

The Pueblo Chieftain

Your print and online news source for Southern Colorado

Published: May 03, 2009

Fallen officer honored

Nick Heine's name added to Colorado Law Enforcement Memorial



Nick Heine

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THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

The name of a Pueblo Police Officer who died in the line of duty last year was added to the Colorado Law Enforcement Memorial on Friday in Golden.

Nicholas "Nick" Heine died June 21 of a heart defect. He was running between bar disturbances in the Historic Union Avenue District when he collapsed.

Heine, 30, was a seven-year veteran who left behind his wife, Melissa, and two young daughters, Nichole and Rebecca. He chose a career in law enforcement to follow the path of his mother, Pat Heine, who is a detective and 19-year veteran of the Pueblo Police Department.

The ceremony was attended by numerous Pueblo Police Officers.

"It was a dreary day, as far as light rain and drizzle, so it was kind of an emotional day, just reliving what happened to Nick. But it was nice to see so many officers from around the state honor him and the other officers whose names were added to the list," said Chief Jim Billings. Other area officers honored include:

Jesse B. Craig Sr. and Jacob A. Kipper, both of the Rocky Ford Police Department, who died July 4, 1911.

Alexander Brighton of the Trinidad Police Department, Jan. 22, 1909.

On May 15, Heine's name is expected to be added to the National Fallen Officers Memorial in Washington D.C.

Before Heine's death, the last time a Pueblo police officer died in the line of duty was December 1973.

- The Associated Press contributed to this report.