

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.



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 Kalamán, returned to the damaged vehicle. Another car traveling west lost control on the "black ice," crossed the median and struck the three men. Officer Kalamán 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.



www.centervillenooptimist.com

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

Noon Optimist Club
of Centerville



Tyler Foust

Tyler Foust serves as shop foreman and emergency vehicle technician for the Washington Township Fire Department. His role is vital to the success of the fire department's operations by ensuring that the fire apparatus and medic units are well maintained and reliable so our firefighters can respond to emergencies in a timely manner. Tyler conducts vehicle and equipment safety inspections; completes annual pump and ground ladder testing on all fire apparatus; and serves on fire apparatus and medic specification and purchasing committees.

Over the past year, Tyler stepped up to cover the responsibilities of the senior maintenance supervisor while he was on extended leave. In this role, he managed everything from daily scheduling and repairs, purchasing needed parts, supplies and other materials, and ensuring all jobs from all departments were completed on time. Tyler kept the shop functioning as it should, keeping the fleet in service, managing budgeting and quotes for large purchases, and ensuring department supervisors were informed and updated on projects.

Tyler was recently awarded Washington Township's 2024 Annual Employee Award of Excellence for demonstrating true leadership while ensuring that daily operations continued as usual through a very difficult time. In his over 21 years with Washington Township, Tyler has proven to be an excellent resource for the fire department, being the go-to person when it comes to vehicle issues.

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
- 2019 Joseph Andrews
- 2020 Jeff Joseph
- 2021 Mariana Jones
- 2022 Matt Lolli
- 2023 Nick Bergman
- 2024 Tyler Foust

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

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