



THE BLUE FAMILY TREE

Newsletter article December, 2018



The Blue Family Tree was created September 2016 as an avenue for law enforcement, and close law enforcement supporters, to give financially to families of fallen peace officers. It was created by police officers who saw a need to fill, and filled it. Now YOU can contribute to the collective gift each family receives by setting up an auto draft from a debit or credit card of ten bucks a month. If your agency is interested, we can work with your HR to set the gift up as a payroll deduction. No matter how you choose to give, the donations are all tax deductible, and your gift is used entirely for these families, while our organization's small overhead expenses are funded by corporate donations.

As we move closer to the Christmas season, and we are shopping for those that matter most to us, I would encourage everyone to consider the families who lost their hero this year, and those who will undergo the same tragedy in 2019. Look at your spending budget for 2019 and decide how you will spend your charitable dollars. If you find you have space in your heart, and your wallet, for ten dollars a month, sign up now to give in 2019.

The gift is only as impressive as the number of officers who choose to give, and this tends to be an area where we all think someone else will so we don't have to. Adopt a different mindset; "No one will if I don't. I will lead the charge and spread the cause."

This month's article is not intended to inspire your senses for street knowledge and save your life on shift tonight. There's always more of that to come. But instead I want you to consider how you feel when we lose a brother or sister. How is it different when they are six states away or in your backyard? How does the passage of time soften the blow? Why do we feel it stronger in the second week of May? To use a cliché, it's all about complacency. The watered down use of our senses, feelings, emotions, knowledge, etc. based on the passage of time and distance from a significant event. Their lives matter no less with the passage of time, and their families loss is no less significant because they're across a state line. The need for their families to know they are loved by us may actually grow with time, as they move further and further from the event, and we drift further and further away.

If you're like most of us and fifty bucks each time an officer dies is too much to handle, here is an opportunity for you to make a meaningful difference with 120 dollars a year. Consider that giving a little each month can sharpen your edge, and remind you about that complacent, and forgetful side we naturally have. Ten dollars a month could actually save your life on shift tonight because the act of giving serves as your reminder.

2019 is a new year, with new goals, and sadly, new losses. Let's banded together and support those who matter most to us. Do it now. By the time you move to the next email you will already have began to forget what's important to you.

From a grateful peace officer,
Patrick Rice
CEO
The Blue Family Tree