

Charles Franklin Key

Charles Franklin Key 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	59
Rank	Co-pilot
Classification	Career
Incident date	Jun 27, 1998
Date of death	Jun 27, 1998
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

Department information

Neptune Aviation Services
5225 Highway 10 West Missoula Airport
Missoula, MT 59808

Contact: Mark Timmons

Jerry David Donahue

Jerry David Donahue 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	57
Rank	Pilot
Classification	Career
Incident date	Jun 27, 1998
Date of death	Jun 27, 1998
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

Department information

Neptune Aviation Services

5225 Highway 10 West Missoula Airport
Missoula, MT 59808

Contact: Mark Timmons

Robert E. Kelly

Robert E. Kelly 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	58
Rank	Aerial Firefighter/Chief Pilot
Classification	Career
Incident date	Jul 29, 1994
Date of death	Jul 29, 1994
Cause of death	Struck By
Nature of death	Burns
Activity type	Driving/Operating Vehicle/Apparatus
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	On-Scene Fire
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Department information

U.S. Forest Service, Missoula Aerial Fire Depot

Missoula International Airport 5225 Hwy 10 West, Box 17
Missoula, MT 59802

Contact: Mark Timmons (Neptune Inc. - Contract)

Randy C. Lynn

Randy C. Lynn 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	44
Rank	Aerial Firefighter/Co-pilot
Classification	Career
Incident date	Jul 29, 1994
Date of death	Jul 29, 1994
Cause of death	Struck By
Nature of death	Burns
Activity type	Driving/Operating Vehicle/Apparatus
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	On-Scene Fire
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Department information

U.S. Forest Service, Missoula Aerial Fire Depot

Missoula International Airport 5225 Hwy 10 West, Box 17
Missoula, MT 59802

Contact: Mark Timmons (Neptune,Inc. - Contract)

Donald K Mackey

Donald K Mackey 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	34
Rank	Smokejumper
Classification	Career
Incident date	Jul 6, 1994
Date of death	Jul 6, 1994
Cause of death	Caught or Trapped
Nature of death	Burns
Activity type	Advance Hose Lines/Fire Attack (includes Wildland)
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	On-Scene Fire
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Department information

U.S. Forest Service

Missoula, MT

Frank Funston

Fatality status is provisional and may change as USFA contacts State Fire Marshals to verify fatality incident information.

Age	47
Rank	Firefighter
Classification	Volunteer
Incident date	Aug 27, 2000 10:00
Date of death	Aug 29, 2000
Cause of death	
Nature of death	
Activity type	Advance Hose Lines/Fire Attack (includes Wildland)
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	On-Scene Fire
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Department information

Kootenai National Forest

1101 US Hwy. #2 West
Libby, MT 59923

Contact: Bob Castaneda

David Ray Rendek, Jr.

David Ray Rendek, 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	24
Rank	Firefighter
Classification	Career
Incident date	Sep 3, 2001 10:15
Date of death	Sep 3, 2001
Cause of death	Struck By
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Support
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	On-Scene Fire
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Department information

Bitterroot National Forest

1801 North First
Hamilton, MT 59840-3114

Contact: Spike Thompson, Dep. Forest Supervisor

Joan Esther Spear

Joan Esther Spear 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	46
Rank	Senior Engine Boss
Classification	Career
Incident date	Mar 18, 2002 12:15
Date of death	Mar 18, 2002
Cause of death	Stress/Overexertion
Nature of death	Cerebrovascular Accident
Activity type	Fitness Activity
Emergency duty	No
Duty type	Training
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Department information

MT DNRC Fire and Aviation Mgmt, Dillon Unit
MT DNRC Dillon Unit 730 North Montana Street
Dillon, MT 59725

Contact: Bobb Lawrence

Corey R Clawson

Corey R Clawson was honored on the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg, Maryland .

Age	33
Rank	Firefighter
Classification	Volunteer
Incident date	Aug 28, 1992
Date of death	Aug 28, 1992
Cause of death	Struck By
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	
Emergency duty	No
Duty type	On-Scene Fire
Fixed property use	

Department information

Libby Volunteer Fire Department

Libby, MT

William Richard Grudzinski

William Richard Grudzinski 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	46
Rank	Assistant Chief
Classification	Volunteer
Incident date	Jun 8, 2004 19:30
Date of death	Jun 8, 2004
Cause of death	Stress/Overexertion
Nature of death	Heart Attack
Activity type	Fitness Activity
Emergency duty	No
Duty type	Training
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Memorial fund information:

In memory of Assistant Chief Willie Grudzinski, C/o Bridger Volunteer Fire Department, PO Box 60, Bridger, MT 59014

Department information

Bridger Volunteer Fire Department

PO Box 60

Bridger, MT 59104

Contact: Vern Adkins

Michael James MacDonald

Michael James MacDonald 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	26
Rank	Firefighter
Classification	Wildland Part-Time
Incident date	Jun 27, 2008 15:48
Date of death	Jun 29, 2008
Cause of death	Vehicle Collision - Includes Aircraft
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Other
Emergency duty	No
Duty type	Other On-Duty
Fixed property use	N/A

Department information

Chief Mountain Interagency HotShot Crew

Blackfeet Tribe PO Box 850
Browning, MT 59417

Contact: Superintendent Lyle St. Goddard

Calvin Gene Wahlstrom

Calvin Gene Wahlstrom 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	61
Rank	Chief Pilot
Classification	Wildland Contract
Incident date	Sep 1, 2008 18:10
Date of death	Sep 1, 2008
Cause of death	Vehicle Collision - Includes Aircraft
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Driving/Operating Vehicle/Apparatus
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	Responding
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Memorial fund information:
Pending

Department information

Neptune Aviation Services, Inc.
1 Corporate Way USNG: 11T QM 2256 9978
Missoula, MT 59808

Contact: Chief Executive Officer Mark Timmons

Gregory Jess Gonsioroski

Gregory Jess Gonsioroski 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	41
Rank	First Officer - Pilot
Classification	Wildland Contract
Incident date	Sep 1, 2008 18:10
Date of death	Sep 1, 2008
Cause of death	Vehicle Collision - Includes Aircraft
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Driving/Operating Vehicle/Apparatus
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	Responding
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Department information

Neptune Aviation Services, Inc.

1 Corporate Way USNG: 11T QM 2256 9978
Missoula, MT 59808

Contact: Chief Executive Officer Mark Timmons

Zachary Jake VanderGriend

Zachary Jake VanderGriend 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	25
Rank	Crew Chief - Mechanic
Classification	Wildland Contract
Incident date	Sep 1, 2008 18:10
Date of death	Sep 1, 2008
Cause of death	Vehicle Collision - Includes Aircraft
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Riding Vehicle/Apparatus
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	Responding
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Memorial fund information:
Pending

Department information

Neptune Aviation Services, Inc.

1 Corporate Way USNG: 11T QM 2256 9978
Missoula, MT 59808

Contact: Chief Executive Officer Mark Timmons

Jerry James Parrick

Jerry James Parrick 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	59
Rank	Firefighter
Classification	Volunteer
Incident date	Dec 17, 2008 11:48
Date of death	Dec 17, 2008
Cause of death	Vehicle Collision - Includes Aircraft
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Scene Safety
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	On-Scene Non-Fire
Fixed property use	Street/Road

Memorial fund information:
Unknown.

Department information

West End Volunteer Fire and Rescue

Box 110

De Borgia, MT 59830

Contact: Bruce Charles

Thomas Lowell Risk

Thomas Lowell Risk 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	66
Rank	Captain/Pilot
Classification	Wildland Contract
Incident date	Apr 25, 2009 10:00
Date of death	Apr 25, 2009
Cause of death	Vehicle Collision - Includes Aircraft
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Driving/Operating Vehicle/Apparatus
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	Responding
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Memorial fund information:

Cards and letters may be sent for the Risk Family, Flynn Family, and Buss Family, c/o Neptune Aviation Services, Inc., 2 Corporate Way Missoula, MT 59808. A "Brian Buss Memorial Fund" has been established for his two daughters at the First National Bank of Montana, 201 N. Higgins Ave., Missoula, MT 59802, Tele: (877) 362-6752.

Department information

Neptune Aviation Services, Inc.

1 Corporate Way USNG: 11T QM 2256 9978
Missoula, MT 59808

Contact: President Kristen Schloemer Nicolarsen

Michael Wayne Flynn

Michael Wayne Flynn 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	59
Rank	First Officer/Copilot
Classification	Wildland Contract
Incident date	Apr 25, 2009 10:00
Date of death	Apr 25, 2009
Cause of death	Vehicle Collision - Includes Aircraft
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Driving/Operating Vehicle/Apparatus
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	Responding
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Memorial fund information:

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Department information

Neptune Aviation Services, Inc.

1 Corporate Way USNG: 11T QM 2256 9978
Missoula, MT 59808

Contact: President Kristen Schloemer Nicolarsen

Brian Joseph Buss

Brian Joseph Buss 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	Crew Chief
Classification	Wildland Contract
Incident date	Apr 25, 2009 10:04
Date of death	Apr 25, 2009
Cause of death	Vehicle Collision - Includes Aircraft
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Driving/Operating Vehicle/Apparatus
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	Responding
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Memorial fund information:

Cards and letters may be sent for the Risk Family, Flynn Family, and Buss Family, c/o Neptune Aviation Services, Inc., 2 Corporate Way Missoula, MT 59808. A "Brian Buss Memorial Fund" has been established for his two daughters at the First National Bank of Montana, 201 N. Higgins Ave., Missoula, MT 59802, Tele: (877) 362-6752.

Department information

Neptune Aviation Services, Inc.

2 Corporate Way USNG: 11T QM 2256 9978
Missoula, MT 59808

Contact: President Kristen Schloemer Nicolarsen

Todd Neal Tompkins

Todd Neal Tompkins 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	48
Rank	Captain
Classification	Wildland Contract
Incident date	Jun 3, 2012 14:00
Date of death	Jun 3, 2012
Cause of death	Vehicle Collision - Includes Aircraft
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Advance Hose Lines/Fire Attack (includes Wildland)
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	On-Scene Fire
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Memorial fund information:
Pending

Department information

Neptune Aviation Services, Inc.

1 Corporate Way
Missoula, MT 59808

Contact: Chief Executive Officer Kristen Nicolarsen

Ronnie Edwin Chambless

Ronnie Edwin Chambless 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	40
Rank	First Officer
Classification	Wildland Contract
Incident date	Jun 3, 2012 14:00
Date of death	Jun 3, 2012
Cause of death	Vehicle Collision - Includes Aircraft
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Advance Hose Lines/Fire Attack (includes Wildland)
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	On-Scene Fire
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Department information

Neptune Aviation Services, Inc.

1 Corporate Way
Missoula, MT 59808

Contact: Chief Executive Officer Kristen Nicolarsen

Remy Hathaway Pochelon

Remy Hathaway Pochelon 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	54
Rank	Fire Management Officer
Classification	Wildland Part-Time
Incident date	Sep 30, 2009
Date of death	Sep 30, 2009
Cause of death	Stress/Overexertion
Nature of death	Cerebrovascular Accident
Activity type	Other
Emergency duty	No
Duty type	After
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Department information

U.S. Forest Service

Philipsburg, MT

Todd Allen Rummel

Todd Allen Rummel was included in the USFA's annual report Firefighter Fatalities in the United States.

Age	43
Rank	Fire Chief
Classification	Volunteer
Incident date	Jun 19, 2014 21:00
Date of death	Jun 19, 2014
Cause of death	Vehicle Collision - Includes Aircraft
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Driving/Operating Vehicle/Apparatus
Emergency duty	No
Duty type	Other On-Duty
Fixed property use	Street/Road

Department information

Three Forks Volunteer Fire Department

PO Box 444, 13 East Date ST U.S. National Grid: 12T VR 5720 8220
Three Forks, MT 59752

Contact: Keith Aune

Douglas James Casson

Douglas James Casson 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	46
Rank	Safety Officer
Classification	Volunteer
Incident date	Aug 6, 2014 02:00
Date of death	Aug 6, 2014
Cause of death	Stress/Overexertion
Nature of death	Heart Attack
Activity type	Not On Scene
Emergency duty	No
Duty type	After
Fixed property use	

Department information

Vaughn Rural Volunteer Fire Department
380 Post Avenue
Vaughn, MT 59487

Contact: Jason McAllister

Dave "Chief 5" Anderson

Dave "Chief 5" Anderson 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	66
Rank	Fire Chief
Classification	Volunteer
Incident date	Jul 22, 2014 10:00
Date of death	Aug 25, 2014
Cause of death	Vehicle Collision - Includes Aircraft
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Driving/Operating Vehicle/Apparatus
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	Responding

Fixed property use

Department information

Fort Shaw Fire Department

P.O. Box #68, 140 Campbell Street U.S. National Grid: 12T VT 387 620
Fort Shaw, MT 59443

Contact: Assist Chief/Acting Chief Craig Askeland

Justin Randall Beebe

Justin Randall Beebe 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	26
Rank	Firefighter
Classification	Wildland Full-Time
Incident date	Aug 13, 2016 16:00
Date of death	Aug 13, 2016
Cause of death	Struck By
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Advance Hose Lines/Fire Attack (includes Wildland)
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	On-Scene Fire
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Department information

United States Forest Service – Lolo National Forest
24 Fort Missoula Road U.S. National Grid: 11T QM 24 92
Missoula, MT 59804

Contact: Forest Supervisor Tim Garcia

Darryl "Poor Boy" Elden Vielle

Darryl "Poor Boy" Elden Vielle was included in the USFA's annual report Firefighter Fatalities in the United States.

Age	51
Rank	Crew Boss/Engine Boss
Classification	Wildland Part-Time
Incident date	Nov 30, 2016 08:00
Date of death	Nov 30, 2016
Cause of death	Stress/Overexertion
Nature of death	Heart Attack
Activity type	Not On Scene
Emergency duty	No
Duty type	Other On-Duty

Fixed property use

Department information

Blackfeet Forestry and Fire Management

BIA Building 10 (Fire Cache) Grandpa Rd POB 2804 U.S. National Grid: 12U UU 5155 8075
Browning, MT 59417

Contact: Fire Management Officer Chris Trombley

Brent Michael Witham

Brent Michael Witham 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	29
Rank	Firefighter
Classification	Wildland Full-Time
Incident date	Aug 2, 2017
Date of death	Aug 2, 2017
Cause of death	Struck By
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Advance Hose Lines/Fire Attack (includes Wildland)
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	On-Scene Fire
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Department information

U.S. Forest Service

Northern Region (R1) 26 Fort Missoula Road
Missoula, MT 59804

Contact: Thomas L. Tidwell

Tom ""Tommy"" O. Martin

Tom ""Tommy"" O. Martin was included in the USFA's annual report Firefighter Fatalities in the United States.

Age	61
Rank	Fire Chief
Classification	Volunteer
Incident date	Aug 18, 2017
Date of death	Aug 19, 2017
Cause of death	Stress/Overexertion
Nature of death	Heart Attack
Activity type	Unknown
Emergency duty	No
Duty type	After
Fixed property use	Store/Office

Department information

Black Eagle Volunteer Fire Department

519 21st NE (Box 533)

Black Eagle, MT 59414

Contact: Mike Deshayes

Thomas Mark Duffy

Fatality status is provisional and may change as USFA contacts State Fire Marshals to verify fatality incident information.

Age	40
Rank	Pilot
Classification	Wildland Contract
Incident date	Aug 24, 2020 16:00
Date of death	Aug 24, 2020
Cause of death	Vehicle Collision - Includes Aircraft
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Advance Hose Lines/Fire Attack (includes Wildland)
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	On-Scene Fire
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Department information

Central Copters, Inc.

191 Aviation Ln
Belgrade, MT 59714

Contact: Mark Duffy, Owner

Tim Hart

Fatality status is provisional and may change as USFA contacts State Fire Marshals to verify fatality incident information.

Age	36
Rank	Smokejumper/Firefighter
Classification	Wildland Full-Time
Incident date	May 24, 2021
Date of death	Jun 2, 2021
Cause of death	Other
Nature of death	Trauma
Activity type	Advance Hose Lines/Fire Attack (includes Wildland)
Emergency duty	Yes
Duty type	On-Scene Fire
Fixed property use	Outdoor Property

Department information

West Yellowstone Interagency Fire Center

PO Box 610

West Yellowstone, MT 59758

Contact: Vicki Christiansen

