

THE

A Salute to our
"Family Behind the Badge"

DEDMON



Connection

An online newsletter for:

Dedmon, Dedman, Deadmond, Dedmond,

Deadman, Deadman, Deadmondt and other variations of spellings

VOL 113



SUPPORT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

When I lived in Springfield, TN, I served as voluntary Chaplain for the Robertson County Sheriff Department. I also had all the powers of a deputy sheriff, but never used them. I did ride occasionally with a dear friend and deputy, Billy Duffer. I saw the agony of parents as they would have to identify their children killed in automobile accidents. I also became acquainted with the challenges of our law enforcement officers. They are underpaid, and due to the stress and other factors many of them have marital and other personal problems. I spent more time counseling the deputies than the inmates.

My respect for the "Gun and Shield" certainly grew as a result of that experience. As a result I try to encourage them as I have opportunity. They literally "lay their life on the line" to protect and serve the rest of us. Not only do they serve with the knowledge of events that have taken place across our nation with the senseless killing of our officers, but every time they walk up to the window of a car that has been pulled over for traffic violations, there is the potential of a gun pointed at them.

It is tragic when an officer loses his/her life in the line of duty, I am reminded of a statement made by the founder of "The Officer Down Memorial Page" (ODMP), Chris Cosgriff, *"When a police officer is killed, it's not an agency that loses an officer, it's an entire nation."* No truer statement has ever been made, which only serves to emphasize that *"All Lives Matter"*. Last year, 2015, There were well over 100 who were killed in action and at the time of this writing, August 2016 there have already been around 75. Our sympathy goes out to each family.

With this issue of THE DEDMON CONNECTION, I am attempting to find as many of our family members as I can to honor them for the service they give, or have given. I would be rather naive to think I will be able to find them all. However, you have to start somewhere and I know you will inform me of those I miss for future issues. If I omit someone it is an accident, and I will publish them at a later date. I am somewhat like the Apostle Paul, when he saw all the idols built to honor all their gods. One was erected to the Unknown God. Bible scholars suggest that was in case they missed one.

It is difficult to confirm all the information, I have on some of our ancestors, so I have to depend upon what I have been told. If anyone has contrary information, please send it to me and we will do our best to set the record straight. Although, it may not always be possible.

I was told that John Thomas Dedmon (1867-1955) was in some type of law enforcement in Ringgold and/or Catoosa County. Memory seems to think he was a Constable, which would not be exactly clear as to his responsibility. Sometimes that is a rank within the police department, while in some cases it is a position independent of other departments. John was the son of Joseph and Martha Black Dedmon.

James Monroe Dedman III gave me the following: Col James Monroe Dedman and his younger brother Marcus Lafayette Dedman were marshals in Selma, AL, but not at the same time. I only have references to this from old histories of Selma and Dallas County. This would have been after 1865. The Dedman brothers, Col. James and M. L., married the Scarff sisters. Col. James married Mary Ann Scarff, and M. L. married Mary Ann's younger sister Martha Louisa. Col. James and Mary Ann had three children: Mamie who died in early childhood, Joseph Marcus, and James Edwin. M. L. and Martha Louisa had three daughters. The first was Mary Boykin Dedman who was named after Martha's sister who then was married to Elisha Boykin. When Elisha died, the sister married Col. James. The other two daughters of M.L. and Martha Louisa were Bettie Dedman and Lulu Dedman. Bettie married Paul D. Hilton who was a police officer in Monroe, LA, who was killed in the line of duty.

JAMES MONROE DEDMAN III



James Monroe Dedman III

Jim has become a very valuable source of information on the Dedman family. In a recent email he gave me this information. *"As an Assistant District Attorney General in Memphis, TN, I was also commissioned as a Special Deputy Sheriff. I worked closely with the Shelby County Sheriff's Office and was an advisor to their sex crimes and narcotics units. In retirement I am now doing volunteer training for the Richland County (Columbia), SC Sheriff's Department."* --Jim

PAUL W. HILTON

Monroe, LA, April 10, 1900 - Paul W. Hilton, one of Monroe's most efficient police officers, died at his residence at 12 o'clock to-day, after having suffered for six days from injuries sustained on last Thursday morning while performing his duty as a fireman. Mr. Hilton being on the night force, was on his way home when an alarm of fire was turned in. He being a member of Blank's Hook and Ladder Company, responded to the call, and when the truck was returning he stepped off from the back end and lost his momentum, falling with all his weight on the graveled street, the back of his head striking first, which caused a fracture. He was preceded in death by his wife, Bettie Dedman Hilton, the daughter of Marcus Lafayette (M L) Dedman and Martha Louisa Scarff Dedman. Mr. Hilton leaves an aged mother, a brother, Dr. C. W. Hilton, and two little girls, Martile and Bessie. The deceased was born May 29, 1859, and was thus in his 41st year. The funeral will take place tomorrow morning, at 10 o'clock, from the residence on Oak street to the Monroe cemetery, under the auspices of the fire department."

**Find A Grave Memorial#
46519171**

CHRISTOPHER BAILEY



Chris is married to Sabrina Lambert, the daughter of Penny Dedmon Lambert. Lt. Chris Bailey has served The Village of Midvale Police Department, Midvale, OH since 2013. He was named "Officer of the Month", in March, 2016.

ELLIOTT DEDMON



Elliott Ellison "Bud" Dedmon was elected on November 7, 1944; re-elected November 5, 1946 and served until January 1, 1949 as the Sheriff of Grimes County, Texas

WILLIAM BRIAN DEDMON

Georgia Highway State Patrol



Brian has been a trooper since February, 2009, when he and 46 others completed the 33 week specialized training school. that prepared them to earn the right to wear the traditional "big hat" of the Georgia State Patrol. Prior to entering the training school he was employed by the Georgia State Patrol as a dispatcher. Brian is the oldest son of Joseph William "Bill" and Connie Buff Dedmon. They have two other children, Kym, who is married to Danny Daugherty, and Craig who is married to Brittany Walker. (Bill is my youngest brother)

Brian is married to Cindy O'Bryant Dedmon and they have three girls, Hana Yvonne, Morgan Paige and Briana Coy. I lived next door to them for ten years prior to moving to Buchanan, GA in 2013. It is hard to believe Hana is now driving. Morgan has reached her teen years and Briana is not very far behind her. Brian was extremely helpful to Jane when I began having the vertigo spells and was good to drive us places.



Apache County occupies the North East corner of Arizona covering 11,127 square miles. Apache County is larger than some states and is the third largest of 15 counties in Arizona. Under the leadership of Sheriff Joseph Dedman Jr., the Apache County Sheriff's Office is responsible for the full time Law Enforcement duties in Apache County including unincorporated towns and housing sub-divisions. The Apache County Sheriff's Office employs 80 personnel including Detention Officers, Communication Specialists, Administrative and Maintenance staff, as well as 28 certified Deputies. Sheriff Dedman also utilizes volunteer assistance with both the Reserve Deputy program and the Northern and Southern Apache County Posses as well as organized citizen groups for Search and Rescue. The Apache County Sheriff's Office houses all prisoners from the county courts as well as three incorporated city Police Departments. The Apache County jail also houses inmates from the Federal Bureau of Prisons and the Arizona Department of Corrections.

Although a portion of Northern Apache County is Navajo Nation, Apache County has jurisdiction for all the Non-Native American population living on the Navajo Nation. Along with receiving and dispatching the routine and 911 calls for Apache County, the Apache County Sheriff's Office Communication Center also receives and dispatches calls for 3 Police Departments, 7 Fire Departments, 3 Ambulance Companies, as well as assisting the United States Forest Service and Arizona Game and Fish Officers.



Sheriff Joseph Dedman Jr., grew up in the Navajo community of Nazlini, about 15 miles north of Ganado in Northeastern part of Arizona. His mother passed away when he was young and he suddenly had to take on added responsibilities. He is the third oldest of three sisters and one brother. He fondly remembers riding his pony into Ganado, or driving to the trading post in a wagon with his grandfather who was a medicine man. As a young man, Sheriff Dedman learned the value of hard work and became a caring family member. As a high school student, he managed to earn money which he used to buy clothes or goodies for his siblings.

All that would prepare him for his 27-year career in law enforcement, a career that would often put him among dignitaries such as U.S. President Bill Clinton, U.S. Vice President Albert Gore, U.S. Senator John McCain, and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson. He supervised their security during their visits to the Navajo Nation. Sheriff Dedman began his career as a police communications operator, then to the police academy where he trained to become a Navajo police officer. He became a certified peace officer for the State of New Mexico. Once he received that certification, he then got certified in Tucson, Arizona. When he received his Arizona certification, he returned to Navajo.

For the next two years, he worked for the Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety, stationed in Crownpoint, New Mexico patrolling the area.

Sheriff Dedman's next assignment was to the Special Investigation Unit of the Navajo police — an often dangerous assignment. In one incident, he went undercover and worked on a drug sting in Tuba City. "Eventually we caught some people and took them down to Phoenix," he said. After a tour with the SI unit, he returned to patrol duty in New Mexico for two more years. Then in 1989, he had another assignment: personal security to former Navajo Nation leader Peter MacDonald during the tribal turmoil and eventual riot. He served in that position for three years. "The riot happened," he said. "But we worked with a special security unit that was hired (to provide extra security). We learned a lot from those people. They were an elite trained team. So while tribal leaders were in a political headlock, Sheriff Dedman was getting invaluable lessons.

At the Internal Affairs Department, Sheriff Dedman supervised a cadre of professionals who watch over a force of 350 police officers. He carries out professional standards and teaches at the training academy in Tolye, Arizona. He teaches a supervisor's course, discipline action, civil liabilities, and leadership training for officers in training. He also continues to handle dignitary protection for special guests to the Navajo Nation.

Sheriff Joseph Dedman Jr., is married and has three children, and two grandchildren. He can often be seen riding his 1995 Harley Davidson around Window Rock area.

Behind the Badge **APD**

Why this police dispatcher took his last call, and what he's now doing to help others in field



The Anaheim Police dispatcher answered the call like he did every other: by pushing a button that played a pre-recorded message of his voice: "911 emergency."

It was 5:50 p.m. on Oct. 31, 2013, the graveyard shift was coming on to relieve the dayshift team a few minutes early on Halloween. Day-shift dispatcher Ryan Dedmon decided to answer one last call. "My daughter just shot herself," an elderly man told him. In his nearly nine years as a police dispatcher, Dedmon had heard it all: Shootings. Stabbings. Rapes. Robberies. Assaults. The suicide call that night hadn't even been Dedmon's first. But it would end up being the last call he ever answered as an Anaheim Police dispatcher. What had once been routine suddenly wasn't anymore.

Flash back to Spring 2002, when Dedmon was a student at Biola University who needed an internship to graduate. Growing up watching police procedurals on TV, Dedmon always wanted to work in law enforcement. In 2002 he landed an internship on the APD's gang unit and became hooked.

An officer named Kathy Johnson, a vibrant and athletic cop in her early 30s, performed his background check. Dedmon, a competitive runner in college, hit it off with her. The two became fast friends, with Johnson serving as his career mentor. After the internship, Dedmon was hired as a cadet. Two years later he was promoted to dispatcher. After serving a very short stint as a police officer in Tustin ("I didn't feel the work was cut out for me," Dedmon says), he returned to the APD as a dispatcher in February 2006. During the few months he was away, Johnson had learned she had late-stage cancer. Her physical condition had dramatically worsened. She was a shell of herself. Assigned to light duty as a dispatcher, Johnson worked side by side with Dedmon — until the day in June 2006 when he got the worst phone call of his life. Dedmon was scheduled to work the graveyard shift that night when his supervisor called him in the afternoon with some news: Kathy Johnson committed suicide. Left a note on her front door. Before killing herself, Johnson called 911 and immediately hung up, knowing that first responders would be dispatched to her home in south Orange County. Dedmon was devastated. But with no peer support program in place yet at the APD, he did what many of his colleagues did: went back to work, keeping whatever thoughts he had about his dear friend's suicide to himself. Work served as the ideal distraction. Dedmon worked so hard that in 2012 an organization named him Telecommunicator of the Year for Southern California.

"Little did I know my heart and my mind and spirit were just a slumbering volcano ready to erupt under the right circumstances," Dedmon said. Those "right circumstances" would come in 2013. In early spring that year, Dedmon received a 911 call. *"I need the Anaheim Police Department,"* the man said. *"This is the Anaheim Police Department. Where are you?"* *"I'm at a business at...in Anaheim."* *"What is your emergency?"* *"I'm really sorry I had to call you and involve you in this. I have a handgun and I am going to shoot myself. I will be dead by the time police get here. You will find me outside in the rear parking lot. My name is Bob... There's a note I have written in my back pocket. The note has contact information for my family. I am so sorry. Goodbye."* Bob was Dedmon's first gunshot suicide.

The call hit him hard. He had elaborately planned out his suicide, just like his dear friend and colleague Kathy Johnson had. Dedmon didn't tell anyone at work about the disturbing call. But he knew he was struggling. *"I felt like I was dog-paddling in the middle of the ocean,"* Dedmon said.

And then came the call on Halloween 2013. I have omitted the 911 conversation, but it can be found at: <http://behindthebadgeoc.com/cities/apd/police-dispatcher-took-last-call-hes-now-help-dispatchers/operationt8.com/feed/operationt8.com>

Three weeks later, after little or no sleep or food but copious amounts of whiskey and running, Dedmon resigned from the Anaheim PD. By then, the agency had a peer support program in place. Two APD employees, Officers Sarah Shirvany and Flora Palma, reached out to him. Dedmon also had met Williams before he quit. *(continued on page 5)*

(continued from page 4)

“For them to show they cared gave me a lot of hope that I could be healthy again,” Dedmon recalled. “I was totally exhausted and depleted. My life serves as example that peer support in public-safety agencies is not only needed, but it works.” He credits Shirvany, Palma and Williams for rescuing him from a path of self-destruction. *“They saved my life,”* Dedmon said. *“I am forever in their debt.”* Dedmon’s APD colleagues were shocked that he resigned; he had been the hardworking dispatcher who could handle anything thrown his way....Or so it seemed.

In reality, Dedmon had acute stress disorder and PTSD, according to counselors he saw for about a year. Therapy, including a technique that helps a person reprocess his or feelings about a traumatic incident, worked wonders and today Dedmon, now 34, is healthy. *“At some point you have to open the closet to deal with the years and years of stuff you’ve been piling away in it,”* Dedmon said of therapy. *“At some point you have to clean your closet.”* Dedmon advocates a healthy balance between work and personal life for anyone and particularly for first responders such as police officers, dispatchers and firefighters.

To that end, he founded a blog, Operation 10-8 (operationt8.com), that honors first responders through recognition and education. Dedmon also volunteers for Project 999 as well as for the 911 Wellness Foundation. In addition, he’s an adjunct instructor for Golden West College’s Criminal Justice Training Center. Dedmon, who lives in Santa Ana, currently makes ends meet driving limos. But he’s itching to get back into the work he loves — police dispatching. Dedmon knows he’s much better equipped this time to cope with the stresses of the job. And he gives a lot of credit to peer support programs such as the one at the Anaheim PD.

“It’s imperative that (police officers and other first responders) understand that asking for help takes an enormous amount of strength and should no longer be looked at as failure or weakness,” Williams said.

As Dedmon put it: *“It’s OK to work in this profession and hurt. It doesn’t mean you’re any less of a warrior.”*



RICHARD DEDMON

Lieutenant at LAPD (Retired), Police Procedures, Police Use of Force and Police Tactics Expert at RCD and Associates. Education: Sacramento State College, Force Science Institute, HITS (Handgun Instructor LAPD), SITS (Shotgun Instructor LAPD), West Point Leadership. Summary: 36 years active law enforcement experience.



Federal and superior court qualified expert witness in Police Procedures, Use of Force and Tactics. Author and co-author of numerous lesson plans and training scenarios for both recruit and in-service officers.

Richard was first employed by the Los Angeles Police Department in May of 1974 and a trainer of police officers since 1978. He was an Academy Instructor and Officer-In-Charge of the Tactics Training Unit of the Los Angeles Police Academy. He taught Use of Force, Patrol Procedures, and Tactics to thousands of recruit officers and in-service officers in the areas known today as California POST Learning Domains 20, 21, 22 and 23.

He was directly involved in the administrative review of hundreds of critical incidents, including Officer Involved Shootings, In Custody Deaths and Uses of Force, and provided management and supervisory oversight of completed Use of Force Investigations. He was a co-author and Instructor of a course on how to investigate critical incidents such as Officer-Involved Shootings, sponsored and taught by the Los Angeles Police Department nation wide.

“For the last three years of my career I was assigned as a Section Officer-In-Charge of Force Investigation Division, of the Los Angeles Police Department. Responded at all hours of the day and night to the scenes of officer uses of force and provided on scene management and supervisory control of the investigation. Responsible for reviewing the completed reports for thoroughness and objectiveness so that the reviewers of the incident could best evaluate the officer’s actions before, during and after the use of force incident.”

Richard retired from the Los Angeles Police Department on January 31, 2010.

CHRISTY JO DEDMAN



Christy Jo Dedman

Officer Christy Dedman was struck and killed by the driver of a tractor-trailer while assisting a motorist on the side of Interstate 40. Officer Dedman was aiding a motorist on I-40 near the Stewarts Ferry Pike ramp. Officer Dedman and the motorist were standing in front of the driver's side of the police car when it was struck

from behind by the tractor-trailer, which was being operated at speeds over 80 miles per hour, and in a reckless manner.

The cruiser was pushed into Officer Dedman and the motorist as they stood by a concrete retaining wall on the side of the highway. Officer Dedman's patrol car had its emergency lights on at the time. Officer Dedman died at the scene. The motorist that was struck was taken to a local hospital with non life threatening injuries. The driver of the tractor-trailer was arrested and charged with vehicular homicide and aggravated assault. Records showed that he had been arrested numerous times for reckless driving, driving under the influence of alcohol, and driving with a suspended license. The suspect was released after only 9 months, including time already served. As part of his release, he was barred from driving for three years. Within two weeks of his release he was arrested in Kentucky for reckless driving.

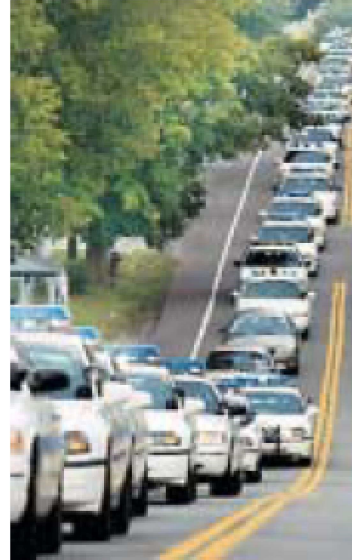
Officer Dedman had served with the Metro Nashville Police Department for less than one year. She graduated from the academy in August 2003, and was assigned to the Hermitage Precinct. Officer Dedman is survived by her parents. Jesse James and Vera Tidwell Dedman

Find A Grave Memorial# 9173177

A portion of Highway 100 was dedicated to the memory of Officer Dedman in August 2005.



The funeral procession for Metro Police Officer Christy Dedman rolls through Dickson, TN on the way to Centerville in Hickman County, where she was buried.



Police cars from various communities stream into Dickson to attend the funeral yesterday of Metro Police Officer Christy Dedman, who was killed Monday. After Dedman's 3 p.m. funeral service in Dickson's Taylor Funeral Home, police officers stood and saluted while her casket was loaded onto a black hearse. They then drove to Centerville, Tenn., in Hickman County.

Christy Jo Dedman

Funeral services for Miss Christy Jo Dedman, 34, were 3 p.m. Friday, July 23, 2004 from the chapel of Taylor Funeral Home in Dickson with Brother Bill McDonald officiating. Interment will follow in Memory Gardens in Hickman County. Miss Dedman, a patrol officer with the Metro Police Department, died July 19, 2004 in Nashville. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice from Austin Peay State University and was working on her master's degree at Middle Tennessee State University. Prior to attending the police academy Christy was employed by Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. She had a profound influence upon those who knew her and will be greatly missed by the Nashville Community. Christy is the 2nd female officer to be killed in the line of duty in Nashville Davidson County, Tennessee. Survivors include her parents, Jesse James and Vera Tidwell Dedman of Bon Aqua; brother, Curtis Dedman of Nashville; and several aunts, uncles and cousins. Active Pallbearers will be Lt. Duane Williams, Sgt. Warren McConkey, Officer James Mayo, Officer Greg Jennings, Rich Little-Hale and Rob Reeves. Honorary Pallbearers will be Metro Police Dept., TBI and ABC. She was laid to rest in the Memory Gardens of Centerville, Hickman County, Tennessee, Services under the direction of the Taylor Funeral Home, Dickson Tennessee

EDWARD LAVERNE DEDMON



Edward served 24 and a half years with the Tampa Police Department where he did foot patrol, vehicle patrol, motor cycle patrol, hit and run detective, vice squad, questioned documents, homicide/robbery. From 1965 to 1979 he was a member of the pistol team and participated in the Police Olympics. In 1979 he retired and moved to Snead Island in Manatee County Fla.

In 1980 he obtained a position with the Manatee County Sheriff's Office and from 1982 to 1985 served as Director of the Transportation Section. From 1985 to 1987 he served as Director of training for corrections personnel. From 1987 to retirement he served as The Sheriff's Office Training Director and was promoted to Lieutenant. He retired from MCSO in 1995 and five years later was called back to teach firearms and run the range. He said, *"Most of the events of my professional life are noted in this document, there are others that are good, a lot that are bad and some scary. These are best left in the past because I feel they are unimportant. Jo-Ann and I now live in the mountains of North Georgia (Hiawassee)"*

Edward Lavern Dedmon is the son of Eppy Alonzo and Cecile Lee Griffith Dedmon. I enjoyed the following story he sent me. --Leroy

*While with the Manatee Sheriff's Office I was participating in the Police Olympics. I heard the announcer call "Dedmon" but I knew that I was not entered in that event so I hurried over and found Lieutenant **Derry Dedmon** who was with the Clay County Sheriff's Office in North Florida and he was originally from Chattanooga. I used to call and ask for Lt. Dedmon, the Secretary would say "who shall I say is calling?" I would say, Lt. Dedmon.....Silence.*

WALLY JOHNSON

Wallace "Wally" Reed Johnson III, is a deputy for the Whitfield County Sheriff's Department. Wally is the son of Wallace Reed and Deedra Lynn Dedmon Johnson II. His grandparents were Charles Edward and Gail Veronica Reed Dedmon. Wally's uncle, Tim Dedmon, is the founder and administrator of the Debenham DNA project.

"UNCLE" ALEX



As far back as I can remember, Alex Dickson was involved in some kind of law enforcement. I remember when he was a Security Guard at Lake Winnepesaukah, known locally as "Lake Winnie". There were times when he would be in charge of the bumper cars and if it was not a busy time, he kinda forgot about the time limit when me and my friends were riding.

He was not really my uncle, but his children were my cousins, although third cousins. We were as close to them as any of our first cousins and closer than some. The daddy of our other cousins was our uncle, and so was "Uncle" Alex. Technically, he was Mom's first cousin. He was a policeman for the Ringgold Police Department. John Alexander Dickson married Clara Lucille King and they had nine children. Seven of them have passed away. Their son Paul was killed in action at the age of seventeen in Korea. I have fond memories of the Dickson family while living at Graysville, GA

LEBANON POLICE DEPARTMENT



This morning during the graduation ceremonies at the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy, our own FTO **Matt Dedman** received an award and was recognized for being a Designated Member of the Visiting Faculty. FTO Dedman trains police recruits on Defensive Tactics and Firearms. Congratulations and Thank You for honorably representing our department.

TRISTEN LAMBERT



Tristen Samuel Lambert was sworn in with The Village of Midvale Police Department, Midvale, OH on Sept 1, 2015. Tristen is the son of Sabrina Lambert Bailey and grandson of Penny Lambert..

DAVID DEDMON



He honorably served his country in the U.S. Navy from 1972 to 1975, and thereafter served the public in law enforcement in Carroll County, MD. Dave later served as a law enforcement officer in Ravalli County, MT, for 10 years, through 1999. He went on to create the Montana Fly Water Compny as a fly-fishing outfitter and guide, turning a passionate

hobby into a career that offered so much to so many. David passed away on Jun. 15, 2008 in Ravalli County, MT.

DERRY DEDMON

After a four year tour in the Navy, Derry Dedmon joined the Jacksonville, Florida Sheriff's Office in 1968, serving as a patrol officer, dective and polygraph examiner. The Clay County Sheriff's Office recruited him in 1982 where he completed his career in 2006 as a dective, lieutenant and captian. He served as investigations lieutenant and supervised training and human resources. Dedmon served as the Accreditation Program Manager. He attended the FBI Academy in 1994 and is a member of the Florida Polygraph Association.

The thing that impressed me the most was his ability to play softball.

Here is the review I found of him concerning his playing Senior Softball:

"A versatile player, Derry has played outfield predominantly, but also can play the infield and pitch.

He is tenacious in pursuit of the ball in the outfield and is a high average line-drive hitter. Derry began his senior softball career in 2002 and joined the Human Kinetics team in 2004."



LeROY PICKNEY DEDMON



LeRoy Pickney Dedmon moved to Baltimore from Gaston County, NC area (the opposite direction of what Deadmans did 100 years earlier). He served as a Baltimore police lieutenant for 30 years and is listed in the Baltimore Police Department Hall of Fame.

LeRoy Pinkney Dedmon Sr. was the son of Augustus Clee and Cornie V. Welmon Dedmon. He was married to Ruth Margaret Dietz and they had one son, LeRoy (Lee) Pickney Dedmon, Jr. LeRoy, Sr, died in 1998.

SHARRY A. DEDMAN-BEARD

Sharry A. Dedman-Beard, a native of Lebanon, TN and graduate of Lebanon High School, was among 160 recipients recently recognized by Deputy Attorney General Sally Yates and Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys (EOUSA) Director



Monty Wilkinson at the 32nd annual Director's Awards Ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Dedman-Beard is the public information officer/ law enforcement coordinator at the Eastern District of Tennessee United States Attorney's Office. She received the 2016 Director's Award for Superior Performance in Public Affairs. She was recognized for her extraordinary efforts in coordinating the media response in July 2015, when a homegrown violent extremist shot and killed five soldiers at a Marine recruiting station and National Guard facility in Chattanooga.

She worked closely with the U.S. Attorney, FBI and other federal, state and local public information officers to facilitate the controlled release of information to international and domestic media representatives. She consulted with the public affairs contacts at EOUSA and the Department's National Security Division; composed press releases; organized press conferences; and served as a contact for those state and local political and public figures that were anxious to be a part of the response and investigation.

Dedman-Beard was also recognized for demonstrating her expertise in media relations by her response to the press in other high-profile criminal cases throughout the district. Her relationship with the district's media and law enforcement agencies and her expertise enhanced the public relations efforts of the U.S. Attorneys' office.

Acting U.S. Attorney Nancy Stallard Harr said the award was proof that Dedman-Beard had earned respect through her dedication to the mission of the Department of Justice in the Eastern District of Tennessee, noting the district "takes great pride" in the achievement.

Dedman-Beard is the daughter of lifelong Lebanon residents Charles and Betty Jo Dedman.