



“If Tomorrow Never Comes”

September 2021

As this goes to print, the Chicago Police Department mourns the loss of one of our beloved and best, P.O. Ella French, whose life was taken from us so tragically and suddenly, in the line of duty, in the prime of her life. Our beloved Ella was called back home to her Creator way too soon. That was the will of the Lord, something that we humans will never understand. She loved all, and was loved by all. She was kind, compassionate, hardworking, and the kind of person you loved being around. She was brave, never afraid of a challenge and was always there when called upon. Her memory and sacrifice will forever be etched in our hearts. May her soul rest in peace, "Gone But Never Forgotten". Please keep our Hero Ella and her wonderful family in your prayers. We are also mindful of P.O. Ella French's partners, also our Heroes", P.O. Carlos Yanez, who was very seriously injured that night and P.O. Joshua Blas, we thank them for their courage, bravery, and heroism. Please keep them and their loved ones in your thoughts and prayers.

A special shout out and thanks to the outpouring of love, compassion and friendship to ALL the members of CPD, CFD, and the MANY Law Enforcement agencies and First Responders who came out in droves, that night at the hospital, at the Wake and the Funeral. Your presence meant more than words can say; it was a TREMENDOUS show of love and support. On behalf of ALL the Chaplains, we salute you and say thanks for your compassion, friendship, and just 'being there'; this was life is all about, being there for each other.

I dedicate this month's article to our departed member and Hero P.O. Ella French.

"IF TOMORROW NEVER COMES"

If I knew it would be the last time that I'd see you fall asleep, I would tuck you in more tightly and pray the Lord, your soul to keep.

If I knew it would be the last time that I see you walk out the door, I would give you a hug and kiss and call you back for one more.

If I knew it would be the last time I'd hear your voice lifted up in praise, I would video tape each action and word, so I could play them back day after day.

If I knew it would be the last time, I could spare an extra minute or two to stop and say "I love you," instead of assuming, you would know I do.

If I knew it would be the last time I would be there to share your day, well I'm sure you'll have so many more, so I can let just this one slip away.

For surely there's always tomorrow to make up for an oversight, and we always get a second chance to make everything right.

There will always be another day to say our "I love you's", and certainly there's another chance to say our "Anything I can do's?"

But just in case I might be wrong, and today is all I get, I'd like to say how much I love you and I hope we never forget, Tomorrow is not promised to anyone, young or old alike, And today may be the last chance you get to hold your loved one tight.

So if you're waiting for tomorrow, why not do it today?

For if tomorrow never comes, you'll surely regret the day, that you didn't take that extra time for a smile, a hug, or a kiss and you were too busy to grant someone, what turned out to be their one last wish.

So hold your loved ones close today, whisper in their ear, tell them how much you love them and that you'll always hold them dear. Take time to say "I'm sorry," "please forgive me," "thank you" or "it's okay".

And if tomorrow never comes, you'll have no regrets about today, and your loved ones will always remember your last words...

Yesterday is history, Tomorrow may never come, Today is a gift - that's why it's called the Present. TAKE TIME TO ENJOY YOUR GIFT.

A special shout out to all members of my flock of the Jewish faith, as we enter the New Year and the Jewish Holiday season. Please let me leave you with the traditional blessing. "May you be inscribed in the Book of Life for a sweet year, good health and prosperity. May the coming year be one of your best ones yet!"

On behalf of ALL the Chaplains may G-d bless you and keep you safe.

Should you need a shoulder to lean on, an ear to listen or perhaps have some good humor to share, don't hesitate to give us a call!

Compliments of your Police Chaplain

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