



BERTHOUD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

To Serve. To Care. To Support.

P.O. Box 570, 275 Mountain Avenue, Berthoud, CO 80513

-PRESS RELEASE-

Subject: *LINE OF DUTY DEATH DESIGNATION AND FUNERAL SERVICES FOR FIRE INVESTIGATOR MACDONALD*

Date: June, 30, 2020

Contact: May Soricelli, Public Information Officer/ Public Relations Officer

Mobile: 970-556-4769

Email: msoricelli@berthoudfire.org

On July 11, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. a full honors ceremony, emergency vehicle procession, and graveside service will be held to honor fallen former fire investigator Joshua Macdonald. Due to the designation of Line of Duty Death, the ceremony will be held with full firefighter honors for his years of service as a firefighter and fire investigator for Berthoud Fire Protection District. Macdonald's years of service in the United States Air Force will also be acknowledged. Macdonald's untimely passing is deeply felt by his family, friends, and brotherhood of firefighters. (Please see below for previous press release with additional information about Macdonald)

A procession of 20-30 emergency vehicles will escort Macdonald's remains from Foundations Church, 1380 N. Denver Ave. Loveland, CO to Resthaven Memory Gardens, 8426 S. Hwy 287, Fort Collins, CO where he will be laid to rest. Traditional fire service honors and flag dedication to the family will take place at the cemetery. The procession will leave Foundations church at approximately 11:00 a.m.

Attendance will be limited to family, friends, those directly acquainted with Macdonald, and public safety personnel. We would like to ask any members of the community who wish to show their support and respect for Macdonald's sacrifice, to line the procession route following the service at Foundations Church. We recommend that those doing so would adhere to face mask and physical distancing protocols. Berthoud Fire Protection District and Foundations church will be adhering to current COVID-19 restrictions.

Members of the press will be permitted viewing access to the procession and graveside ceremony. Attached is a map for media staging where Berthoud Fire's Public Information Officer will provide information and access for photos. Media access inside of the church will not be possible due to

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limited capacity, and in order to honor the privacy of the family. Media is strongly encouraged to stage at Resthaven Memory Gardens between 11:00 & 11:20 prior to the procession's arrival. There will be a designated media location just east of the burial site with spaces for parking. Berthoud Fire's Public Information Officer will provide a brief official statement at approximately 11:20 a.m. Fire Chief Stephen Charles may address members of the media after the service for a brief statement as well. The family requests that media remain in staging areas in order to provide privacy and reverence to the service and those who are mourning. Please contact Public Information Officer May Soricelli if your agency plans to attend and if you have any questions.

Fire departments or emergency service agencies wishing to participate in the procession or service must contact Berthoud Fire Protection District's Operations Chief Stumpf rstampf@berthoudfire.org.

The procession will leave Foundations church, go west on Hwy 34, and then proceed north on Hwy 287 to the Resthaven Memorial site. It can be anticipated that due to the number of apparatus participating, that all traffic traveling these roadways will be blocked for a period by law enforcement to provide safe travel for the procession.

PRESS RELEASE JUNE 10, 2020

Friday, April 17, 2020, Berthoud Fire Protection District's former on-call Fire Investigator Joshua Macdonald, age 34, passed away unexpectedly due to health complications. Today, June 10, 2020 Macdonald is being honored at the United States Fire Administration (USFA) and the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, MD. The USFA has ordered the flags at the Fallen Memorial Park in Emmitsburg, MD to be flown at half-staff in honor of his service.

Macdonald was hired as a Wildland Firefighter in March of 2013. In October of 2013 he was moved to a temporary Firefighter position. Macdonald actively served the Fire District from March 2013 to March 2016 in several capacities. In addition to a Wildland Firefighter and a Temporary Full Time Structural Firefighter, Macdonald served as a certified Fire Investigator.

On Friday, March 25, 2016 Fire Investigator Macdonald responded to a reported structure fire on 2nd Street, Berthoud. During the cause and origin investigation, Fire Investigator MacDonald fell through the floor injuring his left knee. Following surgery on his knee, Macdonald contracted MRSA. Over the next four years Macdonald experienced several surgeries to include the amputations of his left leg from the knee down. After his long road of medical treatment, we were saddened to receive the news of Macdonald's passing on Friday, April 17, 2020.

The Berthoud Fire family would like to offer our deepest condolences and sympathy to the family of former fire investigator Macdonald. We are truly grateful for his dedication and years of service.

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RESTHAVEN MEMORY GARDENS 11:30 a.m.



FOUNDATIONS CHURCH: SERVICE 10:00 a.m.



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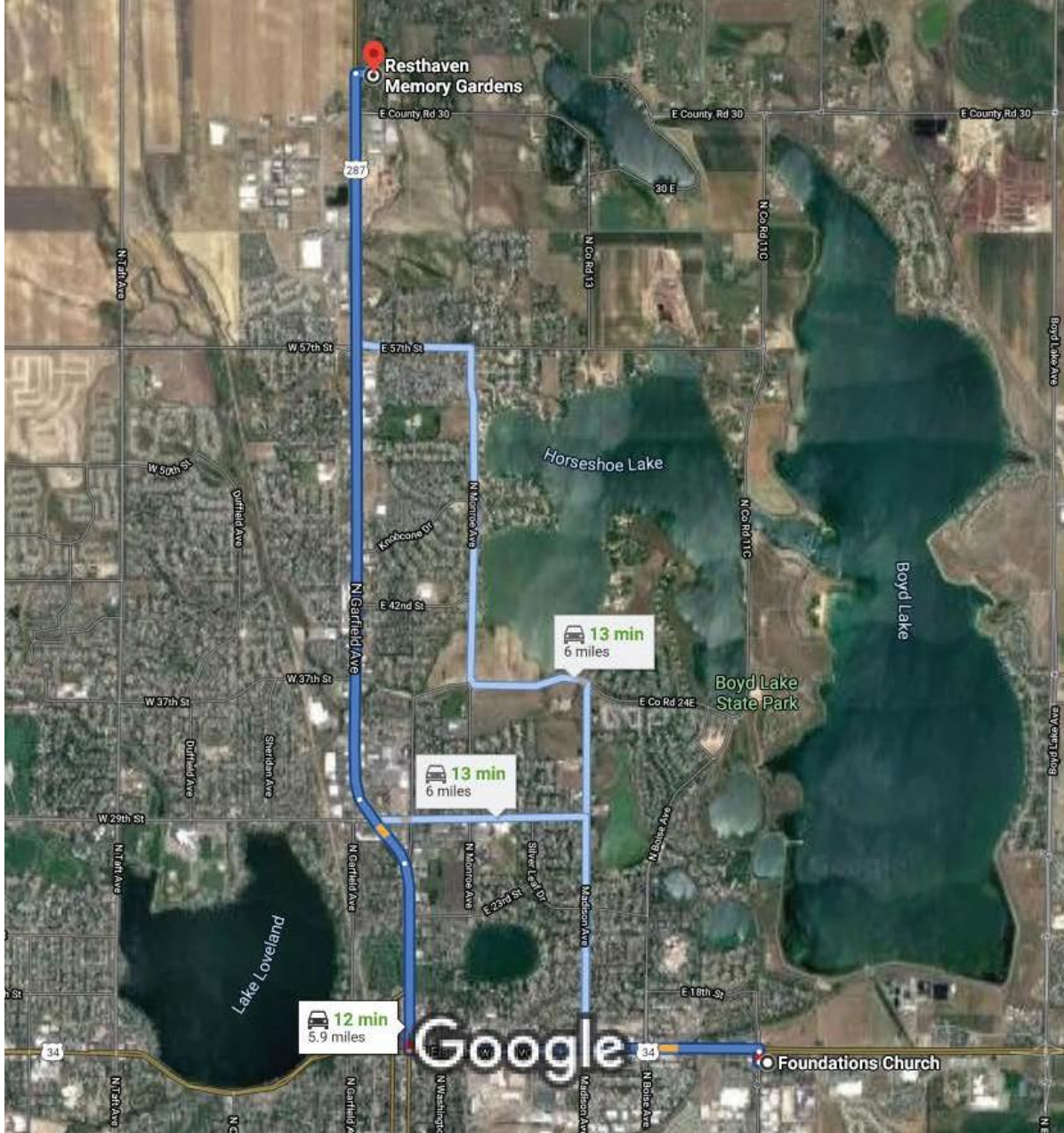


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PROCESSION ROUTE





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PHOTO CREDIT: JENNY SPARKS, REPORTER HERALD

Fire Investigator



Joshua Macdonald

1985 - 2020

Saturday - JULY 11, 2020 - 10:00 a.m.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE
Foundations Church,
1380 N Denver Ave, Loveland, CO

-PROCESSION-

11:30

GRAVESIDE SERVICE
Resthaven Memorial Garden
8426 S. Hwy 287, Fort Collins, CO

****THESE SERVICES ARE NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, BUT THE
PUBLIC IS ENCOURAGED TO LINE THE PROCESSION ROUTE TO
SHOW SUPPORT OF THE FAMILY****

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