

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Fatal Fires in « Help Wanted with Wake... » New Wheels For EMS 20... Raleigh, 1948 to 2009

Fatal Fires in Raleigh, 1948 to 2009

12/14/13 641 W - + 6 - 3

Notice!

This posting has been superceded by new and expanded research in 2018.

See <http://legeros.com/blog/fatal-fires-in-raleigh-1948-to-2015/>

Notice!

Last night's fatal fire in southeast Raleigh, [see WRAL story](#), was the first in the city in a few years. And it reminded me of some research of mine from a few years ago. This data was compiled in 2010. The primary sources are Internet research (e.g. media reports) and my records. Didn't do a ton of digging, if I recall. Was more of a "what can I put my hands on right now" project.

The data starts from February 1, 1948, the date of the worst fatal fire in Raleigh's history. The criteria for inclusion is any fatal fire within the city limits, or within Raleigh's response area. (Which would be one and the same, right? Except for, say, earlier decades, when the Raleigh FD was contracted for protection in some areas, such as south of the city along Highway 401.)

Since it's the season for asking for historical help ([see yesterday's post about Wake EMS history](#)), let's see if readers can help with details and/or additional incidents. **Even basic fact-checking is welcome!** Could be a great academic paper or research project from someone!

09/15/2009	1	Millbrook Road	House	Age 36	
02/21/2009	1	2116 Millbank Street	House	Age 57	
02/9/2008	1	704 Princeton Street	House	Adult	
03/15/2007	1	1113 Upchurch Street	Triplex	Age 29	
02/22/2007	3	305 Roselle Court	Building (Apt)	Age 30, Age 26, Age 11 mo	
11/22/2006	1	5501 Round Hill Lane	Building	Age 70	
08/06/2006	1	544 Rose Lane	House	Age 69	

10/7/2005	2	Groveland Avenue	Duplex	Age 19, Age 22	
12/31/2004	1				
10/09/2004	1				
06/05/2004	1				
02/02/2003	1	509 Glenwood Avenue	High Rise	Age 55	
07/12/2002	1	3409 Mill Tree Road	Apartment	Adult	
07/12/2002	1				
03/25/2002	1				
03/05/2002	1				
02/28/2002	1	115 Salem Circle	Apartment	Adult	
02/26/2002	1	602 E. South Street	House	Age 89	
12/12/2001	3	7609 Stone Horse Court, outside city	Aircraft / House		Victims were occupants of aircraft. Response included Raleigh FD, including E23.

10/07/2001	1				
08/04/2001	1				

07/25/2001	1				
07/11/2001	1				
07/02/2001	1				
07/30/2000	1	St. Georges Street	House	Age 73	
03/2/2000	1			Age 22	
12/18/1998	1	Beltline at Capital	Tanker	Age 51	
03/6/1998	1	3916 St. James Church Road	House	Adult	
02/20/1997	2		Townhouse	Age 5, Age 10	
08/4/1996	2	1005 Norris Street	House	Age 25, Age __ (student)	
04/21/1996	1	604-B Peach Road	Apartment	Age 5	
02/2/1996	4	462 Dorothea Drive	Apartment	Children	
12/12/1995	1	2515 Clark Avenue	House	Age 60	
11/22/1995	1	Cameron Park	House	Adult	
04/15/1995	1	734-C Quarry Street	House	Age 38	
01/21/1995	1	520 S. Saunders	House	Age 87	

		Street			
05/10/1994	3	717 Church Street	House	Age 7, Age 8, Age 12	
12/19/1992	1	710 W. Jones Street	Apartment	Age 87	
03/01/1990	2	South Raleigh	House	Adults	
01/27/1990	1	6007 Applewood Lane	Apartment	Age 37	
12/5/1987	1	4604 Dansey Drive	Apartment	Age 3	
04/28/1982	4	537 E. Jones Street	House	Age 45, Age 40, Age 16, Age 2	
03/12/1982	1	1359 Walnut Street	Apartment	Age 7	
02/15/1980	1	Lake Boone Trail under Beltline	Pipeline	Adult	
08/26/1979	1	825 Young Street	House	Age 39	
07/19/1979	1	716 Virginia Avenue	House	Age 52	
03/4/1978	1	202 Selwin Avenue	Duplex	Age 48	
03/4/1978	1	725 E. Bragg Street	House	Age 45	
02/1/1978	1	3708 Oak Park Road	House	Age 25	

05/4/1977	1	2343-N Foxridge Manor	Apartment	Age 22	
12/24/1975	2	813 S. Person Street	House	Adults	
12/19/1975	1	Old Trinity Road	Asphalt Tank	Age 33	
12/13/1975	1	4813 Brookhaven Drive	House	Age 19	
11/22/1975	1	Dorothea Dix	Hospital	Age 20	
01/27/1975	1	5824 Caledonia Street	House	Age 70	
12/11/1974	1	318 E. Bragg Street	House	Age 83	
07/11/1974	1	2615 Van Dyke Avenue	House	Age 43	
06/7/1974	1	509 Glenwood Avenue	High Rise	Age 63	
11/23/1973	2	207 Poplar Street			
05/6/1973	1	3192 Idlewild Avenue			
02/21/1973	2	2721 Rothgeb Drive		Age 4, Age 65	
02/14/1973	1	907 Peace			

		Terrace			
01/19/1973	1	1948 S. Wilmington Street	Truck		
01/7/1973	1	711 Jamaica Drive		Age 23	
11/4/1971	1	20 Mayo Street	Apartment	Age 55	
09/12/1971	2	111 Dennis Avenue		Age 54, Age 60	
04/19/1971	1	2805 Glascock Street	House	Age 43	
02/11/1971	1	100 W. Martin Street	Hotel		
12/25/1970	1	711 Virginia Avenue		Age 4	
07/13/1970	1	801 Wilmington Terrace		Age 61	
04/12/1970	1	2604 Wayland Drive		Age 49	
02/26/1970	1	2511 Anderson Drive		Adult	
01/31/1970	2	210 W. South Street		Age 8 mo, Age 5	
12/19/1969	1	309 S. Person Street			

10/2/1969	1	1613 1/2 Thompson Street		Age 59	
11/23/1968	1	1110 S. Holmen		Age 57	
02/26/1968	1	701 E. Franklin Street			
12/1/1967	1				
12/4/1966	1	1840 Wilshire Avenue		Age 40s	
5/23/1966	1	437 Halifax Street	Apartment	Age 43	
02/27/1966	1	824 E. Lenoir Street		Age 4	
04/12/1965	1	4516 Pitt Street		Age 2-3	
11/30/1964	1	Hogan Lane			
04/19/1964	2	104 Montgomery Street		Adults	
04/2/1964	3	2201 White Oak Road	House	Age 25, Age 5, Age 1.5	
03/28/1964	1	Wade Avenue at Railroad Bridge	Vehicle	Age 22	
03/6/1964	1	1036 S. Saunders Street			

01/26/1964	1	1100 Hedley Road			
02/23/1963	1	Jones and Seawell			
07/10/1962	1	830 Bryan Street	House	Age 58	
01/21/1962	1	327 Tarboro Road	Commercial	Adult	
01/14/1962	1	1007 Mark Street		Age 59	
12/8/1961	1	850 W. Morgan Street			
09/16/1961	1	323 Hillsboro Street	Apartment	Age 65	
11/5/1960	1	529 Fayetteville Street		Age 28	
04/25/1960	1	412 New Bern Avenue		Age 4 mo	
02/19/1960	1	Poole Road outside city		Age 4	
01/21/1960	1	116 Grimes Alley		Age 6	
01/19/1960	1	818 Cammister Street		Age 3 mo	
01/9/1960	1	825 Manly Street		Age 35	
01/7/1960	1	707		Age 76	

		Chamberlain Street			
01/??/1959	1				
04/1/1958	2	S. Blount Street at Railroad Crossing	Tanker	Age 16, Age 10	
03/10/1958	1	Washington Terrace	Apartment	Age 2 mo	
02/9/1958	2	812 Manchester Drive	House	Adult, Age 8	
12/21/1957	2	Highway 70 near city limits	House	Adults	
02/1/1948	5	Carolina Country Club	Clubhouse	Age 61, Age 40, Age 40, Age 16, Age 14	

You are correct on the 12/12/01 aircraft into the house. This was in the county (Durham Highway), but E-23 did respond. I was working at DHFD that night. The fatalities, three in all, were not in the house but rather the three souls aboard the aircraft. The sole occupant of the house made it out with minor scrapes and bruises.

N Rhodes - 12/15/13 - 15:05

Our cities fire death stats are not proportional to other cities at all, what does everyone contribute that too?

Tim - 12/17/13 - 17:09

Our fire fatality rates seem low or quite low, compared with other major metropolitan cities in the United States.

But I guess we'd need to compare apples to apples, for a true comparison. Population size, population density, municipal size.

My take is that Raleigh is such a young city, that we haven't had the gross population or density to produce high rates of fire fatalities.

Legeros - 12/17/13 - 18:28

There is another one missing from the late 70's. Occurred off of Hillsborough Street. Child fatality. Remember seeing it on WRAL. The parents of the child went to high school with me.

DJ - 12/18/13 - 00:04

I think the aircraft data should be removed as we havent listed folks who have perished in other vehicle/equipment accidents that had an ensuing fire. This stat list should only be for fire fatalities that occurred due to an unwanted fire within a structure or encampment.

Tim - 12/18/13 - 10:57

On February 8, 1948, a fire killed my mother's brother (aged 4), located at 314 W North Street in Raleigh, NC. His name was Ivan P. Black. I'm not sure, but I believe these were townhomes or apartments? From what my mother has told me, it was always believed that the next door neighbor started the fire because my grandmother would not let her son play with the neighbor's children. As the story goes, the neighbor was up the block with coats and gloves already on her children once the fire was going. Apparently the neighbor called my grandmother to her bedside as she was dying and begged forgiveness for starting the fire that killed Ivan. My grandmother (who suffered a nervous breakdown from the loss of her son) told her God would have to forgive her because she wouldn't. My mother was almost two and was told her mother jumped from a window holding her to escape the fire.

I wish I could find info. on the fire, but I'm at a loss. I only have the death certificate listing the address I just provided. Any more info. would be greatly appreciated!

Michelle ([Email](#)) - 03/02/16 - 13:53

Name: (real name preferred)
E-mail: (optional)
Web Site: (optional)

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What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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