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CAPTAIN CORY J. BARR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

In Loving Memory of Captain Cory J. Barr

In the spring of 2016, Cory joined us in Milwaukee, Wisconsin for our 11th annual Honor Guard Clinic. From the moment he arrived, it was clear to all of us—both instructors and fellow students—that Cory had a deep passion for service. His dedication wasn't just to his community as a member of Sun Prairie Fire Rescue, but also to his brothers and sisters within his department.

Cory was an outgoing and engaging individual, often found in the evenings conversing with students and instructors alike, sometimes late into the night. His warmth, humility, and selfless commitment to others left a lasting impact on all who met him.

On July 10th, 2018, Cory responded to a reported gas leak in downtown Sun Prairie, at the same intersection where he and his wife owned a local bar and restaurant, and just a block away from the firehouse where he worked. Alongside his brothers and sisters in the fire and police departments, Cory helped evacuate the area and worked tirelessly to mitigate the dangerous leak. Tragically, while on the scene, a massive explosion occurred, destroying several buildings including the bar and restaurant he and his wife owned injuring Cory severely. He had just exited the building when the blast tore through the area, and, despite the best efforts of his brothers and sisters, Cory succumbed to his injuries.

Cory left behind his beloved wife, two young daughters, and countless family, friends, and co-workers who were deeply affected by his loss. Many of our instructors had the privilege of attending and the honor of taking an active part Cory's funeral, which was so widely attended that it had to be moved to the local high school to accommodate all those who came to honor him.

In honor of Cory's legacy, his unwavering passion for service, and his dedication to those around him, we established the Cory J. Barr Memorial Scholarship in his name. This scholarship is awarded annually to a deserving student who embodies the same commitment to service that Cory did every day. It covers the cost of registration for all three of the courses we offer, leaving only transportation, lodging, and evening meals for the student to cover.

If you feel called to carry on Cory's legacy of lifelong dedicated service, we invite you to apply for this scholarship. The application form is available below.

We continue to keep Cory's family—both at home and at work—close in our hearts and memories each day. Cory exemplified what it truly means to be of service to others, and we are honored to have known him, called him a friend and a brother