



Officer Michael Scotland

# Officer Scotland, Rest in Peace

■ Harbor Dept. holds memorial service for Port Police Officer and Club Member Mike Scotland.

Story by Martin D. Chavez, Port of L.A.  
Photos by Anthony Di Tucci, Port of L.A.

On Feb. 5, the Harbor Department Port Police Division held a memorial service honoring the career of Port Police Officer Michael Scotland. Officer Scotland passed away Jan. 27, following a courageous battle against leukemia. Fellow officers, coworkers, family and friends gathered in the Harbor Administration Building Board Room to share their memories of Michael and remember the man whose humor and caring touched so many people.



The memorial book.

Officer Scotland began his career with the City of Los Angeles' Harbor Department Port Police in July 1977. In May 1981 he received a commendation, along with Officer Ernesto Paz, for rescuing a man from drowning who had severely injured himself when he fell from a wharf into the water. Shortly thereafter in August 1981, Officer Scotland along with other Port Police Officers, were commended for rescuing persons from a capsized sailboat and for righting the vessel. Officer Scotland would go on to receive four commendations for his police work from the Harbor Department and two letters of appreciation from the Los Angeles Police Department.

Mike's caring was best described by his neighbor, a little girl whom he called Princess, who shared a story how Mike would watch over the neighborhood children sharing his time with

them and how he would fill the air on her bicycle tires. But the most lasting memory she has is when she was leaving after having visited Mike in the hospital of him smiling at the window blowing "thousands of goodbye kisses to her."

The memorial was presided by LAPD Chaplain Ed Beardsly; the Port Police provided the Honor Guard. Following the memorial in the Board Room the gathering moved to the Harbor Administration Building Patio where the LAPD Emerald Society bagpipes and drum corps performed Amazing Grace. The Port Police Honor Guard provided a Rifle Salute for Officer Scotland followed by a bugle rendition of Taps by LAPD Officer Amy Wong and a flyover by the Port Police Air Support helicopter.

The family of Officer Scotland wish to thank the many people and groups who organized and participated in the very successful Bone Marrow Donor Drive held at the Harbor Department in November 2004. The outpouring of support touched the life of Officer Scotland and the many people who will benefit from the drive.

The Club was honored to have participated and thanks our many members who volunteered to be part of the donor database so they may help others in the future.

The Club sends its heartfelt sympathies and condolences to the family and friends of Mike Scotland.

**Donations may be made to the following:**

Officers Need Help  
977 N. Broadway, Suite 401  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
phone (213) 485-0703  
Contact: Gina Onwyler



The Port Police Rifle Salute and LAPD Officer Amy Wong (on bugle) playing a rendition of Taps.



The memorial presentation.



The Port Police Honor Guard and LAPD Emerald Society bagpipes and drum corps performed Amazing Grace.



Captain Tracy presents a flag to Chief Ronald J. Boyd.



Chief Ronald J. Boyd presents the flag to Claudia Scotland and family.

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