



LEMUEL DELRAY BRUCE
“DJ”

Born: August 23, 1976, in Houston, Texas

Died: October 16, 2020 at age 44

76TH HFD LODD

Entered the Houston Fire Department: April 1, 2004, Class 1 2003

Assignment: Investigator-Arson Division

Buried: Klein Memorial Park, Magnolia, Texas, Section A, Lot 471, Space 2

DJ grew up in north Houston, was a dedicated Boy Scout, and graduated from Klein Oak High School in 1995. DJ then enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps, where he served honorably for five years and became one of the youngest Black Hawk helicopter crew chiefs in the history of the Corps. He later served in the Army National Guard.

Investigator Bruce was conducting surveillance during an arson investigation in the 2100 block of W. 18th Street around 0330 hours when he got into a confrontation with a suspect where they exchanged gunfire. The suspect died at the scene. About an hour later, Investigator Bruce shot three times, died from his injuries at Memorial Hermann Hospital. DJ's squad was investigation a string of recent arsons in the area.

He is the Houston Fire Department's first Arson Investigator to die in the line of duty.



TOMMY WAYNE SEARCY

Born: January 5, 1975, in Houston, Texas

Died: September 8, 2020 at age 45

75TH HFD LODD

Entered the Houston Fire Department: August 12, 2002, Class 14 2002

Assignment: Captain-Fire House 67 "A" Shift

Buried: Kline Memorial Park, Pinehurst, Texas, Section N, Lot 103, Space 4

Captain Tommy Searcy, an 18 year veteran of HFD, lost his life to the COVID-19 virus.

He is the third Houston Firefighter and the 84th in the United States to pass away from the COVID-19 Virus as a line of duty death in 2020.

Tommy and his family received an amazing amount of support from around the world, including help from the HPFFA Local 341 and Texas Lt. Governor Dan Patrick. They were instrumental in getting access to an experimental drug that helped Tommy's body fight the virus while he was in The Woodlands Memorial Hermann Hospital's ICU.

He proudly served the community for over 25 years with several fire departments in the Houston area including Bellaire, Lufkin, Magnolia, and Westfield, where he became Assistant Chief.

Tommy received multiple awards and commendations of valor from both the Westfield Fire Department and the Houston Fire Department.

In 2019 his direct actions at a house fire helped save the life of a fellow Houston Firefighter. Captain Searcy was universally respected for his honor, pride, and tradition in the fire service.

Tommy was immensely proud of and survived by his three daughters Kaylin, Krista, and Kinley. He is also survived by his parents Harold and Sin Chae Searcy, older brother Terry Searcy, and twin brother HFD Captain Tony Searcy.

Forever Brave, Never Give Up, as in the words of Captain Tommy Searcy...

"Come On, Let's do This"