

# Remembering

## Victor Anthony Isler Sr. Salisbury Fire Department — North Carolina

Career Firefighter  
Date of Death: March 7, 2008  
Age: 40

Firefighter Victor Isler Sr. died March 7, 2008, along with Firefighter Justin Monroe, while fighting a five-alarm fire.

He was born December 31, 1967, in Brooklyn, New York. Victor was an electrician by trade. When the World Trade Center was attacked on 9/11, he raced to Ground Zero to search for one of his brothers, an NYPD officer. Though his brother fortunately was not injured in the attacks, Victor continued to work on the pile during the recovery efforts there. After 9/11, he felt called to become a firefighter.

In 2002, Victor joined the Deer Park Fire Department on Long Island, New York, as a volunteer firefighter. He quickly became a father figure to the younger recruits in the department. He worked as an EMT with the Fire Department of New York from 2005-2007. However, the age limit for applying to FDNY as a firefighter was 29, and Victor was too old to apply.

In 2007, Victor and his family moved to Salisbury, North Carolina, so he could fulfill his dream of becoming a professional firefighter. The second oldest rookie ever hired by the department, Victor was at the beginning of a bright career as a firefighter. His brief career in Salisbury was marked by passion for the job and intense bravery during rescue missions. He was a future star. Fellow firefighters remembered Victor as perpetually happy, someone who made the department a better place to be.

A devoted family man, Victor was survived by his wife, Tracy; son, Victor Jr.; daughter, Ryan-Anne; three brothers; and three sisters. He was preceded in death by his parents, Aaron Isler and Mary Ann Petrulonis Isler, and a brother, Edward Isler.

He was the sweetest man in the world and the biggest clown, too. We all miss him.

