

Glen R. Walz Memorial Scholarship

Written by: Westfield Firefighters April 12, 2011

Glen R. Walz was a proud citizen of the city of Westfield. His friends, family, and fellow firefighters feel it is important to remember and honor Glen for many reasons. Glen volunteered much of his time coaching Westfield Youth Football, and wrestling for the Boys and Girls Club. A loyal veteran, Glen was a member of American Legion Post 124. He was an extremely dedicated,

motivated and inspirational firefighter. Glen was extremely selfless, and was always the first one to volunteer for any activities or help a friend in need. As a gifted mechanic he spent countless hours helping friends and coworkers with their vehicles, often putting their needs above his own. Glen was even known to help strangers stranded on the side of the road, because that is the kind of man he was.

Glen graduated from Westfield High School in 1989, and then proudly served his country as a Staff Sergeant in the United States Army for eight years. He was assigned the title of Maintenance Supervisor and was responsible for the flight readiness of U.S. Army helicopters. Glen served tours of duty in Haiti, Somalia, and South Korea.

Upon his honorable discharge from the Army, Glen was hired as a firefighter for the Westfield Fire Department. He graduated from the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy with honors. He was instrumental in creating the current Westfield Fire Department uniform patch. He was also the founder and Commander of the Westfield Fire Department Honor Guard. In 2004 he received "Firefighter of the Year" award from the Governor's office for his part in saving a youth in a swift water rescue. Glen was a natural born leader. Members of the Westfield Fire Department looked up to Glen, and he was known as the guy who would get things done.

In 2009, Glen was appointed as the Chief Mechanic for the Fire Department and used his mechanical talents to keep lifesaving apparatus in good working order. Glen had a passion for being a mechanic and he enjoyed restoring classic cars, motorcycles, bicycles, and anything else he could fix up!

Glen always valued hard work and selfless dedication to family, friends, and community above all else. Westfield Firefighters established this scholarship in 2011 with the hope that students awarded this scholarship will continue that dedication, in all their future pursuits, to honor Glen's memory.