



Sgt. Michael W. Ryan, NYPD

On November 5, 2007, Sgt. Michael W. Ryan, 41, of Hauppauge New York succumbed to multiple cancers. (Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma). Michael, one of the hero responders of 911, was a Sergeant in the New York City Police Department and a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division 7, Our Lady of Knock, Suffolk County, New York. Additionally he was a member of the New York Police Department Emerald Society. His tenure with the New York Police Department spanned twenty years. Michael leaves behind his wife, Eileen (Casey), formerly of Woodside New York and four children, Liam, Erin, Casey and Aidan.

Also, he will be missed by his parents, James and Anne Ryan who refer to him in every day life as "Our Michael". His Irish wit, humorous antics and sometimes mischievous behavior will be long remembered by his siblings; James, a Suffolk County police officer, John, a New York City police officer and his two sisters, Maureen Ryan and Patrice Swane. Michael is also a cherished uncle to many nephews and nieces.

Michael was an excellent role model for the community by being extensively involved, as a coach, in the Hauppauge Football Little League. He additionally enjoyed being a player-coach for the Division 7 softball team for ten years.

Sgt. Michael Ryan's regular assignment was with the Queens Warrant squad. However, like many police officers, as a result of September 11, 2001 Terrorist Attack, he was reassigned with a detail of officers to the '911' disposal site in Fresh Kills, Staten Island. Sadly we now see how toxic much of this material was, as Mike Ryan and others have become so seriously ill.

He first became ill after spending countless hours working at this '911' recovery site. It was a grueling and at times an overwhelming assignment as the remains and personal effects of '911' victims were recovered. It took painstaking efforts sifting through the tonnage by both machine and finally by hand, eventually affording dignity to those lost souls.

Michael also worked at the morgue and 'Ground Zero'. Mike took great pride in being a sergeant in the NYPD. It was this dedication to duty that led to the contracting of these cancers.

Donations can be made to: Children of Michael Ryan College Fund, P.O. Box 5041, Hauppauge, NY 11788.