



State EMS Awards Book of Recognition



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The Civilian Service Medal recognizes a civilian who provides extraordinary service during the course of an EMS emergency.

Diane ADee@ Hamman

Friends help friends - we know that and it is a common occurrence. What is uncommon is to have two friends, one an EMS provider - one a layperson, save each other's lives - and do so in the same incident. This is in fact what happened with friends Sharon Nall, EMT-Intermediate, and Diane (Dee) Hamman. After being swept off a ridge by an avalanche while skiing, they are both alive to receive their appropriate recognition. For their friendship and commitment to care for each other, they will receive their appropriate recognition, a Life Saving Medal and a Civilian Service Medal.

After being swept off the ridge and slammed into trees, Sharon was buried and Dee was entangled and pinned against a tree. The combination of Sharon's medical and survival training allowed her to surface, free herself from the snow while tending to her significant head and facial injuries. Following Dee's voice she found her friend literally wrapped around a tree, unable to move and having difficulty breathing due to the pressure of the snow. After freeing Dee, exhausted, with hypothermia setting in, they struggled to find their way down a very familiar mountain. Confused and spent, they made wrong turns and backtracked for 45 minutes before arriving at their car. Dee, who was in the better shape of the two, was able to drive them directly to the hospital. Dee was treated and released. Sharon spent 3 days in the ICU. Theirs is a story of survival; survival which neither could have achieved without the other. In essence, they saved each other's life.

Thank you, Dee, for your selflessness, which resulted in the saving of a life.



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James Brossard (former volunteer firefighter B Justice, IL)

Roger Pullen (former volunteer firefighter B Parkdale, OR)

On June 10th, 2001, James Brossard and Roger Pullen were separately driving northbound on Interstate 5 near Tigard when they witnessed a collision, which resulted in a pickup truck flipping onto its side and skidding down the freeway. Sparks ignited fuel spilling from both the primary and auxiliary fuel tank in the bed of the truck. Both men being former volunteer firefighters recognized the gravity of the situation. Mr. Pullen, driving a Semi tractor-trailer rig, positioned his rig to block traffic. He grabbed his fire extinguisher and went to assist Mr. Brossard who was already at the vehicle. The driver, unaware that the windshield had broken out was attempting to escape the flames by climbing out the top of the vehicle. Mr. Brossard, unable to physically assist him due to the fire, called to him to come towards his voice. The driver did so, stumbled, and fell into a pool of burning gasoline. Still unable to reach the driver, Mr. Brossard yelled for him to roll clear of the burning gas. He was able to do so and Mr. Pullen extinguished his burning clothes with his fire extinguisher and remained with the driver until emergency personnel arrived.

In effecting this rescue Mr. Brossard received burns to his hands and face. Mr. Pullen suffered smoke inhalation. Both were treated at a nearby hospital for their injuries. In spite of their valiant efforts, the driver of the pickup died the next day. These gentlemen acted decisively and with bravery, while accepting personal injury, in an attempt to save the life of another person. For their heroic actions, we honor James Brossard and Roger Pullen with the Civilian Service Medal.

Thank you, James and Roger, for your selfless actions in attempting to save a life.



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Mark Adams
Dan Cline

On the evening of March 18th, 2002, a Medford woman struck a power pole just outside of Central Point and was knocked unconscious. The pickup truck she was driving flipped on to its side and caught on fire. Seeing the unconscious woman inside the burning truck compelled Mark Adams and Dan Cline to intervene. In spite of the fire and downed wires which posed significant danger, the two men took turns breaking out the rear glass of the cab and beating back the heat and fire with a fire extinguisher. After a number of unsuccessful attempts, they were able to gain access to the unconscious victim, but were unable to pull her free from the burning wreckage. Frustrated, but determined not to watch this woman perish, they persisted against the heat and smoke eventually getting her over the seat and out the back window. The incoming EMS crew transported her to a local hospital where she was treated for relatively minor injuries. She later stated that she has no recollection of the accident or of the gentlemen who saved her. Most appreciative of her rescuers, she was quoted in the newspaper; *“God puts people in places where they need to be. If they hadn’t been there, I don’t know what would have happened.”* @

The reality of the danger these men put themselves into was demonstrated moments after they pulled the driver clear of the truck. A transformer, which had been dangling from the snapped power pole, dropped onto the cab of the truck and burst into flames. Additionally, during the accident investigation it was discovered that the secondary fuel tank, which had not ruptured, was half full of gasoline. For their willingness to place themselves in harm’s way to save a life, Mark Adams and Dan Cline are presented the Civilian Service Medal.

Thank you, Mark and Dan, for your selfless actions, which saved a life.



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Brad Andrews
Bob Delany

With the realization that early defibrillation is what saves lives in most cardiac arrest, Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) programs are being promoted as a critical link in the Chain of Survival. The employees at Country Coach in Junction City can testify that the program does work.

On June 7th, 2001, Brad Andrews and Bob Delany, Safety Coordinators for Country Coach, were called upon and successfully saved the life of co-worker, Kelly Ayers. Ayers, a healthy and very fit 29 year old, collapsed in his office in cardiac arrest. Andrews and Delany were summoned from another building on the Country Coach campus bringing their AED - automatic external defibrillator. Touted as a life saving piece of equipment, like most fire extinguishers, it had hung on the wall unused since its purchase in 1999. This was the exact scenario for which PADs and AEDs were designed. Andrews and Delany performed exactly as they were trained and with total control and amazing calmness as described by a coworker who witnessed the event. Andrews and Delany applied the AED, followed the voice prompts, did CPR when indicated and delivered 3 shocks to their downed co-worker. After the third shock, Kelly Ayers's heart resumed its normal rhythm and function. On the arrival of Junction City Fire Department First Responders and an ambulance from Eugene Fire and EMS, they found Ayers unconscious but alive with a pulse. Credit where credit is due, Kelly Ayers's life was saved by his co-workers prior to the arrival of EMS professionals exactly the way PAD programs are suppose to work.

Because of Country Coaches willingness to step out and purchase this new technology, Brad Andrews and Bob Delany were afforded the opportunity to save the life of a co-worker. For their willingness and ability to serve in this way, they are presented with the Civilian Service Medal.

Thank you, Brad and Bob, for your actions, which saved a life and demonstrated that PAD programs do work.



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Michael Curry
Mike Matthews
Scott Miller

Smoke pouring from a house without the sight or sounds of an approaching fire engine is disconcerting. A 22 year old disabled woman in St Helens is thankful that three men, passing her burning home, were concerned enough to make sure everyone was out of the building. The actions of these men are credited with saving her life.

Scott Miller was driving by when he saw the smoke and pulled to the side of the road and ran to investigate. He could hear cries for help coming from somewhere inside the house. Mike Matthews and Michael Curry, who happened to be in the area, joined Miller in searching for the source of those cries. Miller located the victim trapped in her bedroom, unable to exit through the door due to the fire and physically unable to use the window as an escape route. Squeezing behind the shrubs blocking the window, Miller broke the window and with the assistance of Matthews and Curry was able get her out of the house and across the street to safety. When the Fire Department arrived, the fire had already breached the roof and one side of the house. Department paramedics transported the woman to the hospital for smoke inhalation. Miller was treated and released at the scene for some minor smoke inhalation he received while searching for the trapped woman.

Thank you, Scott, Mike and Michael for your willingness to get involved and your selfless actions, which saved a life.