

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY RISA VETRI FERMAN HONORS WEST NORRITON  
TOWNSHIP POLICE SERGEANT GEORGE F. OPELSKI WITH FALLEN HERO  
PLAQUE DEDICATION**

District Attorney Risa Vetri Ferman, together with West Norriton Township Police Department Chief Robert Adams and James Binns, founder of the Fallen Hero Plaque Program, honored the Sergeant George F. Opelski on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011 with a Fallen Hero Plaque. Sergeant Opelski died of a heart attack in the line of duty on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 1998. A plaque was dedicated to Sergeant Opelski at the West Norriton Township Police Department, recognizing his ultimate sacrifice.

Sergeant Opelski suffered a massive heart attack and died while at the West Norriton Township Police Station after answering a Disturbance Call. Sergeant Opelski joined the West Norriton Township Police on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 1963. He served as a Patrol Officer until he was promoted to Sergeant on March 17<sup>th</sup>, 1975. He was a 23 year veteran of the West Norriton Township Police Department, and had served as Sergeant for 11 years before his death. He was a United States Marine Corps Veteran from 1956-1959. He was a member of St. Francis Church in Norristown, a United States Marine veteran (1956-1959), and a member of the Montgomery County Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #14. Sergeant Opelski attended St. Matthews High School in Conshohocken, Penn State, the 36th Session of Inter-County Detective School, and Police Supervision I.A.C.P. 1980. In his spare time, he enjoyed playing golf. He was survived by his wife, Molly, and their three sons Francis, Michael and Stephen. The Montgomery County Cops Hero Program sponsored Sergeant Opelski's plaque.

District Attorney Ferman said, "Today we are here to honor the memory of Sergeant George Opelski. Sergeant Opelski left his home the morning of September 13<sup>th</sup>, 1998 as if it were just like any other day. But we must remember that any day for a Police Officer still means facing the dangers that lay just around the corner. Sergeant Opelski's plaque will stand as a reminder of those dangers, whether they be in or outside of the Police Department, Officers will enter and be reminded of Sergeant Opelski's sacrifice. He will be remembered as an outstanding law enforcement official, and a tremendous husband, father, son and brother."

Approved for

release:

Risa Vetri Ferman