



Remembering



Todd A. Blanchard

Eastern Wake Fire & Rescue – North Carolina

Classification: Career

Rank: Firefighter

Date of Death: July 14, 2005

Age: 31

Todd had “the look” in his eye that you see with every firefighter. It was his passion and, simply put, he knew that being a firefighter was who he was. He had been working with the Eastern Wake Fire Department for 2 years at the time of his death and had previously worked in Garner, NC and Gill, MA. Todd was struck and killed by a falling tree limb while working to extinguish a fire in a large oak tree.

Todd was a huge Red Sox fan, and he also liked the 49ers, Stars, and Bobby Labonte. He is survived by his mom (Marie), dad (Allan), sister (Charlene), three brothers (Allan, Mike, & Norman), his daughters (Jessika & Ryan), their mother (Ami), and his best friend (Matthew).



Todd was extremely outgoing, and you always knew where you stood with him. He spoke his mind freely and rarely worried about the consequences. He had a terrific sense of humor and couldn’t resist pulling a good prank or telling a colorful joke.

Todd loved his family and friends as much as he loved being a firefighter. We all understand now what he meant when he said he would sacrifice anything to be a firefighter. I asked him what he would have done on 9/11 if he had been working in NY. Without hesitation, he said, “I would have gone into those buildings with my brothers.” He’s with them now.

*... And I know what I faced in there,
Compared to the warmth of love is
mild.
That little girl’s family thanked me,*

*For saving their daughter’s life.
I simply told them it was part of the
job,
It was a firefighter’s life.*

— Amanda Stewart