

Frank “Frankie” Bush Memorial Endowment



A lifelong Westfield resident, Frank “Frankie” Bush was very proud to be a member of this community. He had a close, loving relationship with his twin sister, Ella Mae (Bush) Barre, who also lives in Westfield. Frankie worked at St. Mary’s Parish and attended Mass at St. Mary’s Church. Throughout his life he also worked at a local doughnut shop and Noble Hospital, but his true passion was volunteering at the Westfield Fire Department Headquarters.

For six decades Frankie was a familiar face in the department, and was known to come to the firehouse every day to help in the department’s kitchen and cook breakfast for the working firefighters. According to the Local 1111 Firefighters Union, “From day one as probationary firefighters, Frankie has personally mentored three generations of firefighters in the art of properly cooking bacon, camaraderie and respect to the senior members—of which he loved to brag that he was number one. From promotions to parades to retirement parties, Frankie never missed a chance to show his support to his fellow brothers and sisters.” He was close to several generations of Westfield firefighters.

The proudest day in Frankie’s life came in 2004 when he was made an Honorary Firefighter for the Westfield Fire Department. He was given a uniform, which he wore whenever he got the chance! Capt. Chris Kane stated, “The uniform meant so much to him. He wore it with pride. Every parade he would be smiling ear-to-ear!”

Each year for Frankie’s birthday on April 19th, members of the Westfield Fire Department took Frankie to Fenway Park for a Red Sox game. Plans were underway for this annual outing for Frankie in 2021, but he passed away on April 2nd at the age of 74.

This scholarship, established by Frankie’s family, is a tribute to him and his love for Westfield. He would be so proud to know his scholarship is helping Westfield students. He touched the lives of so many in our community, especially generations of local firefighters, and this scholarship is his legacy.

Written by Lynn Hills

Submitted: January 6, 2022