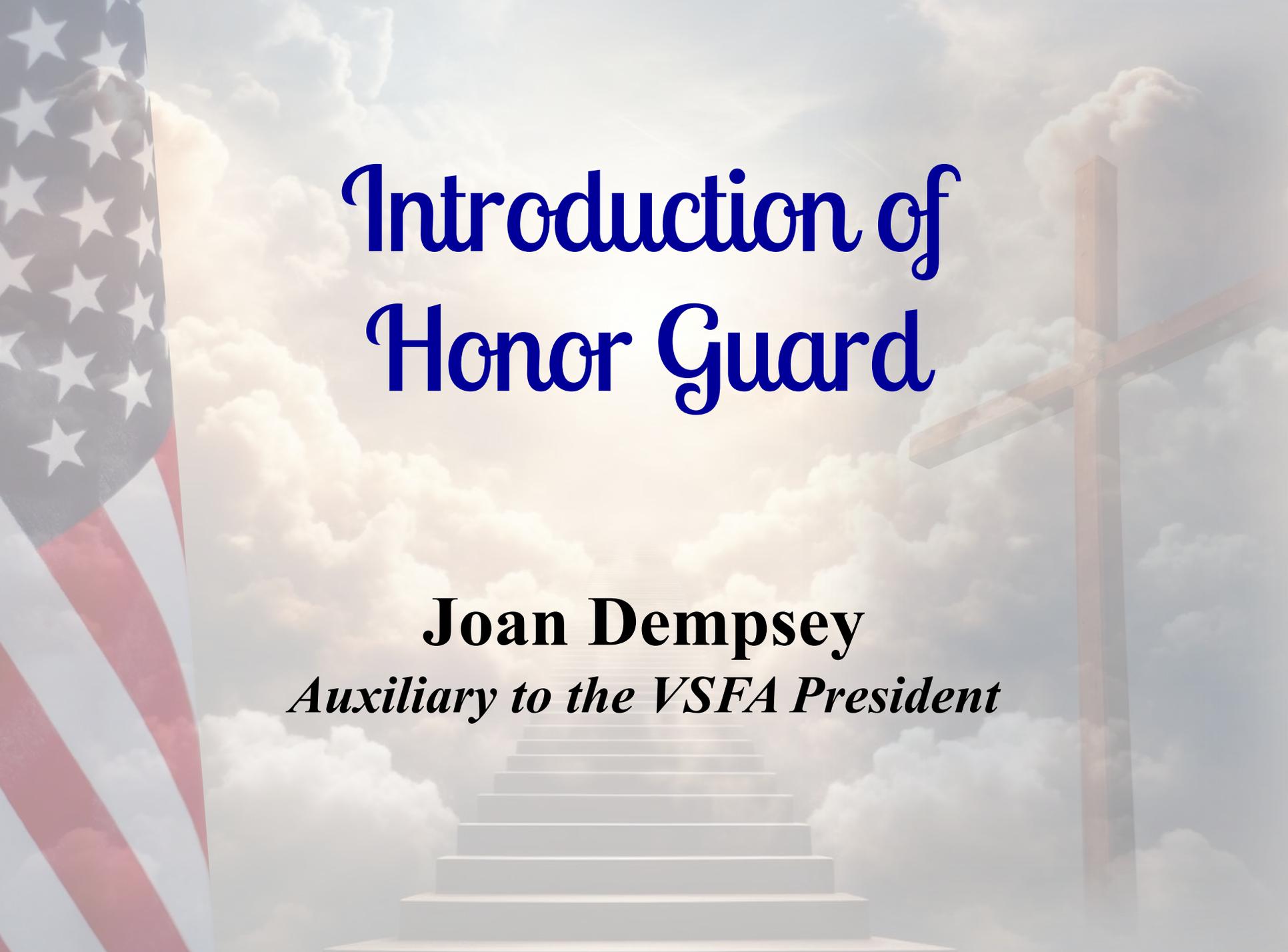




Memorial Service and Dogwood Dedication

August 14, 2025

Farmville, Virginia

The background features a soft-focus scene with a large American flag on the left, a wooden cross on the right, and a set of white stairs leading upwards in the center, all set against a sky filled with white, fluffy clouds.

Introduction of Honor Guard

Joan Dempsey

Auxiliary to the VSFA President



Invocation

Sarah Garnett

Auxiliary to the VSFA Chaplain



Dogwood Dedication

AVSFA Firefighter Relief Committee

*Carol Stickley (chair), Sylvia Baker,
Liz Garnett, Carolyn Landis, Karen Sica,
and Terri Wright*



Poem

“Do Not Stand at my Grave and Weep”

by

Mary Frye

Sarah Garnett

Auxiliary to the VSFA Chaplain



Reflections

Dale Jamison
VSFA Chaplain



Amazing Grace

Roll Call of Honorees

of those who have passed since July 1, 2024



Buster Insley
President of VSFA



Joan Dempsey
President of AVSFA



Bassett VFD

Manker Dumont Stone

December 28, 1957 – January 2, 2025



41 Years of Service

President since 2006



Boiling Springs VF&R

Steve Alan Weikle

January 4, 1955 – February 13, 2025



50 Years of Service

LODD Death



Charlottesville FCo.

Norris V. "Sonny" Bishop

November 7, 1941 – July 9, 2024



30 Years of Service



Charlottesville FCo.

Fred Jackson “Jack” Easton

December 28, 1929 – September 16, 2024



72 Years of Service

Past President

Life Member



Christiansburg FD

Harold David Akers, Jr.

April 19, 1963 – December 7, 2024



40 Years of Service

Secretary

Southwest VA Firefighters' Assoc.

Past President

Past Secretary

Life Member

Virginia State Firefighter's Assoc.

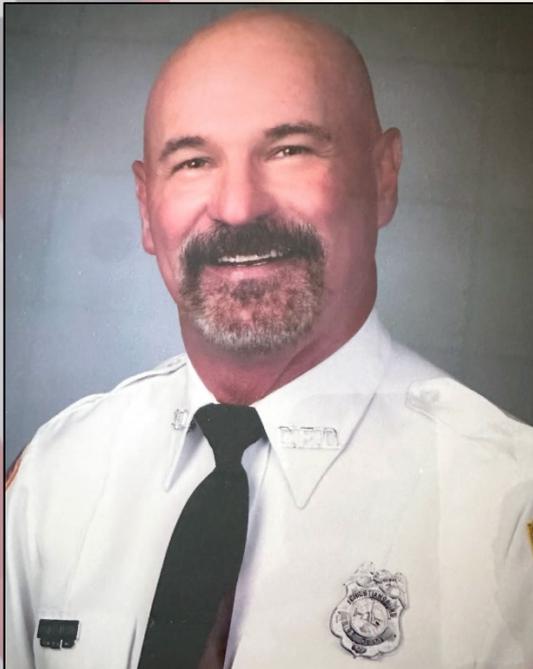
Past Secretary



Christiansburg FD

David Lee Flinchum

October 7, 1962 – July 26, 2024



27 Years of Service



Christiansburg FD

Gratton Howard Thompson, Jr.

October 11, 1934 – November 10, 2024



63 Years of Service

Captain



Falling Spring FD

James “Jim” Kern, Jr.

April 17, 1976 – October 30, 2024



30+ Years of Service



Fox Hill VFC Auxiliary

Linda Wallace Melson

August 6, 1938 – August 14, 2024





Gladstone VF&RS

Willie Burton Cyrus

June 27, 1933 – April 18, 2025



Board of Directors

**Gladstone Rescue Squad
40 Years of Service**



Gloucester VF&R

Paul William “Billy” Clements

July 8, 1943 – May 1, 2025



60 Years of Service

Past Assistant Chief



Greater Springfield VFD

Bobbie Burns

July 10, 1955 – April 1, 2025

34 Years of Service





Hampton VF Co.

Raymond Thomas Doyle, Jr.

December 24, 1935 – March 1, 2025



39 Years of Service

Life Member



Hampton VF Co.

John C. "Jack" Pope

July 4, 1945 – July 22, 2024



61 Years of Service

Life Member

**Retired Captain with
Hampton Division of Fire & Rescue**



Hose Co. #4

Gary Franklin McDonaldson

December 11, 1948 – June 27, 2025



Life Member



Hose Co. #4

Page Wetsel Sencindiver

July 26, 1940 – May 12, 2025



Life Member



Hose Co. #4

Ernest Howard "Junior" Shifflett

May 28, 1944 – February 19, 2025



Life Member



Hose Co. #4

Charles William "Bill" Stickley, Jr.

January 3, 1942 – June 30, 2025



28 Years of Service

Retired Lieutenant (2003)

Grottoes VFD

Past Captain

Life Member



Hose Co. #4 Auxiliary

Sandra Kay Monger Shifflett

July 31, 1946 – June 25, 2025



Life Member

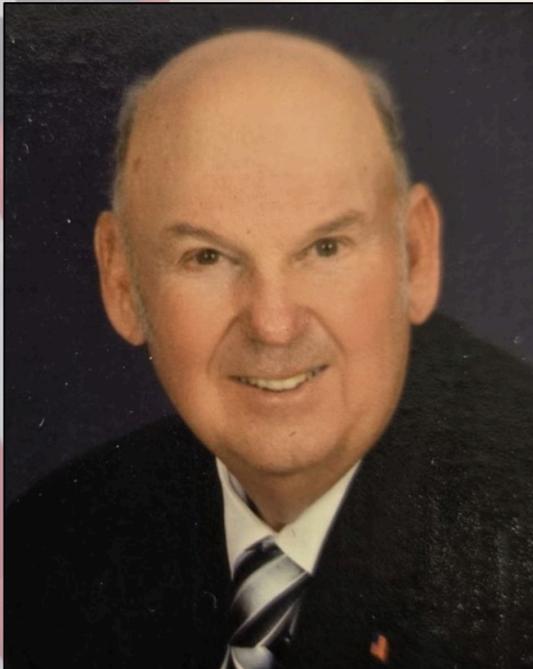
AVSFA Life Member



Mathews VFD

James "Bullet" B. Hudgins

March 10, 1949 – March 6, 2025



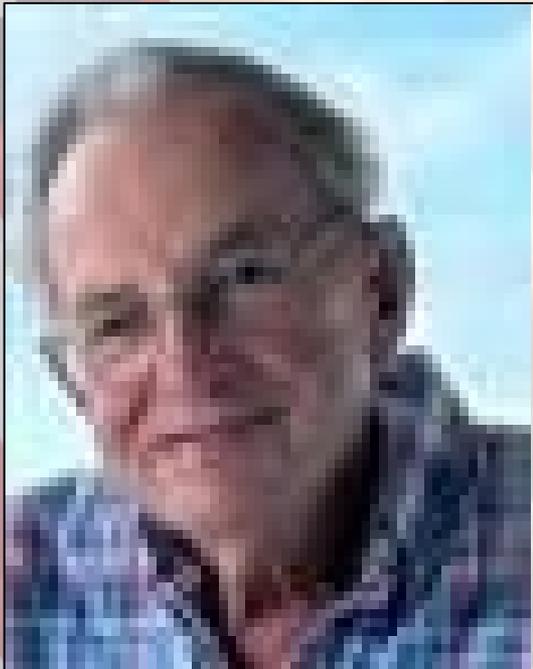
50+ Years of Service



Mathews VFD

James "Jimmy" O. Stewart, Jr.

November 18, 1933 – December 13, 2024



50+ Years of Service



Painter VFCo.

Walter R. "Bobby" Groton

June 16, 1942 – October 1, 2024



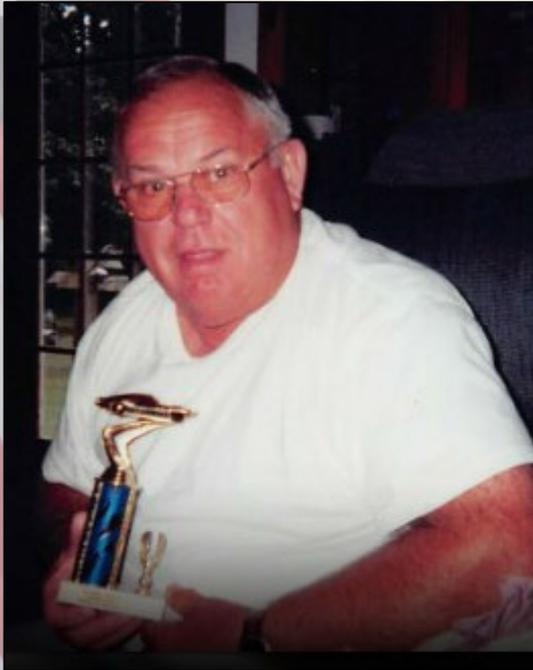
61 Years of Service



Sedley VFD

Alfred Dean "Cubie" Hewett

October 16, 1938 – December 7, 2024



30+ Years of Service



Spotsylvania VFCo #9 Auxiliary

Cathy Best

April 26, 1956 – June 4, 2025



14 Years of Service

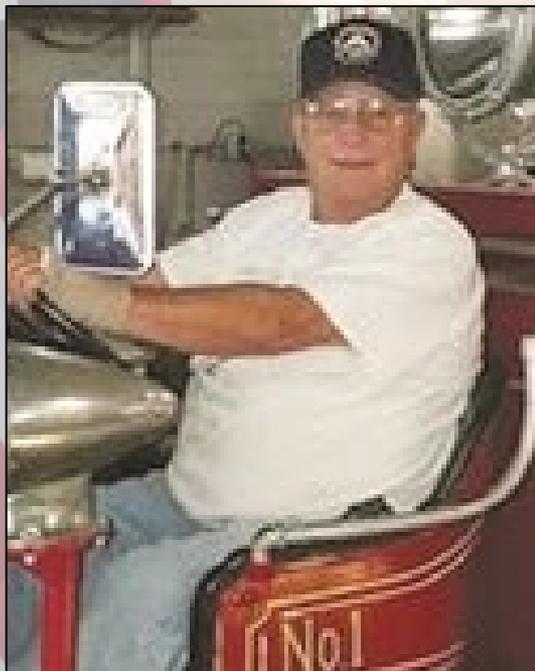
Vice President



Strasburg VFD

Denis "Denny" LoVan Sonner

October 11, 1953 – February 8, 2025



50 Years of Service

Life Member



Tangier VFD

Larry Pruitt

October 18, 1946 – October 11, 2024



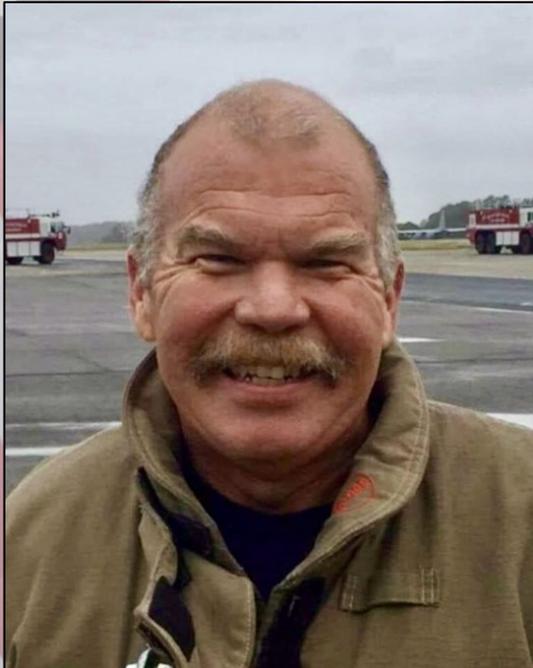
52 Years of Service



Tasley VFCo.

Philip Bryan “Daff” Daffin

April 15, 1964 – February 8, 2025



47 Years of Service

Past President

Life Member



Verona VFCo.

George Walton Weller

April 10, 1933 – July 5, 2025



60+ Years of Service

Charter Member



Vienna VFD

John William “Bill” Droke

August 6, 1945 – July 1, 2025



18 Years of Service



Vienna VFD

Rev. Dr. Charles N. Pickell

December 18, 1927 – July 2, 2025



10 Years of Service

Past President



Wythe VF&RCo.

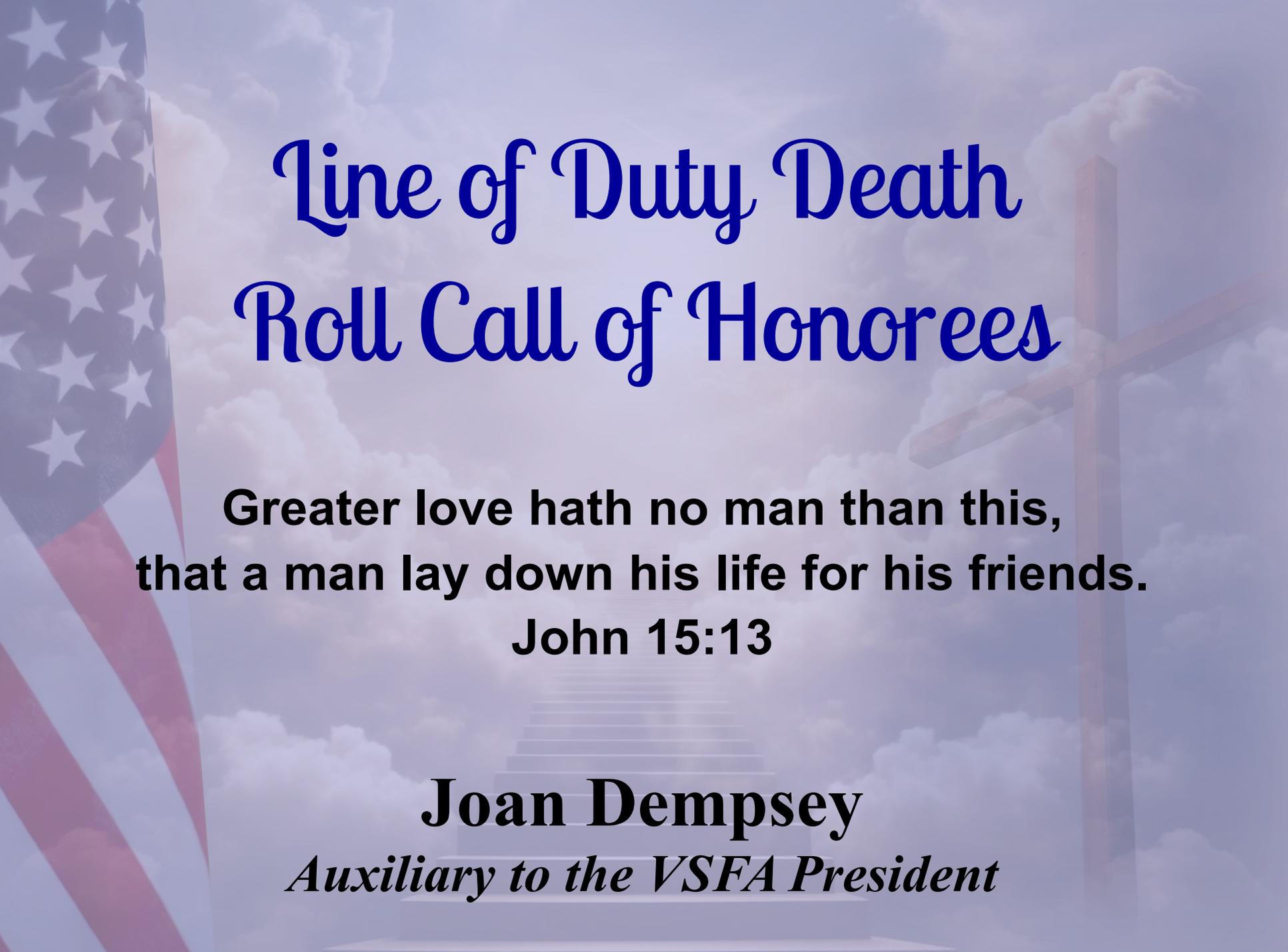
Leroy "Lee" F. Moore III

January 9, 1945 – January 8, 2025



53 Years of Service

Chief since 1987



Line of Duty Death Roll Call of Honorees

**Greater love hath no man than this,
that a man lay down his life for his friends.**

John 15:13

Joan Dempsey

Auxiliary to the VSFA President

Trevor Bryan Brown

July 26, 1978 – February 16, 2024

Sterling VFCo

8 Years of Service



Ernest Nelson “Ernie” Cash

March 10, 1950 – April 5, 2022

Monelison VFD

Chief (20+ years)

Fire Instructor



Rodney Jermaine “Cup” Coles

November 8, 1973 – August 3, 2023

Richmond FD&ES

15 Years of Service



Earl E. Dyer, Jr.

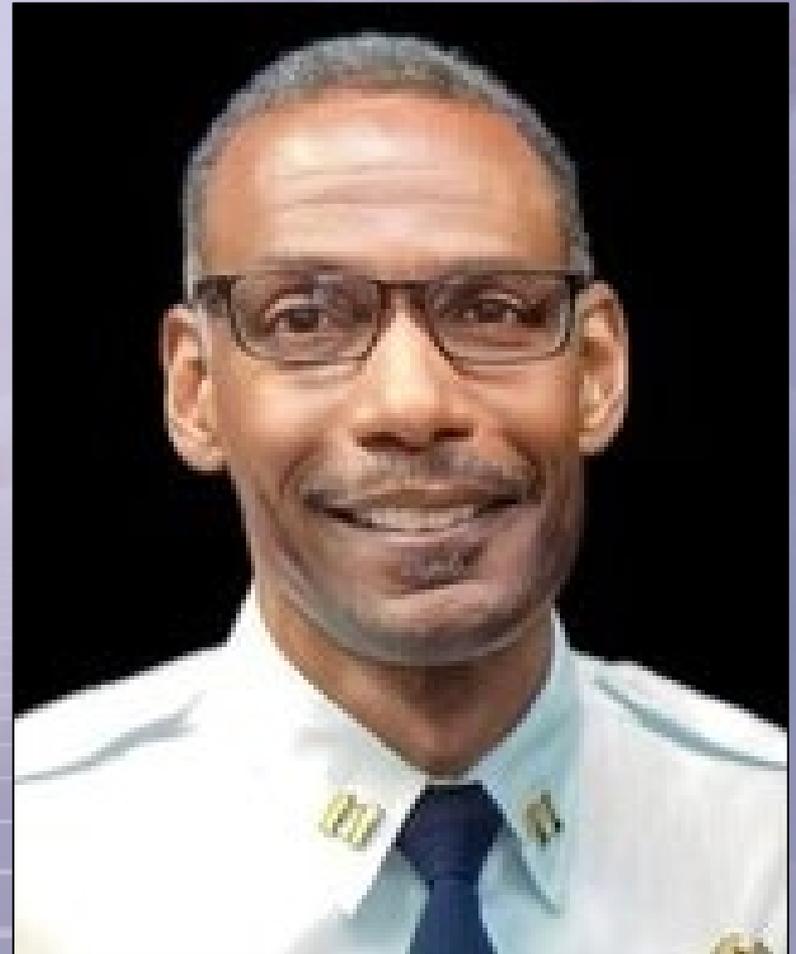
DOD: October 5, 2023

Richmond FD

Battalion Chief Deputy

Past Fire Marshal

Past Lieutenant



Matthew A. Gallina

April 6, 1976 – August 21, 2024

Fire Investigator

Virginia Beach FD

Member:

**International Association
of Firefighters &**

**International Association
of Arson Investigators**



Thomas “Tom” McCarthy Hennessy

July 16, 1969 – April 21, 2022

**Nokesville VF&RD
Fire Station 5**

15 Years of Service

Operational Master FF



David Walker Hogan

October 24, 1961 – December 26, 2023

Clearbrook FD #7



Andrew Wade Jenks

May 15, 1987 – July 6, 2024

Lynchburg FD

Station 1

Master Firefighter

Truck 1

Station 1 & 6

**Technical Rescue &
Wildland Teams**

Pipe & Drum Corp (drums)



Jacob “Jake” Scott Kincaid

October 26, 1987 – February 3, 2025

Richlands F&R

New Garden RS

ProMed

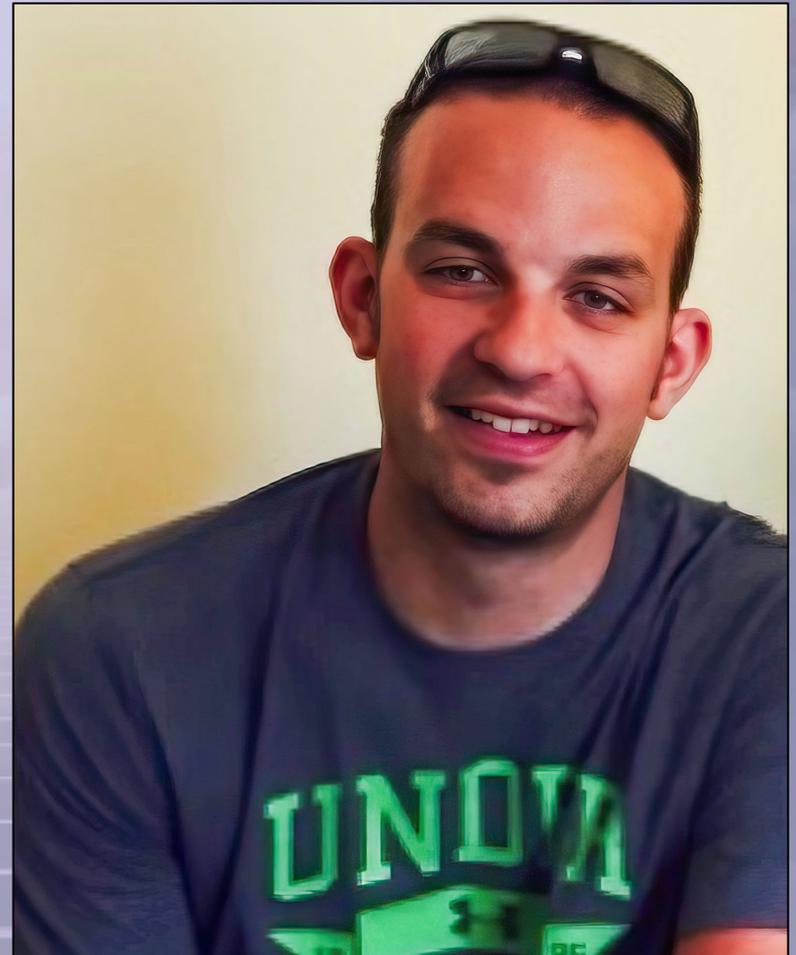


John Ross Laronda

July 26, 1988 – June 6, 2017

Altavista FCo

Captain



Mark Allen McCowan

December 7, 1971 – October 3, 2022

Clinchco FD

35 Years of Service



Joseph Richard Merricks

June 20, 1980 – April 27, 2023

Altavista FCo

Captain

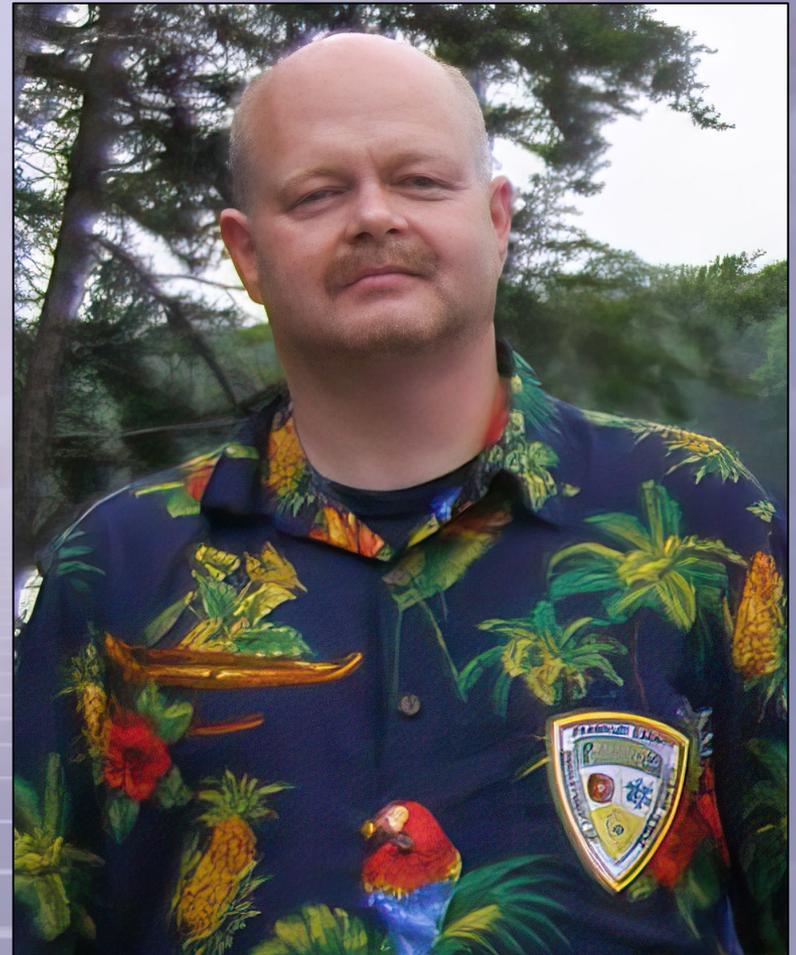


Eric Paul Newman

January 6, 1962 – August 4, 2021

Franklin County Public
Safety

Firefighter/Paramedic



Ian Thomas Strickler

August 7, 1987 – July 5, 2023

**Frederick County F&R
Recruit Firefighter**



John Everette Tucker

November 26, 1969 – April 8, 2023

Altavista FCo

31 Years of Service

Chief (18 years)

Past Treasurer



James Carson Ward, Jr.

January 9, 1975 – March 30, 2024

VA Department of Forestry



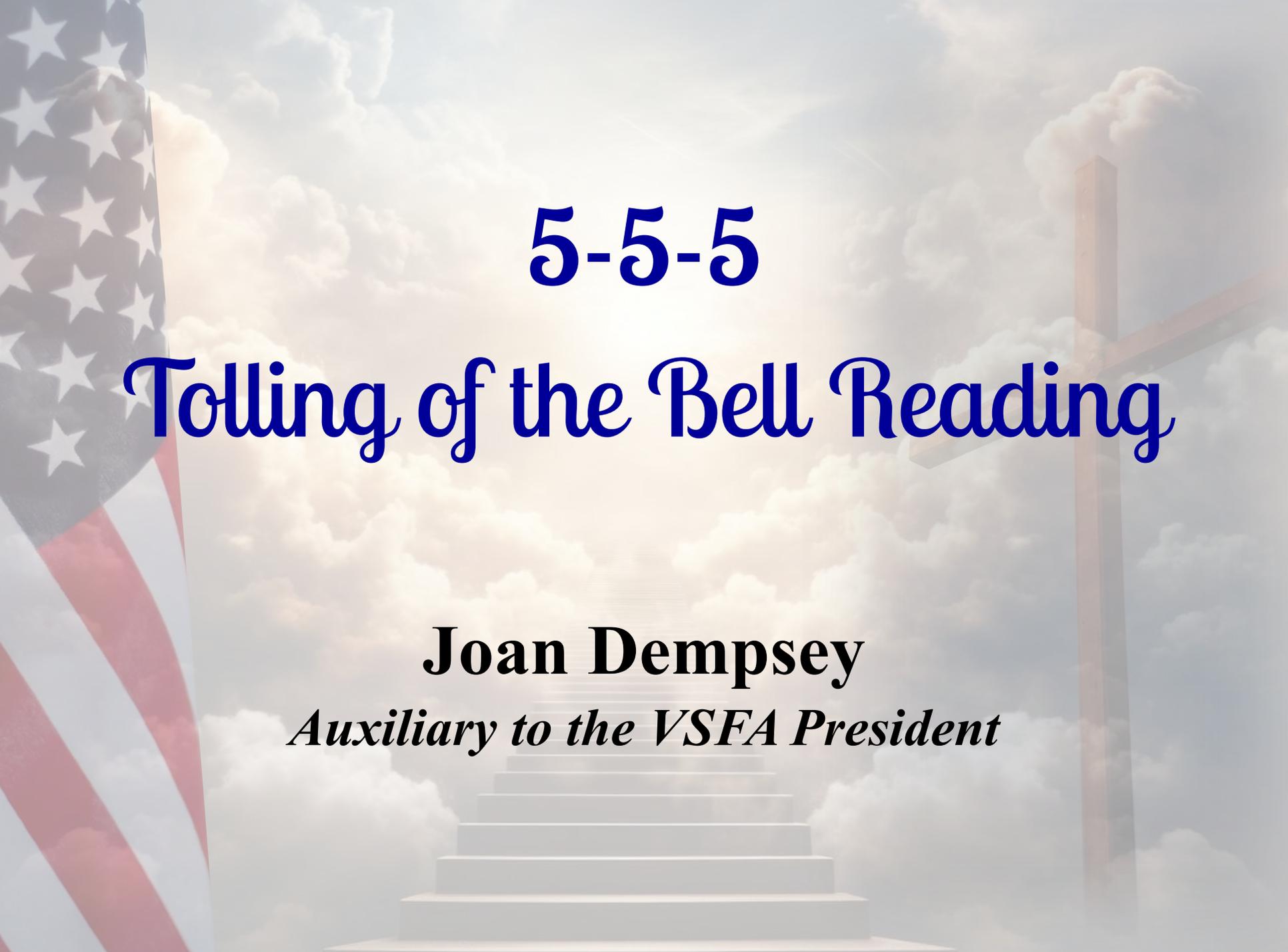
Michael “Mike” Wayne Webb

October 9, 1968 – November 13, 2021

Callaway VFD&RS

35 Years of Service



The background features a soft-focus American flag on the left side, a large white cross on the right side, and a set of white stairs leading upwards in the center. The sky is filled with white, fluffy clouds, and a bright light source is visible behind the clouds, creating a hazy, ethereal atmosphere.

5-5-5

Tolling of the Bell Reading

Joan Dempsey

Auxiliary to the VSFA President



Moment of Silence

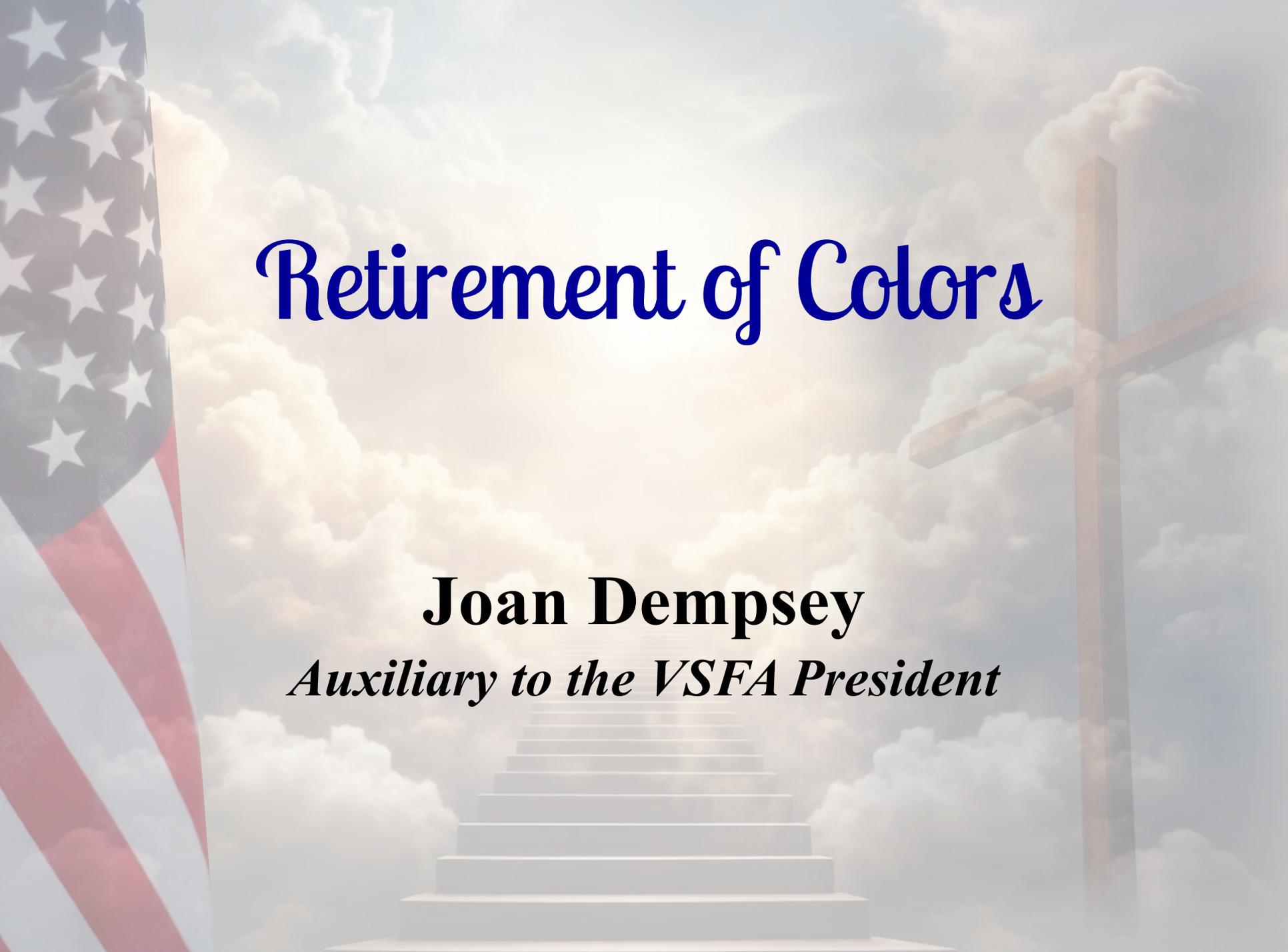


Last Call TAPS



Benediction

Dale Jamison
VSFA Chaplain



Retirement of Colors

Joan Dempsey

Auxiliary to the VSFA President

Special Thanks

Culpeper County Volunteer Fire Department
who assisted with the placement of the flowers and the ringing of the bell.

Lynchburg Fire Department Honor Guard

The Virginia Department of Fire Programs
for providing and setting up the projector for the slide show and
for those handing out the programs for this evening's Memorial Service.



Thank you for attending.

Please take a moment to snap a picture with the memorial display in honor of your loved one. Also, feel free to take a flower in remembrance of them.

Background images by rawpixel.com