

# Delaware State Police Museum and Educational Center



P.O. Box 430  
Dover, DE 19903  
<http://www.dspmuseum.com>

Museum Director - Major Kevin P. McDerby, (Ret.) 411  
Newsletter Editor - Debbie Geiser  
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## From the Director's Desk

Major Kevin P. McDerby (Ret.) 411

Visit the new  
Delaware State Police  
Museum website



<http://www.dspmuseum.com>



### *A Special Tribute*

*A Brighter Shade of Green*

*A short story about faith and  
overcoming adversity*



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A requested transfer gone bad, or so he thought. After years of working the road, the seasoned trooper working his new job just wasn't going as planned. The yearning for the road and all that went with it made him question his recent decisions. Until one day, one very special day, his thoughts and feelings suddenly changed.

He had shared a lingering concern with a couple of his new co-workers, which ultimately led to some self-satisfaction. That led to a bond enforced with trust. And, that led to this trooper's dry, cracked and very sad world gradually turning to a dull shade of green. This was the beginning of the most astounding series of significant events I've ever witnessed in my life. Read on.

I share this with you to inspire you. In the meantime the truths within shall also hopefully improve you.

The trooper then became fully entrenched in his new assignment. He began to really enjoy his new duties and the ability to share the passion for his career in law enforcement with others. He began to thrive. However, shortly after his transfer, he noticed a sudden and drastic change in his vision. He, at first, attributed this to the sometimes long hours of staring at the computer screen. Nevertheless, he went for an exam, which led to other tests, which led to the discovery of something horrific in the midst of his brain. A tumor. A tumor was in his brain situated in the same very spot that his late daughter's tumor had been, mid-brain and just behind the eyes. Needless to say, this was the last thing on earth this trooper expected, especially after struggling through the death of his daughter which had occurred only a little more than two years prior. The never ending questions in his mind began to swirl. Around the tumor.

For the next few long weeks he kept the information under tight wraps only telling those immediate family members that could handle it and one co-worker. He then underwent more tests and waited for a full diagnosis before the information was shared with the select few that *had* to be told. The only thing he truly knew for sure at this point was that he was going to get a second opinion. He wasn't going to rely on only one team of doctors' advice. He made this declaration to his co-worker confidante immediately.

Time passed, tests ensued, plans evolved and his internal stress increased. But, no one knew it. He carried on in life continuing to spread sunshine and happiness to all around him. He continued with his generous gifts of coffee and bagels, or doughnuts. He continued to make everyone laugh and smile throughout each and every day. He continued to be the wonderful person that he had always been. And, last and most importantly, he continued believing in the love and power of Almighty God and all of His goodness.



# A Special Tribute Brianna Jiminez

December 3, 1997 - July 3, 2012

After some time had passed, more time than what was acceptable for the situation, his co-worker confidante noticed he hadn't yet mentioned a second opinion and the outcome. Although he may have forgotten his mentioning of the goal to get the second opinion, she hadn't. To her, that particular item felt like an open wound that couldn't be ignored. She knew it could cost him his life. Upon their next meeting, as she sat there nervous with sweat seeping through her clothing, she breached the topic. He was no longer emphatic, though. In fact, he seemed as if he had totally changed his mind and had decided to not obtain a second opinion. She couldn't let it be. She felt strongly that only due to inexperience and being bewildered at the time, he hadn't sought a second opinion for his daughter and he now lived with moments of regret over it. She reminded him of their previous conversation, his emphatic declaration to get a second opinion for himself and his shared memories of wishing he had done so for his daughter. He sat and then prayed. So did she. For days.

Just when he thought life was already on the challenging side, he received more. One of his closest sisters succumbed to cancer, followed shortly thereafter by his eldest brother, who died after enduring the struggles with a lengthy illness. I'd be remiss, if I didn't mention something very specific and beautiful that occurred during this time frame, though. Prior to his discovery of his tumor, his sister had suffered tremendously with pain from the cancer that was spreading throughout her body. She seemed as if she would die at any moment. At the time of his learning of his tumor, his sister suddenly and miraculously began showing great signs of improvement and she was no longer in such an exorbitant amount of pain. This reprieve, undoubtedly a gift from above, lasted just long enough for him to absorb the news about his own health, roughly three weeks, and then his sister's excruciating pain returned. She then went home. Following her home was her brother.

The praying paid off. He mentioned the want for a second opinion upon speaking with the next doctor he met with and a series of answered prayers ensued. He was directed into the hands of special doctors not too far away, who eventually became the team of choice.

All the while *very few* people knew what was really going on. They only knew of the loss of his two siblings. That was even too much for those close to him. Somehow he continued to keep his composure, as he travelled through the seemingly never ending storm. It took a lot of strength to fight through it, strength he could only get from the good Lord above. He travelled with much grace down the remainder of the long, dark, scary road.

In fact, it wasn't until four days before his actual surgery that he allowed his co-worker confidante to relay the news to the remainder of his immediate co-workers. It was at this point in time that everyone in that room realized how strategically it all had been planned. It was now magnificently apparent why he had been transferred to the new position and it surely had nothing to do with his request to do so. He knew God had placed him there to ensure he'd be embraced by the many caring, loving individuals, who now surrounded him. He was thankful.

As we all stood there holding hands, bowing our heads to an unanticipated guest's prayer, an overwhelming feeling of peace ran through me. I knew he was going to be just fine, for his dull green world had just turned one shade brighter.

In conclusion, if you are ever wondering why you are where you are in life, remember that there is more than likely the most perfect reason (that only He knows). Additionally, second opinions can save lives. Lastly and most importantly, faith in God truly can carry you through the most horrible storms in life.

*This short story is written in loving memory of Brianna Jiminez (12/3/97-7/3/12), daughter of S/Cpl. Stanley G. Jiminez 370 and his wife, April, and sister of Jonathan, Ashley, Kayla, Hannah, Christian (1/27/02-1/27/02), Katherine, Caleb, Faith and Hope.*

**Tracy L. Y. Condon (Assistant Director of DSP HR), 7/28/15**



*Love ~ Honor  
Rememberance*  
**Brianna Jiminez**

"The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart."  
Helen Keller

Respectfully, **Kevin**



**Fall 2014 Middletown High School football game.**





# From the Archives



## Highway Policeman and Their Work

2/5/1924

Delaware Republican

Our State Highway Policemen continue to be intelligently active in the work of rounding up and bringing to punishment those persons who violate the traffic laws of our State.

The fact that in intelligent and orderly circles little complaint is heard of the conduct of these policemen leads one to assume that they are discriminating rigidly between those who willfully violate the laws and those who at times inadvertantly do so from time to time.

In short, the men use their heads and go after such person as constitute a menace to traffic up and down our State. They deserve both the moral and material support of the law-abiding section of our people.



## State Highway Police Applicants Examined

5/27/1924

Special to The Morning News

DOVER, May 21 - Of the sixty-two candidates applying for the position of State Highway Police of the State of Delaware all of whom appeared here yesterday for examination before R. H. Williams, Chief of the Maryland State Police, all but twenty-two were eliminated from the present contest. These twenty-two are now under instruction in a school conducted by Chief Williams. The school of instruction will last for two weeks, at the end of which time Chief Williams will report to the Highway Department his recommendation of the best ten men that many positions being available now.

Many of those failing to pass the test included physical and past experience in operating a motorcycle and familiarity with the State highway traffic laws.





**Dedicated  
Selfless  
Proud**



# *In Memoriam*

*Our Fallen Heroes  
Lest we Forget*

**Christopher Shea  
1972-2004**



**July 18, 2004**



**William F. Mayer  
1921-1955**



**August 1955**



**Robert H. Bell  
1942-1993**



**September 7, 1993**

**Gerard T. Dowd  
1962-1990**



**September 11, 1990**







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# *In Memorium*

*Our Fallen Heroes  
Lest We Forget*

**Eugene B. Ellis  
1926-1967**



**September 11, 1967**



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*Mark your calendar for our upcoming events*



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**“The Thin Blue Line”**

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<https://www.facebook.com/dspmuseum>

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**NEW Online Store  
featured items**



Delaware State Police Museum L/S Oxford Delaware State Police Museum S/S Polo Delaware State Police Museum S/S Tee Delaware State Police Museum Windbreaker

DSP Museum: <http://www.dspmuseum.com>



**Memorial Brick Walk**

Memorialize your service or those who supported you during your career. This is an excellent way of acknowledging your parents, spouse, sibling, children or another trooper. Show them that they are an important part of the DSP family and your life.

**Memorial Brick - \$100.00**



On July 22nd, the DSP Museum hosted our 1st Summer Day Program. We hosted 29 kids from throughout the state. A special thanks to the DSTA, the DSP Community Relations Unit and all of the Special Units that participated. The program was a success. Everyone involved had a great time. Visit our Facebook page for more photos - <https://www.facebook.com/dspmuseum>

**DSP Museum  
Limited Edition Challenge Coin**

Cost \$18.00

The badge is in your choice of  
**gold or silver**  
More info...Call Kevin McDerby

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1998 Crown Victoria - \$25  
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Save 10% if  
ordered by October  
1st, 2015



Your purchase goes to support the DSP Museum.  
Thank you!





# “Looking Back...”

*do you have old photographs you'd like to share; then email or send them to the Museum Director.*

## *Building a Legacy*

**2nd Delaware State Police Scuba Diver Graduation Class  
U.S. Navy Dive School - Washington DC 1977**



Middle Row from left: John Dow, Willard “Buddy” Griffith Jr., Captain (O.I.C.) Charles Wilkins, Richard Harms, Rick Santibianco  
Back Row (from left): graduates from the 1st DSP Scuba class: Richard Marvel, Gary Lake, Jerry Weller, John Dixon



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