

# FALLEN FINEST

## DETECTIVE WILLIAM T. GUNN

67 Precinct Detective Squad



**O**n Friday, November 27, 1992, Detective William T. Gunn succumbed to injuries he received from a gunshot wound to the head nearly four years earlier.

A police officer at the time, Gunn and four other officers were investigating two homicides that occurred in the 67 Precinct area and were looking for a suspect who also had an arrest warrant for murder issued in Pennsylvania.

On Friday, January 20, 1989, at about 8:40 am, the officers responded to an apartment at 82 Hancock Street in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn where it was determined that the suspect was staying with his girlfriend. Two detectives positioned themselves in the rear yard of the building while Officer Gunn guarded the building entrance. A sergeant and another detective went up to the apartment door and knocked but received no response. The sergeant then left to call the Legal Bureau to see if the arrest warrant was sufficient to force entry into the apartment.

A short time later, one of the detectives in the rear yard observed the suspect attempting to exit the apartment and radioed up to the detective at the apartment door. That detective looked through the peephole, observed the suspect inside, and called for him to come out. The suspect burst opened the door, shot the detective in the shoulder and stole his service weapon. The suspect then fired down the stairs at Officer Gunn, who was coming up to assist, and struck Officer Gunn in the head. The suspect then fled up a ladder through the roof. He hid in a nearby apartment after killing the 67-year-old female occupant. Later that week, the suspect was shot and wounded by an off-duty NYPD police officer as he tried to rob a store. He escaped again but shot and killed himself later that night as police closed in on him.

Gravely wounded, Police Officer Gunn remained in a coma until he expired on Friday, November 27, 1992. Officer Gunn was posthumously promoted to the rank of Detective.

Detective William T. Gunn, 32 years old, served with the NYPD for 10 years. He is survived by his wife, Lori; and daughter, Jennifer.

