

Thank You Brentwood

Monday May 12, 2014 was a tragic day for the Town of Brentwood. Our small town lost a true hero and one of Brentwood's Finest in the events that took place that afternoon. Officer Stephen Arkell was well known by many of us and our thoughts and prayers will continue to be with his family, friends and members of the Brentwood Police Department. In one conversation with Steve you knew what was important to him, family, friends and this small community he called home. Steve always had a smile and a kind word, and was willing to lend a hand at any emergency.

On May 12th, Brentwood Fire Department responded to the scene and was asked to stage a safe distance away. We were all aware of the situation occurring just out of sight from us, and we wanted to help. It goes against everything we believe in to sit and watch, knowing someone is injured or a fire rages out of control. Our mission is to "Save Lives and Protect Property", to salvage whatever we can so families can heal and rebuild. We know now that our efforts would not have changed the outcome of this tragic event. We are grateful to those who made the right decisions, difficult as they were, that saved lives and allowed us to go home.

We would like to thank the citizens of Brentwood for all of their support during the days and weeks that followed. Your generosity and caring provided all of us with the strength needed to carry on. The food, cards, visitations and kind words that you provided and continue to provide, let us know we are appreciated. It is our job to take care of others in need, and we will never be able to express how much it means to have our town supporting us, in our time of need.

Thank you also to the surrounding fire departments that provided coverage and aid so we could support the Arkell Family, Brentwood Police Department and our community. You allowed us time to grieve, say "Good-Bye" to Steve and provided emotional support to our members. We hope that we will never have to provide the same, but stand ready should the need arise.

Finally, our sincerest thanks to the Arkell Family and Brentwood Police Department for allowing us to mourn with you and the law enforcement community. It was an honor for us all to be involved and to be able to say "Good-Bye" to Steve respectfully. We will never be able to comprehend the pain you feel with the loss of a husband, father, son, brother and friend. Please know that we are here for you, just ask and we will do what we can to help. Steve was a great man and we can only hope to honor his memory by providing for our community as he did. When we are called, we will respond and do whatever is necessary to "Save Lives, and Protect Property".

Thank You All!

Your, Brentwood Fire Department