

## Pottstown Borough Officer Thomas W. Corum E.O.W. 1/20/1964

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On the January 20<sup>th</sup>, 1964, Patrolman Corum encountered two brothers, Paul and Charles Davis. Charles was armed with a club. Patrolman Corum attempted to arrest the brothers for assault charges and a struggle ensued. During the struggle, Patrolman Corum suffered a fatal heart attack and later died. He was fifty eight years old at the time of his death and had served eighteen years at the Police Department. At the time of his death, he was survived by his wife, Rose, his son, Thomas, Jr., and his daughter, Elise May.

Patrolman Corum joined the Pottstown Borough Police Department on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 1945. Prior to joining the Police Department, he was employed in manufacturing and worked for Flagg's in Stowe, Pennsylvania. He was a volunteer and active with the Local Boy Scouts and was recognized by the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement. Patrolman Corum's nephews, James Corum and David McDonald, attended the ceremony.

District Attorney Ferman said, "It takes a special kind of person to assume this position. We are grateful and appreciative of the sacrifice our law enforcement officers make for us on a daily basis. The significance of public service does not lie with the matter through which we lose an officer, nor does it lie with how he or she makes that ultimate sacrifice, rather, we remember them for their heroism and courage, for their service and commitment, and we honor them. Patrolman Corum's plaque will service as a reminder of his dedication and duty, and will serve as a token of our appreciation for law enforcement, as a community."