

Connecticut General Assembly
Transportation Committee

Testimony in support of **S. B. No. 148 AN ACT CONCERNING THE NAMING OF ROADS, BRIDGES AND HIGHWAYS BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN MEMORY OR IN HONOR OF PERSONS OR IN COMMEMORATION OF ORGANIZATIONS.**

Officer H. David Cordell Memorial Highway

Route 82 (East Haddam Rd.) from the Salem Four Corners to Route 11

I only wish that each and every one of you could have known David. I am sure that without a doubt he would have touched your life as he had in The Town of Salem and surrounding communities. I had the privilege of his friendship as a neighbor, police officer, a coworker and a leader during natural environmental emergencies.

David as a friend always went above and beyond to help people, people in general. Not just neighbors but people he didn't even know without question. He helped physically and financially. He was sort of a Secret Santa. He knew when people were in need or needed fuel oil or fire wood to stay warm. Somehow it magically appeared. His tradition lives on with only a few that were humbled by his stealth ways (no foot prints).

David as a police officer, we always felt treated fairly. As emergency workers he always had our back covered. Always in aid, he showed compassion and general concern during a medical emergency not only for the injured but for the family and loved ones affected by the emergency. His Carolina southern draw always became stronger to make his point or indicate who was in charge. An excellent marksman, he taught many of us techniques with firearms and safety.

It was during the hurricanes of the 80's and 90's that David excelled in demonstrating his leadership. With then 1st. Selectman Hugh C. Teel, David guided emergency services in the Town of Salem in road clearing, and personal visits to the elderly and families not equipped to handle the power failures. This was all performed without compromising the integrity of our safety.

David is dearly missed; his tactics, compassion and his memories will always be with us. The Town of Salem has lost a great public servant; I have lost a great friend.

Please support this proposal,
Officer H. David Cordell
Memorial Highway

James B. Savalle, Chief
Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.
Salem Connecticut