



Bob O'Toole was a part-time firefighter with both Centerville/Washington Township and Clearcreek Township when he lost his life on the morning of January 12, 1998. About 6:00 a.m. Bob and his squad had responded to an

accident on I-675 near Wilmington Pike. After the crash victim had been placed in the rescue vehicle, Bob and his partner Chuck Arnold, along with Centerville police officer John Kalaman, returned to the damaged vehicle. Another car traveling west lost control on the "black ice," crossed the median and struck the three men. Officer Kalaman died instantly, and Bob died shortly thereafter in a hospital emergency room. Firefighter Arnold survived the crash, but with considerable injury.

Bob O'Toole was a 1990 graduate of Centerville High School, having spent his entire K-12 years in Centerville, and was attending Sinclair Community College to become a Paramedic at the time of his death. He left a wife, his parents, two sisters and two brothers, as well as nieces and nephews.

The Noon Optimist Club of Centerville established the Robert J. O'Toole Award in Bob's memory and to honor those in our community who unselfishly give of themselves in service to others.



OPTIMIST CREED

PROMISE YOURSELF

To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.

To make all your friends feel there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

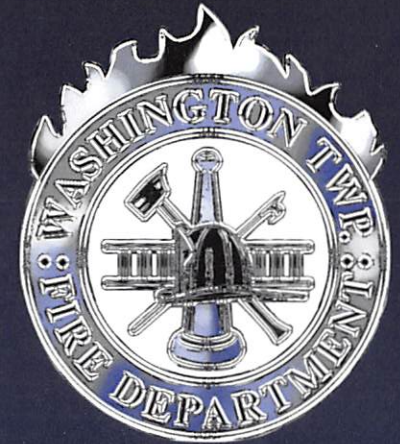
To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

 **CENTERVILLE
OPTIMIST**
www.optimist.org



**ROBERT J. O'TOOLE
EMT/FIREFIGHTER
OF THE YEAR AWARD**



Firefighter/EMT Paul Conover

Firefighter Paul Conover is an outstanding Firefighter/EMT who comes to work each shift with the drive and desire to learn and better himself. He is currently working to complete his paramedic certification while continuing to develop and improve his firefighting and EMS skills. Paul follows orders well, completes tasks promptly and efficiently, and is always asking for additional assignments and projects. Paul is positive, upbeat, considerate and professional with his coworkers as well as members of the community. Recently Paul has taken on the responsibility of organizing a fire equipment stockroom and is in the process of cleaning and maintaining the equipment. Paul also assists with maintaining training records and hose records.

Firefighter Conover was awarded the 2018 Washington Township Part Time Employee Award of Excellence. The award is made annually to employees nominated by their peers who have made a valuable contribution to the mission of Washington Township.

Bob served at station 45 on McEwen Road where a lazer engraved plaque signed by his fellow firefighters commemorates his life and sacrifices in the line of duty.



Terry Blair was a dedicated public servant and a committed member of the Centerville Noon Optimist Club. He was an integral part of the creation of our EMT/Firefighter Award in 1998, believing that those who risk their lives in the service of others should receive the community's thanks and appreciation. It is in this spirit we recognize and thank Terry for his service to his club, his community, and his state.



EMT/FIREFIGHTER AWARD RECIPIENTS



**ROBERT J. O'TOOLE
EMT/FIREFIGHTER
OF THE YEAR AWARD**

- 1998 *Charles D. Arnold*
- 1999 *Denise M. Smith*
- 2000 *Tom Gunlock*
- 2001 *Dr. Randy Marriott*
- 2002 *Ken Luzius*
- 2003 *Loretta Gaul*
- 2004 *Christopher DeWitt*
- 2005 *Curt Cobler*
- 2006 *G. Thomas Achor*
- 2007 *Jeff Joseph*
- 2008 *Justin Keller*
- 2009 *David Lantz*
- 2010 *Scott Haas*
- 2011 *Scott Henry*
- 2012 *Dick Ewing*
- 2013 *Greg Ortel*
- 2014 *Ethan Heigel*
- 2015 *Tad Parks*
- 2016 *Jeff Joseph*
- 2017 *Brandon Strunk*
- 2018 *Paul Conover*

**Noon Optimist Club
of Centerville
(937) 221-6720**

Every Tuesday, 12 Noon, at the Yankee
Trace Golf Course Clubhouse
www.centervillenooptimist.com