

07-22-1982 Algonquin IL – Larry A Holder – LEO Flood Rescue Attempt

ALGONQUIN OFFICER DROWNS DURING RESCUE

<https://www.newspapers.com/newspage/185091586/>

July 23, 1982 By PAM HOPP Free Press News Service ALGONQUIN

- An off-duty Algonquin police officer, attempting a rescue effort in the rain-swollen Crystal Creek, lost his footing, fell into the creek and drowned shortly before noon Thursday, despite attempts by a friend to save him.

Patrolman Larry Holder, 33, who was called in to assist with problems caused by the flooding of the creek, was near the creek with Steven Treadwell when they heard a report that a carnival worker from the

Founders' Days festival in Towne Park had fallen into the rapidly moving water. Apparently thinking they could rescue the worker, strong currents carried him away.

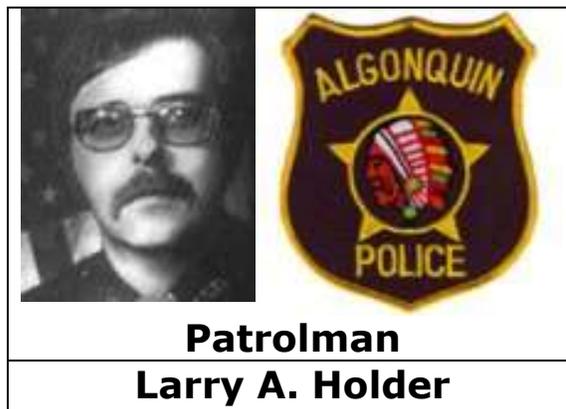
Park, Holder and Treadwell waded into the flooded area from a spot near the village maintenance garage, behind the village hall. Holder then lost his footing and fell into the water. Village President Raymond Bangert witnessed the incident. "I saw him go in," he said. "He was standing at the corner of the maintenance building." Water from Crystal Creek had approached the building, just behind the village hall, and was a couple of feet deep where Holder went in.

Algonquin drowns I , , ' ' - , Lib ,r

Lake in the Hills Police and McHenry County; Sheriff's deputies were posted at various points throughout the village to keep traffic from entering flooded or threatened roadways. The village was hit by 15.5 hours of rain, some of it at torrential levels. At 7 a.m. 7 inches of rainfall was recorded at the village hall, with four, more hours of rain yet to come.

While most of the village escaped with little water and mud damage, some houses were not so fortunate. Downstream of Lake 1 and around Lake 2, as well as In Uqlt 12 southeast of the village, flood waters filled yards and spilled into houses and garages.

Tom McMillan of 392 Hiawatha, Just a few doors south of Willow and rescue The worker, who was unidentified, was swept by the current underneath the foot bridge in the park. But as fellow workers ran to notify police, the worker managed to pull himself out of the water on the other side of the bridge.



"In case someone went under, he was there," Bangert said. "(But) he was the one that ran into trouble." Bangert said Treadwell had attempted to pull Holder from the water as he went down; but because of the strong current and rain-soaked clothing, Treadwell was unable to pull Holder from the water.

"Steve and Larry were near the bank and Steve grabbed him and just couldn't hold him. The water just dragged him down and away from barn?"

"He (Treadwell) fought to hang on to Larry," Bangert said, adding that Treadwell had grabbed a tree branch for support, but it broke. "He lost his footing and that was it," Bangert said.

"It's a tragedy. He was a good police officer." People along the Main Street Bridge and the Harrison Street bridge reported seeing Holder go under the structures in the rolling water.



OFFICER DOWN MEMORIAL PAGE



REMEMBERING ALL OF LAW ENFORCEMENT'S HEROES

<https://www.odmp.org/agency/66-algonquin-police-department-illinois>



Bio & Incident Details

Age: 33

Tour: 6 years

Badge # Not available

Cause: Drowned

Patrolman

Larry A. Holder

Algonquin Police Department, Illinois

End of Watch: Thursday, July 22, 1982

Patrolman Larry Holder drowned after being swept away in a stream while attempting to rescue a man who had also fallen into the stream during a period of flooding.

Patrolman Holder had served with the Algonquin Police Department for six years.

Drowned Illinois cop honored as hero

https://archive.org/stream/lawenforcementne02john_7/lawenforcementne02john_7_djvu.txt

January 24, 1983 Law Enforcement News

The family of Illinois police officer Larry Holder, who drowned last summer while trying to save a boy from a flooded stream, has received a \$2,000 award honoring Holder for his courage.

The police officials who had nominated Holder said the award is particularly gratifying because the Illinois Police Association has refused to grant Holder's family its \$2,000 death benefit, ruling that the death wasn't due to violent resistance, as required by the association's rules.

In September, a local restaurant sponsored a fund-raising dinner that brought in more than \$ 1 2,000 to establish a Larry Holder Scholarship Fund.

The latest award came from the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission, which was established by steel magnate Andrew Carnegie in 1904 to honor heroic deeds. Holder was one of 21 people honored this year.

Holder, an officer with the Algonquin, 111., Police Department for eight years, died July 22, when he tried to save a 14-year-old boy who was drowning in a stream swollen by flood waters



Algonquin Police Department

May 15th of every year is designated as Police Memorial Day and the United States flag is flown half-staff by Order of the President of the United States. You will note that our Village of Algonquin Police Officers have mourning bands across their badges in memory of our fallen sisters and brothers. A Proclamation reaffirming May 15th as Memorial Day was issued by Village President John C. Schmitt and it is in the Police Lobby display case for the public to read as President Schmitt

calls upon our Citizens to honor the Police Officers of this Village.

As we honor all those that have given their lives to secure the safety of others, there is one law enforcement officer that is close the hearts of the Algonquin Police Department.

Algonquin suffered the loss of Patrol Officer Larry Holder in 1982 during Founders Days and a torrential rain that swept him away to his death while responding to a call for help. Holder Park was dedicated to his memory a few years later.

Thank you to all who have helped APD observe this solemn day.