire Department.

Michael was a lifelong resident of Lawrence Park Township and is survived by his parents, David and Barbara Crotty, and brother James. He is the nephew of Chief Joe Crotty of the Titusville Fire Department, Maureen Crotty, member of the Lawrence Park Fire Department, and Timothy Crotty of the Erie County Department of Public Safety. The Crotty family has a long history in public service to this community.

Friends, family and fellow Firefighters may call Thursday 7 to 9 p.m., Friday 4 to 6 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. at Iroquois High School auditorium 4301 Main St. Funeral Mass will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Our Lady Mercy Church 837 Bartlett Road, Harborcreek, Pa.

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