

Dear Law Enforcement Family,

Let me begin by introducing myself. My name is Holly Miktarian and I live in Akron, Ohio. My husband Joshua T. Miktarian was a K-9 Police Officer for the City of Twinsburg, Ohio, killed on a traffic stop during the early morning hours of July 13, 2008. My husband and I have a daughter, Thea, who was 3 months old at the time we lost him. I also was a Police Officer at the time of his death.

The first Christmas without my husband I received an ornament from The Grand Rapids Police Department and Grand Rapids Volunteer Police Reserve. The ornament honored my husband on an "Angel Tree" they put together at their department. The department wanted me to know my husband was not forgotten during the holiday season. I loved this kind gesture and I decided to ask the City of Twinsburg if we could do the same thing that next Christmas. Four years later, we are still doing the "Angel Tree" honoring fallen Police Officers and Fireman. For the first time, we are also including fallen K-9's who lost their lives in the line of duty. This year's total ornaments came to 209 Fallen Heroes.

This year, students and citizens visiting the Twinsburg library helped make these ornaments. Our daughter, Thea, had her preschool class at The Looking Glass Daycare & Preschool in Kent, Ohio help make ornaments. First graders at Wilcox Elementary School in Twinsburg, Ohio helped make ornaments as well. The teacher, Mrs. Jaskiewicz (who is a Twinsburg resident) was happy to have her class help. Lastly, several teenaged students volunteered at the Twinsburg Library helping with odds and ends helping to make our "Angel Tree" so special.

The Twinsburg library also welcomed residents to bring in their children to make ornaments for our fallen. The Twinsburg library and their wonderful employees have been so helpful in making this happen every year. The Angel Tree really looks beautiful displayed in the children's department. Enclosed is a picture of how the tree looked this year.

On behalf of myself, my daughter, the Twinsburg Police and Fire Departments, the Twinsburg library, and the Twinsburg residents and students who made the ornaments, we would like to present to you this ornament bearing your loved one's name. Their sacrifice will NEVER be forgotten.

May peace be yours in the coming New Year,

Holly Miktarian

