

New Hanover Township Sergeant A. Wesley Faust E.O.W. 5/22/1977

On May 22nd, 1977, Sergeant Faust, in his 7th year serving law enforcement was assisting an accident scene on Swamp Pike in Limerick Township when he suffered a sudden heart attack at the scene. He is survived by was wife and three children. He gave his life May 22nd, 1977.

The Faust family traveled from Missouri and Kentucky to be present at the dedication ceremony. Surviving generations of the Faust family will have the ability to honor Sergeant "Pop" Faust by visiting the New Hanover Township Police Department. His plaque hangs next to the police entrance of the building, not only reminding officers of their fallen comrade but reminding them how much the community thanks and remembers the officers who dedicated their lives to protecting the citizens of Hanover Township. DA Ferman explains the significance of an officer's duty and sacrifice: "It is so important that no matter how we lose an officer, no matter how he or she makes that ultimate sacrifice that we remember them, we remember their heroism, and their courage and their service and commitment and we honor them." Founder Jimmy Binns has memorialized 267 fallen heroes since beginning the program. Binns said: "no greater love hath a man than to lay down his life for his friends. More importantly...when Our Lord singled out one profession out of all the professions...and he said to the assembled multitude that "blessed are the peace keepers for they shall be called children of God" as Sergeant Faust is." Montgomery County Commissioner Chair Josh Shapiro said: "Today is a stark reminder of the freedom and safety we are able to benefit from; these individuals go out each and every day and put us first. If you think about that willingness to put the community before self, that willingness to put your life on the line so that someone else can enjoy their freedom and their safety and their security just a bit more, that is truly the ultimate calling and truly the greatest thing one can do for the community."

"Sergeant Faust's dedication and his commitment to duty are commended, for heroes are people who do what has to be done regardless of the consequences. Wes Faust's plaque will be attached to the wall at the officer's entrance to this police station and every day when the officers enter the building they will see Sergeant Faust's plaque and be reminded of his dedication and commitment to duty, serving the community of the New Hanover Township"- quotes New Hanover Chief of Police Kevin McKeon. Two of Faust's children, Debbie and Wesley, remember their father simply as "Pop". Daughter, Debbie, recalls referring to her father as "Poppy Darling"; she was his darling and he was hers. Not only does his family commemorate the life of "Pop", community members sent letters to the family recalling memories of the kind-hearted "Pop the Cop" who served their community honorably. One community member recalled the time they lived alone and constantly forgot to lock their doors at night. Once "Pop" heard this news, he stopped by the house every night to lock the doors if they were unlocked. Son, Wesley, remembers his father as a man who would not back down: "He knew who he was. If you needed help, he'd be there. If you needed advice he'd be there. That was "Pop". If anyone here wants to remember him as "Pop", I'd be proud to share him with you".