

FALLEN FINEST

SERGEANT KEITH A. FERGUSON Emergency Services Squad No. 7



Sergeant Keith A. Ferguson died when he suffered a heart attack while running to assist an officer who was chasing a suspect on Saturday, January 31, 2004.

At about 2:00 pm, Sergeant Ferguson and his elite counter-terrorism team, Hercules Team 2, were en route to a sensitive location in a Counter Assault Team vehicle when he heard a foot patrol officer transmit a call for assistance over the radio. The officer was chasing a suspect he was attempting to arrest. While responding to the scene, the Hercules Team's vehicle became stuck in sluggish traffic conditions. Sergeant Ferguson and one of his officers exited the vehicle and began to run to the location where the officer needed assistance. Shortly after they arrived at the arrest scene and Sergeant Ferguson determined the situation was under control, he collapsed on the trunk of a parked car on the corner of Broadway and Grand Street in the Lower SoHo section of Manhattan.

Immediately, other responding officers began resuscitation procedures including chest compressions while racing to St. Vincent's Medical Center. Doctors there were unable to revive Sergeant Ferguson.

On Thursday, June 9, 2005, Sergeant Ferguson was posthumously awarded the New York City Police Department's Purple Shield Medal.

Sergeant Keith A. Ferguson was 38 years old and served with the New York City Police Department for 17 years. He is survived by his father, Victor who is a retired New York City police officer; his mother Sonia; and his brother, Laird. Sonia established the Sergeant Keith A. Ferguson Memorial Scholarship Fund and the annual 5k "Keith's Race" across the Brooklyn Bridge in her son's memory.

