

Conshohocken Borough Officer Eugene J. “Chick” Lucas E.O.W. 8/13/1917

Officer Lucas was forty nine years old when he made his ultimate sacrifice on August 13th, 1917. On the day of his sacrifice, Officer Lucas and Officer Cliff Campbell were serving an arrest warrant on Michael Antoleni wanted for Desertion and Intent to Kill. As the officers entered a third floor room in the Citron Building located on the corner of Elm and Fayette Street the wanted subject fired several shots at the officers, one of which struck Officer Lucas in the neck. Officer Lucas staggered out of the building, up the street to the local doctor’s office and collapsed at the door, losing his life shortly after. The individual who shot Officer Lucas escaped from police and was on the run for five years until he was captured on October 30th, 1922, and died in the Pennsylvania Eastern State Penitentiary in 1937. Officer Lucas was survived by his sister and brother.

Officer Lucas’s name is etched in honor at the Montgomery County Fraternal Order of Police Monument located at the Montgomery County Courthouse in Norristown, PA and at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. Officer Lucas was originally from Lebanon, Pennsylvania and settled in Conshohocken twenty years prior to his death. He was a successful business owner and a noted welter weight boxer. He was also a long distance walker who competed in national events.

District Attorney Ferman said, “It has been almost one hundred years since Officer Lucas made his ultimate sacrifice for his community. Today is a prominent reminder that time has passed but our respect for law enforcement remains strong, as we see here today and at each Fallen Hero Ceremony. We are here to show our respect and esteem for those who have chosen to put themselves in harm’s way. Officer Lucas did just that. He left his home on August 13th, 1917 never to return again. Officer Lucas’s life was taken from him and we will never forget that. This plaque will stand with the building and officers will pass by and remember Officer Lucas for his sacrifice and dedication to the citizens of Conshohocken Borough and Montgomery County.”