2022 Worker Memorial Day
APRIL 28, 2022

Commemorating workers who died in Washington State in 2021 as a result of job-related injuries and illnesses.
Welcome
   Joel Sacks
   Director, Department of Labor & Industries

Posting of the colors
   Thurston County Honor Guard

Invocation & Benediction
   Chaplain Jeffrey Jones
   DOC Chaplain, Cedar Creek Corrections Center

Message from Governor Jay Inslee

Speakers
   Larry Brown
   President, Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO

   Bob Battles
   General Counsel & Government Affairs Director,
   Association of Washington Business

   Kris Tefft
   Executive Director & General Counsel,
   Washington Self-Insurers Association

   Casey Yeager
   Son of fallen worker, Terry Lee Yeager

   John Korzenko
   Compliance Manager, DOSH

   Coral Sheldon
   Pension Manager, Insurance Services

   Kairie Pierce
   President, Kids’ Chance of Washington

Musical Tributes
   Scott Dellinger and Shawn Lamb
   Puget Sound Fire Fighters Pipes and Drums

   Tumwater High School Noteables Choir

Memorial reading of names
   Bell Ringers, Tumwater Local 2409
   Washington State Council of Fire Fighters
Tributes provided by family and friends of workers lost in 2021
Adrian Abada, 59
Adrian was a registered nurse and permanent charge nurse at Swedish and the MultiCare Auburn Medical Center. In 2018, he was diagnosed with cancer. After surgery, he continued to work for the next two years while going through several rounds of chemotherapies and other treatments. He loved to travel and continued to do so during treatment. Adrian died not from cancer, but after contracting COVID-19 at work. Our brother was a very giving individual. He was a blessing to many and continues to be one although he is no longer around.
~ Rene & Teresa Abada, sisters

Guadalupe (Wally) Aranda, 57
Wally Aranda was working as a maintenance supervisor when he contracted COVID-19. He passed away with his wife, Deanna, by his side. Wally could talk to anyone about anything and will always be remembered for being a jokester. He was a very humble, hospitable and giving man who loved to have get-togethers with his family. Along with his wife, Wally is survived by his daughters, Mazie and Brooke and stepson Ricky Perez. He will be missed and never forgotten.
~ Deanna Aranda, wife

Jeremy Brown, 46
Clark County Sheriff’s Sergeant Jeremy Brown was shot and killed in the line of duty. He was a devoted peace officer, husband, father, grandfather, son, brother, uncle, mentor and friend to many. He was the most sincere, honest, loyal, loving and driven man that one could ever know. We honor his service and ultimate sacrifice today and every other.
~ Jill Brown, wife
William (Willy) Cababat, Jr., 55
Seattle Fire Lieutenant Willy Cababat, Jr., died at home on September 1, 2021, after a 3 1/2-year battle with cancer from occupational exposures. He was surrounded in love by his wife Carrie and his children Kalai, Jaynani, Inoa, and Keilana when he passed. He is also survived by his son Kalena and daughter Ashley, five sisters, and his parents. Willy began working for Seattle Fire Department in 1990 and dedicated 31 years of his life to the Seattle community. He loved his job, the people he worked with and the citizens he served.

~ Carrie Cababat, wife

Tyler Chambers, 28
Tyler was working as a laborer for an excavation company when he was tragically killed. He was born in Springfield, Oregon in 1992, to Leslie Dixon-Kiser and Victor Chambers. He graduated from Skyview High School in Vancouver in 2011 and attended Clark College. Tyler worked in residential construction and heavy excavation over the past six years in and around the Vancouver area. He enjoyed being outside, snowboarding, camping and laughing he most loved spending time with his friends and family.

~ Leslie Kiser, mother

Alan Gene Dugan, 59
Alan was considered the “Great One” of all the nurses. He died from COVID-19 that he contracted on the job, helping others. Alan worked in various jobs through his life until he got his LPN degree and found his love for helping people. He could be blunt with his words, but he genuinely cared for his family and friends. Those who met Alan often have a story to tell about him that will help us remember him.

~ Sally Orario, wife
Alexandra (Lexi) Harris, 38  
Lexi, was an officer with the Seattle Police Department. She was on her way home from work in the early morning hours when she stopped to help with a multi-car crash on I-5. She was struck and killed by another motorist. It’s not how she died that made Lexi a hero, but how she lived. She was a giant and she was a leader. She was the driving force of the most positive movement to bring police and the Seattle community together. Lexi was passionate about serving the community through compassionate policing and had a heart for humanity. Lexi was the ultimate public servant and a real life “wonder woman.”  

~ Tanji Johnson, Lexi’s coach, mentor and friend

Richard (Dick) Lenhart, 72  
Dick was a quiet gentle man of strength and stability, with a wonderful sense of humor. He was active in his church and especially enjoyed the men’s fishing retreat every summer. Most of all, he loved the times he spent with his grandchildren. He worked as a certified dental technician for 40 years. After he retired, he decided he needed to go back to work and became “Mr. Bus Driver.” He loved his “bus kids” and enjoyed reading to them. He was driving the school bus when a man came on board and stabbed him to death. Dick’s “kids” did exactly as he had taught them to do in case of an emergency and got off the bus. Because of this, none of the 35 elementary school children was injured.

~ Nancy Lenhart, wife

Anna (Maxx) Lopez, 26  
Anna, known as Maxx to her family and friends, was a lively and vibrant 26 year old with dreams of becoming a novelist. After college, Maxx took a break from school to work as a bartender. She planned to complete her schooling to pursue a profession in healthcare. She was working at Sam’s Tavern in Bellevue when her estranged husband shot and killed her. Maxx was a hard worker, striving to make it on her own. She loved people and animals, especially her two wiener dogs. Maxx’s family, coworkers, friends and customers at the places where she worked dearly miss her.

~ Christine Lopez, mother
Raymond Mitchell, 33
Raymond was a tow truck driver for TLC Towing. He loved being outdoors and spending time with his wife Kayla and his sons Carson and Daxton. Raymond, affectionately called the “Tow Vulture,” was struck and killed while responding to a call. He was known for his infectious laugh and gigantic heart. He would give the shirt off his back to anyone that needed it. Raymond loved his job, his tow truck family, friends, and the whole tow truck community. He will forever be missed and never forgotten. Fly high Tow Vulture.
~ Kayla Mitchell, wife

Lisa Reitemeier, 56
Lisa, a sterile processing tech, passed away as the result of contracting COVID-19. The exposure occurred while delivering medical instruments inside Rockwood Clinic where she worked. She was kind, very smart, funny, and could be ornery and direct. Lisa loved her family, cats, dogs, art, pottery, knowledge and learning, going to the movies weekly with her brother, going out to dinner, Broadway musicals/shows, travel, sitting in the sun, watching TV, and the thought of being a grandmother in the future. The world was a much better place with Lisa in it and will never be the same with her gone.
~ Mike Reitemeier, husband

Arnoldo Orozco Salazar, 55
Arnoldo had a lifelong attachment to land and worked for years in agriculture. He was tragically killed in a tractor accident. A gentle soul, he combined his love for land with his compassion and love for community, lifting others up as a community leader in his hometown La Caja, Comala, Mexico. Arnoldo was quiet, private, silly, thoughtful, caring, intelligent, strong and generous. He had a heart of gold, never turned a person, stranger or friend in need away. Took pride in his family, his work and his home. He will be missed every day of every week of every year, but there is comfort in knowing he is in paradise with both of his parents.
~ Octavio Orozco, sister
Scott Shawley, Jr., 26
Scott Shawley, Jr., passed away from COVID-19 that he contracted at work. He was a very hard working, independent man. He loved his Job helping his uncle work as a mechanic on semi-trucks and working at Milne Fruit in Prosser as a juice concentrator/forklift driver. Scott loved to take his family camping and fishing whenever he had free time. We love and miss him.
~ Johnna Shawley, sister

Lester (Les) Sickles, Jr., 42
Les was a kind, loving and giving person. He had a pure soul and a heart of gold. He worked in construction and spent most of his years doing concrete. He recently decided to change careers and became a local semi-truck driver, which ended up being the last months of his life. Les lost his life to a tragic accident while driving truck in a beautiful farmland area. He was one of the most amazing people in the world and his legacy will forever live on.
~ LeaAnna Sickles, wife

Travis Taylor, 52
Travis was working as an industrial maintenance mechanic when he contracted COVID-19. An adventure enthusiast, he had a passion for deep sea diving, cross-country motorcycling, world travelling, any type of racetrack and playing blackjack. By far, Travis’ biggest adventure was becoming a father at 47. He was often found in the back yard with the neighbors watching Georgia football, telling far-fetched stories, having oyster roasts or low country boils, drinking Coors Light or Jack Daniels, laughing with friends, negotiating with a toddler, singing karaoke with old country favorites and slow dancing with me. Travis’ light and laughter, love and loyalty will be missed by many.
~ Valerie Taylor, wife
Mark Treas, 55
Mark contracted COVID-19 at his place of employment where he was a customer service representative. He was an awesome and very devoted person. He gave his heart to any one he came across. Mark is deeply missed by his family and friends.

~ Tammy Treas, wife

Terry Yeager, 68
Terry contracted COVID-19 while working as a plywood sander. He was what you would call a model husband, son, father, grandfather and brother. He had a strong work ethic as was demonstrated by his service in the U.S. Navy. He loved everything about the outdoors, fishing, hunting, and hiking. Most of all, Terry loved his family above all else. He was a friend to everyone and without hesitation, helped anyone in need. Our family is missing the piece that lovingly held us together and we will never be the same. I know we’ll be together again someday. Until then, I’ll love you today, tomorrow, and forever.

~ Christine Yeager, wife
WHEREAS, in 2021, job-related injuries and illnesses cut short the lives of more than 100 workers in Washington; and

WHEREAS, loved ones, friends, and co-workers of fallen workers experience untold pain and suffering; and

WHEREAS, the families of fallen workers experience economic hardship, as well as emotional devastation; and

WHEREAS, business, labor, and government must remain diligent in their efforts to prevent workplace deaths, injuries, and disease; and

WHEREAS, a memorial ceremony provides all in Washington an opportunity to pay tribute to fallen workers and rededicate ourselves to workplace safety and health;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim April 28, 2022, as

Worker Memorial Day

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this important observance.

Signed this 23rd day of March, 2022

Governor Jay Inslee
Today we honor those individuals who worked tirelessly to better the lives of their families and our community but tragically died as a result of doing their job.

Our thoughts are with you.
Adrian Arian Abada ▪ William E. Anderson ▪ Sydney D. Anderson
Arthur E. Anderson ▪ Melody M. Annaed ▪ Susan K. Anyan
Guadalupe Aranda ▪ Tavian R. Beasley ▪ Regina Emalie Benepe
Shawna M. Berreman ▪ Richard D. Brinkley ▪ Jeremy R. Brown
Diego Duarte Burgueno ▪ William B. Cababat, Jr. ▪ Filiberto Tobon Cabrera
Gerardo Canseco Pesina ▪ Thomas L. Carlson ▪ Gabino Carranza Olvera
Carlos Carlton Castillo Lam ▪ Carlos Cervantes Rodriguez
Tyler J. Chambers ▪ David Cruz Serrano ▪ Richard A. Daniels
Margarito Davila-Perete ▪ Jay G. Dennis, Jr. ▪ LaVerne T. Donahue
Alan G. Dugan ▪ George E. Dunn, II ▪ Jerry D. Ekkelkamp ▪ Lennie Eleazar
Robert L. Elliot ▪ Brenda K. Fennell ▪ Olaf Flaget ▪ Miguel Flores Ortiz
Gabriel K. Forrest ▪ Scott A. Gallacher ▪ Steven L. Garner
Anthony G. Gockerell ▪ Darryl L. Goodrich, Jr. ▪ Florencio Gueta-Vargas
Eric T. Gunderson ▪ Kenneth A. Hagerman ▪ Alexandra Brenneman Harris
Alex Harvill ▪ James F. Headley ▪ Andrew T. Hinson ▪ Elizabeth A. Hoover
Ruth A. Hopkins ▪ William Howell ▪ Michael W. Jacobsen
Jason A. Leach ▪ Richard Lee Lenhart ▪ Eric M. Lewis ▪ Ronald G. Lindsay
Anna K. Dictado Lopez ▪ Jesse L. Manion, Jr.
Rigoberto Garcia Marmolejo ▪ Juan Mitchell Martinez
Douglass A. Massey ▪ Troy S. McClure ▪ Michael McElroy ▪ Jon M. Melvin
Jesse Mendoza, Jr. ▪ Garrett Miller ▪ Steven A. Miller
Raymond L. Mitchell ▪ Thomas E. Mitchell ▪ James W. Montgomery
Thomas Ogden ▪ Joseph C. Oiness ▪ Richard M. Okarski
Arnoldo Orozco Salazar ▪ Roger P. Palumbo ▪ Martin A. Paulson
Bryan Phillips ▪ Lisa K. Reitemeier ▪ Michael D. Rike
Claudino Michael Rivera, Jr. ▪ Vonda S. Roberson ▪ Odexter Robinson
Bart A. Rowley, Sr. ▪ Maureen M. Roxbury ▪ James E. Sall, Jr.
Scott A. Shawley, Jr. ▪ Daryl W. Shuey ▪ Lester M. Sickles, Jr.
Tajpal Singh ▪ Denise N. Smith ▪ Juanita M. Soto Martinez ▪ Jerry Steves
Bonnie M. Stewart ▪ Steven L. Stormo ▪ Sunny D. Taylor
Travis M. Taylor ▪ Leroy A. Tonn ▪ Daniel Earl Torricellas ▪ Cody S. Traber
Mark C. Treas ▪ Jose A. Villanueva Manriquez ▪ Antonieta Wilson
Michael R. Wilson ▪ Michael D. Winkler ▪ Terry L. Yeager
Edward W. Young, Jr. ▪ Christopher L. Yourkwitz ▪ Gabriel Zelaya
The Worker Memorial Garden on the grounds of the Department of Labor & Industries’ headquarters in Tumwater, Washington, serves as a year-round remembrance of fallen workers. In 2007, a brass bell sculpture by artist Tom Torrens was donated by the Washington State Building and Construction Trades Council and installed in the garden. The garden and bell are dedicated to all Washington workers who die from a workplace injury or illness.