

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Goldsboro Rescue* « **Did Raleigh Have Ford...** » **This Year's Web Visit...** *Squad Member Killed when Car Runs into Rescue Vehicle - November 8, 1976*

Goldsboro Rescue Squad Member Killed when Car Runs into Rescue Vehicle - November 8, 1976

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Found this while looking for things. As reported by the *News & Observer* on November 8, 1976, Goldsboro Rescue Squad member Kenneth Lee Davis was killed early Sunday morning, November 7, when his "rescue van" was struck by a passenger car. At 2:50 a.m., the automobile ran a stop sign at the intersection of New Hope Road and State Road 1709. The rescue squad vehicle, with three members, was returning from a call.

The squad unit was traveling west on New Hope Road and was struck in the driver's side door. The car reported ran the stop sign at a high rate of speed. The force of the impact caused the rescue unit to roll more than 65 feet. Both vehicles traveled into a yard and struck a parked car. Davis, 27, was driving the rescue truck. He was killed, along two teenaged male occupants of the automobile.

Two other squad members were injured: Bobby Braswell, 25, sustained leg, neck, and head injuries. He was listed in serious condition at Wake Medical Center in Raleigh. Kenneth Satterfield, 26, sustained chest injuries and was reported in satisfactory condition at Wayne Memorial Hospital. (Driving distance to the Raleigh hospital, using routes available at the time, is about 60 miles.)

Davis was the squad's second member to die on duty that year. James M. Hickman died on March 28, 1976, while attempting to rescue three fisherman after their boat capsized below the Fish Ladder Dam on the Neuse River. The details of Hickman's death is listed on this page of the [National EMS Memorial Service](#). See all honorees, [sorted by state](#).

[The site notes about Davis](#) that he worked for the city of Goldsboro as a draftsman in the engineering department. He was a volunteer EMT for Goldsboro Rescue Squad. His other volunteer duties with his rescue squad included rescue driver, Secretary, Sergeant, and Lieutenant, and a member of the North Carolina Rescue Association. He received posthumously the Medal of Valor.

Twenty-eight members of the emergency medical service from North Carolina have been honored by the National EMS Memorial Service. Most of the deaths involved transportation accidents, including ground vehicle collisions and impacts, as well as helicopter crashes. Haven't parsed the data to determine the number of ambulance or rescue truck crashes.

The Goldsboro Rescue Squad was chartered in January 1972. They changed their name to Goldsboro Rescue Squad and Emergency Medical Services in April 1989. The corporation is still listed as active, though it appears Wayne County EMS is the predominant provider in those parts. They were created in October 2001, and merged their EMS services with the Goldsboro Fire Department in October 2002.

Update: From [this Goldsboro Daily News story](#) dated April 23, 2013, the squad was organized twenty years prior to its state charter in October 1952. And it celebrated its 60th anniversary last year, in a celebration at the Wayne Shrine Club in Dudley.

The News and Observer

Monday, November 8, 1976

Raleigh, N.C.

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3 Killed as Car Runs Into Rescue Vehicle

From Staff and Wire Reports

GOLDSBORO — Three persons, including a Goldsboro Rescue Squad member, were killed early Sunday in a collision between a rescue squad vehicle returning from a call and a passenger car that officers said ran a stop sign.

Two other rescue squad members were injured, one of them seriously.

Killed was Kenneth Lee Davis, 27, the driver of the rescue van, Dennis Norwood Reeves, 16, of Rt. 1, Pikeville, and David Andrew Williams, 21, of Rt. 3, Snow Hill, who were occupants of the other vehicle.

Rescue squad member Bobby Braswell, 25, was reported in serious condition with leg, neck and head inju-

ries at Wake County Medical Center in Raleigh.

A third rescue squad member, Kenneth Satterfield, 26, was reported in satisfactory condition with chest injuries at Wayne Memorial Hospital.

The accident occurred at 2:50 a.m. Sunday at the intersection of the New Hope Road and state road 1709, State Highway Patrol Trooper Kenneth Gales said.

Buddy Shaw, a rescue squad member, said the three members of the rescue squad were returning to the station after answering a call. He said that, because it was a routine run back to the station, the vehicle's emergency lights were not in use.

Gales said the rescue vehicle was traveling west on New Hope Road and was struck in the driver's door by the passenger car driven by Reeves, which the trooper said ran a stop sign at a high rate of speed. The force of the impact rolled the rescue vehicle more than 65 feet and both vehicles ran into a yard and struck a parked car, officers said.

Damage to the rescue vehicle was set at \$10,000 and damage to the automobile was estimated at \$5,000.

Davis was the second rescue squad member to die this year. Another member drowned last spring in a search for a boating accident victim in the Neuse River.

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