

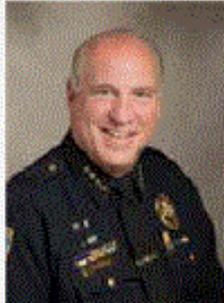
# Remembering Our Fallen Heroes

**E**VERY YEAR IN THE MONTH OF MAY, THE CORAL GABLES Police Department remembers our beloved brothers who lost their lives in the line of duty. This emotional ceremony has a special meaning to any police officer — it reminds us what others have sacrificed to make Coral Gables a safer community. It also puts everything into perspective, knowing that our job as law enforcement officers is a very dangerous one, now more than ever, and that we should always kiss our loved ones goodbye before we head off to work.

We have lost nine police heroes in Coral Gables: Police Officer Robert Harry Bonnet (age 47); Sergeant Alfred William Terrinoni (age 38); Police Officer Louis Pena (age 42); Police Officer Robert Peter DeKorte (age 45); Police Officer Walter Franklin Stathers (age 45); Police Officer Billy Howard Stephens (age 26); Constable Luther T. Hardison (age 55); Officer Homer Collins Barton (age 37); and Sergeant Francis Cyril Guest (age 41). They were all too young at the end of their watch. This month, we pay tribute to their memories and their courage to serve and protect with sacrifice and honor.

As is customary, a 21-gun salute at Merrick Park, across from City Hall, will be part of our Police Memorial Service in remembrance of those who paid the ultimate price to protect us. We will salute and console their families because we know the heartache of losing or growing up without a husband, a father, a son or a brother. And we will let them know that not a day goes by without the Coral Gables Police Department remembering how special they were as police officers. It is not how these officers died that made them heroes — it is how they lived with honor that made them unforgettable.

To all the men and women of the Coral Gables Police force, the Police Memorial



Coral Gables Interim  
Police Chief Ed Hudak



tradition is a solemn occasion. It is a day to remember why we chose to become law enforcement officers, not for fame or riches, but for the love of public safety where we get to protect a community we all love.

It is when we all stand together as members of the Coral Gables family to ensure that the memories of our brothers will never fade.

In memory of our finest heroes, I salute them.

*CGPD is also asking drivers to remove items from the center consoles and glove compartments of their vehicles that may contain personal information such as address, vehicle insurance or vehicle registration. This is the first place thieves look not only for valuables, but to access residences and steal personal identity. In case of any suspicious activity anywhere, any time, the Coral Gables Police Department wants to know: call 305-442-1600. Help us fight crime and make Coral Gables a safer city.*