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Message from the President

Kathleen Jane England, State Bar of Nevada President



Sacrifice, Honor and our Gratitude

"Greater love has no one than this, that
he lay down his life for his friends."

John 15:13

That beautiful biblical quote appeared in the memorial program for Stan Cooper, the federal court services officer slain on Monday, January 4, 2010 at the Lloyd D. George Federal Courthouse.

Stan died protecting the people in that courthouse. The tragedy of his death offers us an opportunity to reflect on loss, grief and the honor of sacrifice of a life well lived, and to thank him and all others who protect us every day.

Stanley W. Cooper was born in Tulsa, Okla. on September 30, 1937. He devoted his entire professional life to law enforcement. Stan started that long law-enforcement career in Tulsa, where he worked as a motorcycle officer for five years. After moving to Las Vegas, Stan worked for the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD) for 26 years. During those 26 years with LVMPD, Stan served as a patrol officer, motorcycle officer and internal affairs investigator, ultimately achieving the rank of sergeant. After retiring, Stan was hired as a federal court security officer on July 19, 1994.

Stan worked for 16 years in both the Lloyd D. George and Foley Federal courthouses in Las Vegas. Stan is survived by one brother, four sons, one daughter, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Stan's memorial service on January 11, 2010, on a beautiful winter afternoon in Las



Vegas, fittingly celebrated his life. The haunting and mournful sound of a U.S. Marshals Service's bagpipe band complemented the honor guard of Metro motorcycle officers in formation in the funeral cortege, including the rider-less horse, the traditional means of honoring a fallen officer. Numerous dignitaries offered their condolences and thoughts during the service, but perhaps the most touching eulogy was offered by fellow Court Service Officer Michael Gerrity, who worked alongside Stan at the federal courthouse for many years. Gerrity made us laugh with personal stories about things such as Stan's fondness of doughnuts, and made us cry with stories of Stan's dedication and compassion for others. Gerrity's stories about Stan reminded us that sometimes seemingly ordinary people are called upon to do extraordinary things. We are grateful that they do.

Thank you, Stan, for always greeting me with a smile, and, most of all, for protecting everyone who came through those courthouse doors, especially on that one tragic day. Thank you, Stan, for reminding us that we should thank and honor all of your colleagues and co-workers at the Lloyd D. George courthouse, and every other courthouse, for protecting us each and every day.

Deputy U.S. Marshal Joe Gardner was also wounded in the attack and is recovering from his injuries. His family has expressed their appreciation for the care and concern of members of the legal community.

Memorial Fund Established

To honor Stan's sacrifice and legacy, Stan's court services employer, Akal Security, has established a memorial fund in his honor. All funds will be forwarded to Stan's family. Akal will make a substantial donation to the fund, in proportion to the donations received, and will forward the names of all contributors to the family. To be able to track and acknowledge contributions, Akal asks that donations be made by mailing a check to the following address:

The Stanley Cooper Memorial Fund
Akal Security, Inc.
7 Infinity Loop
Espanola, NM 87532

Additional information on the fund can be obtained by e-mailing cooperfund@akalsecurity.com. ■