

Jesse D. Gates

Jesse D. Gates was honored on the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg, Maryland and was included in the USFA's annual report Firefighter Fatalities in the United States.

Age	
Rank	Pilot
Classification	Career
Incident date	Jun 3, 1997
Date of death	Jun 3, 1997
Cause of death	Struck By
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Driving/Operating Vehicle/Apparatus
Emergency duty	No
Duty type	Other On-Duty
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Department information

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Ft Apache Indian Reservation and BIA Facility Mgt
Whiteriver, AZ

Leo A. Stevens

Leo A. Stevens was honored on the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg, Maryland and was included in the USFA's annual report Firefighter Fatalities in the United States.

Age	55
Rank	Firefighter
Classification	Career
Incident date	Jun 3, 1997
Date of death	Jun 3, 1997
Cause of death	Struck By
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Riding Vehicle/Apparatus
Emergency duty	No
Duty type	Other On-Duty
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Department information

Ft. Apache Indian Reservation and BIA Facility Mgt

Whiteriver, AZ

Richard G. Lupe

Richard G. Lupe was honored on the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg, Maryland and was included in the USFA's annual report Firefighter Fatalities in the United States.

Age	43
Rank	Lead Forestry Technician
Classification	Career
Incident date	May 14, 2003 14:30
Date of death	Jun 19, 2003
Cause of death	Caught or Trapped
Nature of death	Burns
Activity type	Support
Emergency duty	No
Duty type	Other On-Duty
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Memorial fund information:

Donations for the Lupe family can be made to the WMAT-Rick Lupe Donation Fund at any Wells Fargo Bank, account No. 3828332563. A Lupe Fund also has been set up at Arizona Federal Credit Union, account No. 468902.

Department information

BIA-Fort Apache Agency/Forestry/Fire

US Dept. of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs Fort Apache Agency, P.O. Box 560
Whiteriver, AZ 85941

Contact: George Leech

Randall Bonito, Jr.

Randall Bonito, Jr. was honored on the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg, Maryland and was included in the USFA's annual report Firefighter Fatalities in the United States.

Age	32
Rank	Firefighter/Helitack Crewmember
Classification	Career
Incident date	Jul 26, 2003 10:35
Date of death	Jul 26, 2003
Cause of death	Struck By
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Riding Vehicle/Apparatus
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	On-Scene Fire
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Memorial fund information:

Firefighter Bonito and the pilot (name/info pending) of a helicopter were both killed when for a cause still to be determined the helicopter crashed while taking firefighters from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to begin an initial attack on a fire in the Aspen Ridge area of Arizona.

Department information

BIA Fire Management

P.O. Box 560

Whiteriver, AZ 85941

Contact: George Leech

Jess Pearce

Jess Pearce was honored on the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg, Maryland and was included in the USFA's annual report Firefighter Fatalities in the United States.

Age	50
Rank	Pilot
Classification	Career
Incident date	Jul 26, 2003 10:34
Date of death	Jul 26, 2003
Cause of death	Struck By
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Driving/Operating Vehicle/Apparatus
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	On-Scene Fire
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Memorial fund information:

Arizona Federal Credit Union Account # 468906, (<https://www.azfcu.org/>). Checks can also be sent to the 100 Club (in memory of Jess Pearce), 5151 North 19th Ave., Suite 204, Phoenix, AZ 85015

Department information

BIA Fire Management

P.O. Box 560

Whiteriver, AZ 85941

Contact: Fire Management Coordinator George Leech

Deon "Dino" Jason Classay

Deon "Dino" Jason Classay was included in the USFA's annual report Firefighter Fatalities in the United States.

Age	42
Rank	Firefighter
Classification	Wildland Full-Time
Incident date	Jul 23, 2011 12:00
Date of death	Jul 24, 2011
Cause of death	Other
Nature of death	Other
Activity type	Other
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	On-Scene Fire
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Department information

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Fort Apache Agency
P.O. Box 560 USNG: 12S WC 95 44
Whiteriver, AZ 85941

Contact: Lynn Polacca, Deputy Superintendent

