



Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc. Office of the International President



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AN OPEN LETTER TO THE MEMBERSHIP
Subj: Convention Memorial Service

Hello to all Red Knights,

8/29/2016

For those who have been to a convention, I am sure you can agree that one of the most important parts of the banquet is the memorial service, where we honor all the members who have left us and joined Heavens one chapter since the last convention.

At this year's banquet in Wisconsin, a set of unforeseen circumstances presented itself to me at the podium while I was set to read the names of our brothers and sisters that we lost. I could not read the names, primarily, because the list was not available.

This was the most embarrassing moment I have had since I have been in this great organization. I had to improvise on a seconds notice; the piper had already begun playing amazing grace, ringing the bell without reading the names was the only thing I could come to at that moment. I did say "typically we do read the names of those members lost....." and I became speechless. Hindsight, I should have at least given an explanation at that moment.

I am ultimately responsible for this disastrous oversight. I can assure you that while I am President, or while any current board member serves, it will not happen again.

During the next convention an additional apology will be given by me and all 2015-2017 names will be read as they always have been in the past.

As always, we learn from our mistakes and will do better next time.

Again, this was not a change in procedure and I apologize for the mistake. Absolutely no disrespect was intended by anyone. I ask that you do not harbor any ill will towards anyone other than me for not ensuring they were available.

Further, let me assure all members, that this unfortunate circumstance is totally separate and does not or will not affect the names being placed on the memorial in Boylston.

Humbly,
Loyal to our duty
Chris