A Volunteer Sheriff’s Deputy Gives Her All

By Jim Knudsen

On Monday, April 15, 2015 Jasmin Martinez passed away due to complications from a brain aneurysm suffered while on duty serving as a Reserve Deputy Sheriff for the Alameda County Sheriff’s Office. Since 1991 Jasmin has volunteered hundreds of hours to assist with law enforcement in Alameda County.

On March 9, 2013, while driving a Sheriff’s patrol car in Castro Valley, Jasmin first complained of a severe headache and then had a seizure. Fortunately, her partner that day was able to stop the car safely and called for medical assistance. Jasmin was transported by ambulance to Eden Hospital where doctors did their best to stop the internal bleeding in her brain. Sadly they were not successful and told her only son, Tito, that she may not survive.

Jasmin didn’t pass away; she remained comatose for two years. Tito chose to keep his mom at his home. He set up a hospital bed in the living room and cared for Jasmin every day. Tito is a police officer in Salinas and he and his wife are raising two small children.

Jasmin Martinez, End of Watch, April 15, 2015, was added to the 100 Club Memorial Wall at Lone Tree Cemetery in Hayward on May 7, 2015.
Sue Kuipers – Winter Dinner 2015 Speaker

We have received many compliments for our Winter Dinner Speaker, Sue Kuipers. Sue is the Associate Pastor at Christ’s Community Church in Hayward. She has been a law enforcement chaplain since February 2011 when she was appointed as Hayward PD’s first chaplain. A year later she joined the chaplaincy programs at San Leandro PD and for the Alameda County Sheriff’s Department. Her connection to law enforcement traces back to the early 70’s when Sue’s father was with Hayward PD as a Community Service Officer (formerly known as police assistants). Unfortunately he was killed in the line duty on June 29, 1974. Below is her speech from the Winter Dinner.

Good Evening.
As many of you know, 1974 was a significant year in the history of the Alameda County 100 club. That was the year that Martin C. Kauffman formed this local chapter. 1974 was a significant year for law enforcement too. That year 280 officers nationwide died in the line of duty. That was the highest number in any year since 1791 when records first began being kept, and on through till today.

1974 was also a significant year for the Hayward Police Department. On June 29th of that year Police Assistant Robert Reed, was attacked and killed by a prisoner attempting to escape custody. And 1974 was a significant year for my family. Robert Reed, or Bob, as he was known to practically everyone, was my father. I had just turned 17.

It was a different time back then. The Vietnam War had not yet ended. The scandal of Watergate dominated the nightly news and we as a country were struggling with questions about social norms, civil rights and equality for women. Policing was different back then too, as vintage officers of a certain age will tell you. The use of Kevlar vests was still in its infancy. Back then we as a society did not recognize or understand such things as PTSD or emotional trauma. When an officer faced tragedy, either personal or on the job, he or she was supposed to “suck it up” and move on. Homicides, suicides, child deaths, officer involved shootings, death of a fellow officer—all of these were considered “just part of the job that you signed up for”. If someone dared to admit to struggling with these as well as the stresses of trying to juggle family concerns, incompatible shift hours and mandatory overtime all the while dealing with an increasingly ungrateful and hostile public they were told: “If you can’t stand the heat, get out of the kitchen”.

Fortunately, we’ve made a lot of progress in law enforcement since then. Along with improvements in equipment, tactics and training we recognize that it is just as important to offer not only physical protection and resources to our officers but also emotional and spiritual support as well. Today agencies offer Employee Assistance Programs, Peer Support Teams, and Chaplains.

On February 8th, of 2011 it was my very great honor and privilege to become the first police chaplain for my father’s agency. Many of you are perhaps not familiar with what a chaplain does, so I’d like to give you a brief overview.

Police Chaplains are clergy members of various faith traditions who have received specialized training in the unique culture and concerns of law enforcement. We offer a variety of services in order to provide emotional and spiritual support to members of law enforcement and their families. That might mean anything from simply being a listening ear who can assure confidentiality to assisting at scenes of tragedy by providing comfort and counsel to victims and family members. Chaplaincy is frequently referred to as the ministry of presence because often it’s not about doing or saying anything spectacular but rather just showing up and being available. As chaplains, we are ecumenical which means we support and serve people of all faiths as well as those who have no particular faith tradition. The same is true for my fellow chaplains who serve our fire firefighter agencies.

In my time as a chaplain I have had the privilege of being allowed a unique place in the lives of the men and women whom I serve. I get to see past the public face of the badge and glimpse the hearts that beat beneath the Kevlar. There I see hearts of compassion and integrity that yearn for a world where truth and justice are the norm rather than aberrations. I see hearts that seek to bring peace to their communities by maintaining order, and to be effective agents of change by challenging those who would prey upon the weak and protecting the rights of law abiding citizenry. But more than that, I see the hearts of ordinary men and women who chose to live extraordinary lives by standing in the gap between good and evil for the sake of people they don’t even know.

For those of you who support this organization in its mission, thank you. You have no idea how much your support means to the members of our police and fire communities. Recently I received a note from an officer who had been severely injured by a suspect. I, along with many others, had stayed with his wife at the hospital during his surgery on that long, long day. His words to me were “Thank you for taking care of my family when I could not.” And that is the message I have for you. “Thank you for taking care of the families of our officers and firefighters when they cannot because they have given their lives in the line of duty.

For those here who've lost someone they love in the service of their community. With your permission, I’d like to share just a few brief thoughts as a fellow traveler of that very difficult road.

First of all, please do not let bitterness get a foothold in your soul, because if you do, you allow the evil that took your loved one to triumph.
Sue Kuipers Speech (continued)

Second, don’t be afraid to grieve as you need to, recognizing that there will come a day when that razor sharp pain of loss dulls a bit to a lingering ache, and more importantly know that that lessoning of pain doesn’t mean that you are forgetting your loved one, but rather that you are remembering their life through your commitment to live yours.

Third, when you are ready, I would like to be so bold as to ask that you further honor their memory by following the example that they gave you by finding a way to serve others as they themselves did.

And finally, look to whatever faith foundation in which you find comfort, hold fast to hope, and make love your aim. In the scriptures of my faith tradition there is a passage I find most comforting.

“Now I see things imperfectly as in a poor mirror, but one day I will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but one day I will know everything completely, just as I have been fully known. There are three things that will endure forever -- faith, hope, and love -- and the greatest of these is love.”

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your evening. God Bless you all.

Welcome To Our New Board Members!

We are pleased to introduce our five new board members.

Craig Bueno
Craig and his Wife Jennifer have resided in Livermore for 30 years. During his 28 year career with the Hayward Fire Department, he earned promotions to every operational rank and was ultimately appointed Fire Chief. The early years provided an opportunity to serve the membership of Hayward Firefighters IAFF Local 1909 where he served on the Executive Board for thirteen years, leaving as their President when promoted to Battalion Chief. During the next nine years he would serve as President of the Hayward Fire Chief’s Association until appointed Fire Chief in December 2007. Craig is a Life Member of the 100 Club.

Thomas Gratny
Tom was born and raised in Southern California. After high school, he attended the University of Santa Barbara and then served in the U.S. Army. After his enlistment, he and his law enforcement partner left law enforcement to manufacture the Kel-lite flashlight. He then moved to Half Moon Bay, CA to help start a company with his brother. In 1982 he began working as a memorial counselor at Skylawn Cemetery and has been in the cemetery industry ever since. He is a Subject Matter Export for the California State Cemetery and Funeral Board. His position as General Manager, Vice President allows him to work with Victims of Violent Crimes in Alameda County. Tom and his wife Sandra have two grown children, with one of them following Tom into law enforcement. Tom was also involved with the construction of the 100 Club Memorial at Lone Tree Cemetery.

Danielle Murphy
Danielle Murphy is 28 years of age. She has two psychology degrees, and is working on a Masters Degree at JFK University in Walnut Creek. Danielle is the granddaughter of original Board member Don Murphy, and the daughter of current Board member Dan Murphy. Danielle has a unique awareness of the Club history and purpose. She knew both Marty and Linda Kauffman. She grew up with an understanding of the Club from both her grandfather and father. She is extremely excited to add to the multigenerational stewardship of the Club and to protect its purpose. She has been helping register at the summer BBQ for the past 5 years, and then assisting with the cleanup crew. Danielle hopes to serve the club by assisting Patty Goodman in her capacity as family member liaison, a responsibility that requires an innate empathy and the ability to communicate. Danielle’s education, innate kindness, compassion and empathy, along with Patty’s guidance, will help her to serve the Board with distinction. Danielle is a Life Member of the 100 Club.

James J. Penna
James is a native Californian, born and raised in Oakland, California. His family has resided in Oakland since the early 1900s. James has been a businessman, a serviceman (retired Coast Guard), and member of numerous social, civic and professional organizations. Closest to his heart have been those opportunities for service, mentorship and leadership through his engagement with the Colombo Club. James also served as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Graduate Theological University in Berkeley, California. Since 1978, James has served Alameda and Contra Costa Counties as an attorney specializing in business, estate and tax planning law. James was also appointed by the State Controller Gray David in 1992 to serve as a Probate Referee of the Alameda County Superior Court. James is a life member of the 100 Club.

Jerry Thorne
Jerry was recently re-elected to his second term as Mayor of the City of Pleasanton. He has been very active in the city of Pleasanton and Alameda County. He has a strong business background and approaches every task with a great deal of enthusiasm. We know he will make an excellent Director of the One Hundred Club of Alameda County.
John Paul Manzella - 1928-2015

John was one of the original Alameda County 100 Club Directors/Members. When the club was in its infancy, Marty Kauffman would hold meetings at John's restaurant in Hayward, Manzella's Loft. John had a passionate commitment to the 100 Club and was never afraid to voice his opinions at the meetings. He was always involved in many ways. Whether supplying the tableware, aprons and the delicious sausages for years the membership enjoyed at the annual barbecues or sitting at the check in area with his lovely wife, Lola, selling pins, decals, hats and promoting the club...John was always there. His daughter, Janice Bartholomew, is also involved and always at the check in desk. Even though John's health had declined in recent years he always made sure he could attend most meetings and events for the 100 Club. John's presence, wonderful smile and sense of humor will be sorely missed by all. May he rest in peace.

From Our Family Members…

Dear 100 Club,
As we are approaching our 6th anniversary on the loss of my husband, Mark Dunakin, Sgt OPD EOW 3-21-09, I wish to express my sincere appreciation. Thank you so much, not only for the financial support, but especially for the emotional support. My daughter, Sienna, is finishing up her 2nd year at Chico State. She is thriving! I am so proud of her. My youngest, Patrick, will be starting high school next year. He is doing extremely well. He is on a basketball team, through a league he began playing with last spring. My oldest, Anthony, turned 21 in January. He is still finding his way and figuring things out. Again thank you so much! Angela Dunakin. Love The Dunakin Family.
(Wife of Mark Dunakin, OPD, EOW 3-21-2009)

To The 100 Club of Alameda,
Thank you so much for the $500 check in memory of my husband, Ramon Irizarry. We are so blessed to be thought of and supported by such a caring organization. Gratefully Yours, Brenda Irizarry and son.
(Wife of Ramon Irizarry, OPD, EOW 1-18-1983)

Dear 100 Club,
Thank you so much for the generous Christmas gift and college money.
Love, Sienna Dunakin (Daughter of Mark Dunakin, OPD, EOW 3-21-2009)
Join us for the:

Annual Summer Barbeque
Wednesday, August 5, 2015 - 5:30 PM – Alameda County Fairgrounds

Alameda County Fairgrounds
4501 Pleasanton Avenue
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Gate 12

ALL Members and any of your prospective members or
Public Safety Guests Are Welcome!

*Advance reservations are required!*

No charge for members. Guest price for Public Safety Officers and prospective members is $25

☐ YES! Count me/us in for the BBQ – I/We am/are a member(s) in good standing
  Name(s) __________________________________________________________

☐ YES! Count me/us in for the BBQ – Enclosed are my/our dues.
  Name __________________________________________________________

☐ Please make a reservation for my/our guest(s) - (I am sending $25 today) *
  Name of the Public Safety Employee(s) ________________________________
  Department(s) ____________________________________________________

☐ Please make a reservation for my/our prospective member(s) – (I am sending $25 today)*
  Name(s) ________________________________

* Make checks payable to “Martin Kauffman 100 Club of Alameda County” and send to:
  100 Club • 767 Brannan Place • Concord, CA 94518

To make a reservation:
Please mail this form to: 767 Brannan Place, Concord, CA 94518
Send an email: MK100Club@astound.net
Call Christine at 510.818.0337
Fax this form to: 925.566.8590

*Reservations needed by Noon on July 27, 2015*

If you do not receive a confirmation within 24 hours please call the club office at 510.818.0337
**100 Angels**

Our ongoing goal, with your continuing support, is to have the Angel Donors cover 100% of Operating Expenses. We strive to have 100% of our dues assist the surviving families of Peace Officers and Firefighters who perish while defending and protecting all of us. This is something we have worked for and something of which we can all take great pride. In 2014 the 100 Club provided $80,680 in benefits to our Family Members!

Again, our lofty goal is to cover all expenses so that all dues will be used to support our surviving Family Members. Team up with us in 2015 for this most worthwhile endeavor!

PLEASE join our "100 Angels" by contributing $250 (or more) in cash or in kind services.

The 100 Club will continue to acknowledge all of our "100 Angels" at Club events and in the Informer.

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**We would like to thank all of you for your 2012-2014 contributions!**

Here are our 100 Angel contributors for 2015

- John Baker
- Richard & Anne Bartalini
- Neil Blumenthal
- Harold Boscovich
- Bras & Mattos Monuments
- Bob Byers
- Christine Byers
- Ivan Cornelius
- Jeffrey Dick
- Larry & Patty Goodman
- Tom & Marily Johnson
- Jones, Henle & Schunck, CPAs
- Richard Karn
- Joseph Kitchen
- Molly Knox
- Ben Leal
- Richard Lind
- Lone Tree Cemetery
- Tony Macchiano
- Ralph Martin
- McGrail Vineyards
- Alfred Mitchell
- Marshall Mitzman
- Ovations
- Pacheco Bros. Gardening
- Craig Ragg
- Marjorie Russell
- Jon Rudolph/Deputy Sheriffs’ Assoc.
- John & Rob Santos/Pleasanton Ready Mix
- Robert Scheppler
- Kevin Scott/Bay Area Contract Carpets
- John Scott/Bay Area Contract Carpets
- Jeffrey Sloan
- Greg & Laura Stewart
- Bob Trimble/ValForms
- Sheriff Ahern/Urban Shield
- William Vaculin/Morgan Stanley
- Vukasin Family Foundation
- Curtis Williams
- Wayne Yeaw/Alpha Omega Print & Imaging
- Greg Yoshii
- Barry Donelan/Oakland Police Officers Assoc.
- Rob & Cynthia Birmingham & Family
- Ronald Ivaldi/Sunol Golf Club
- Neil Sanders/OFD Stickball Tournament

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**Contact the Club Office if you are interested in becoming a 100 Angel**

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Printing of this Informer donated by Alpha Omega Print & Imaging!

Thank you!

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**Oakland Fire Department Annual Stickball Tournament**

Neil Sanders, an Oakland firefighter and a recipient of the Martin C. Kaufman 100 Club of Alameda County along with the rest of the Oakland Firefighters are hosting their Annual Stickball Tournament on Sunday, August 2nd, in Oakland at 10th and Washington from 9am – 1pm. With this being a free event, Neil and his co-workers team together to gather up raffle prizes and sell shirts to the crowd. Neil has raised approx $2,000 each year and each year he turns over 100% of the proceeds to the 100 Club!

Neil’s father, Lt. Richard Sanders, was an Oakland Firefighter who died in the line of duty on January 15, 1997.