

The month of May is designated as police memorial and recognition month. A time that we remember and memorialize our brothers and sisters that made the ultimate sacrifice and lost their lives in the line of duty, to those brothers and sisters we say "Gone But Never Forgotten". We also remember and give honor to those officers who are disabled and those who were injured in the line of duty.

Please if you have a moment, make a call and reach out to our Gold Star Families and to our disabled officers; let them know they are in your thoughts and prayers.

We are presently faced with unprecedented times. Trials, tribulations and challenges that we have never seen in our lifetime. Both the CPD and CFD have unexpectedly lost some of our finest members, and we are at a loss of words to comfort these families and loved ones. Please keep these members and their families in your thoughts and prayers. If you have a moment reach out with a call or a note, let them know that their loved ones will always be part of our family.

I was asked recently the following question by one of our members. "We live in trying times; the world around us in a state that we have never seen before, can the kindness of one person really make a difference to the world around him?" To answer the question, It brought to mind the following parable of "My Old Typewriter"...."Xvxry Onx Is Important".

You arx a kxy pxrson, just like my typxwritxr. You sxx, xvxn though my typxwritxr is an old modxl, it works vxry wxll xxcxpt for onx kxy. You would think that with all thx othxr kxys functioning propxrly, onx kxy not working would hardly bx noticxd; but just onx kxy out of whack sxxms to ruin thx wholx xffort.

You may say to yoursxlf, "Wxll I'm only onx pxrson. No onx will noticx if I don't do my bxst." But it doxs makx a diffxrxncx bxcausx, to bx xffxctivx as a pxrson, an organization or as a family, activx participation is nxxdxd by xach and xvxry onx to thx bxst to his or hxr ability. So thx nxxt timx you think you arx not important, or that you don't count, rxmxmbxr my old typxwritxr. You arx a kxy pxrson, your family nxxds you, work needs you and lifx is not thx samx without you.

As G-d's children we are all special in our own way. EACH KEY COUNTS, you are a vital part of someone's life and you are the world to them. NEVER UNDER ESTIMATE OR UNDERVALUE YOURSELF.

## "My Special Angel"

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In the Month of May we also honor those special people in our lives called Mothers, It brings to mind the following short story that describes these beautiful people ... "So What Should I Call My Angel?"...

Once upon a time there was a child ready to be born. So one day he asked G-d: "They tell me You are sending me down to earth tomorrow, but how am I going to live there being so small and helpless?"

G-d replied, "Among the many angels, I chose one for you. She will be waiting for you and will take care of you."

"But tell me, here in Heaven, I don't do anything else but sing and smile, that's enough for me to be happy."

"Your angel will sing for you and will also smile for you every day. And you will feel your angel's love and be happy."

"And how am I going to be able to understand when people talk to me, if I don't know the language that men talk?"

"Your angel will tell you the most beautiful and sweet words you will ever hear, and with much patience and care, your angel will teach you how to speak."

"And what am I going to do when I want to talk to You?"

"Your angel will place your hands together and will teach you how to pray."

"I've heard that on earth there are bad people. Who will protect me?"

"Your angel will defend you even if it means risking its' life."

"But I will always be sad because I will not see you anymore."

"Your angel will always talk to you about Me and will teach you the way for you to come back to Me, even though I will always be next to you."

At that moment there was much peace in Heaven, but voices from earth could already be heard, and the child in a hurry asked softly:

"Oh G-d, I am about to leave now, please tell me my angel's name."

"Your angel's name is of no importance, you can simply call your angel: Mom."

This isn't just about being a mother; it's about appreciating the people in your lives while you have them... no matter who that person is, and there is no better time to show your love to them than today.

And finally remember,

Be kinder than necessary to others, for everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle and is carrying a heavy burden of their own.

Should you need a shoulder to lean on, an ear to listen or perhaps have some good humor to share, your Chaplains are available 24/7.

Chaplains Unit 312-746-8458 or look us up in the FOP book for our individual contact numbers.

On behalf of all your Chaplains, may G-d bless you and keep you safe. Amen.

Compliments of your Police Chaplain

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