

I first met Troy when I started my freshman year at Canton High School. Troy and a few other guys immediately welcomed me into their group of friends. It was hard being the new guy, but that action took a huge burden from me. After life took us on different paths following high school, I linked back up with Troy professionally by responding to medical calls with him in Lewistown. It was good to see him again. When Troy came to me, stating that he wanted to be a police officer, I couldn't have been happier. Knowing Troy's relentless duty to help people and his calming but firm demeanor, I knew Troy would be a great officer. He always remained open minded and listened without judging, a true attribute of an excellent officer. Although I only got to keep him full-time for a short while before he transferred to the Fulton County Sheriff's Office, Troy still stayed on part-time with me, helping whenever he could.

As great of an asset as Troy was to our department, I know his actions here paled in comparison to the devotion and loyalty he had for his wife and daughters. Anyone who knew Troy knew that he loved his girls in a way that can never be replaced. As much as we admired, respected, and cared about Troy, none of us can fully appreciate the loss that they are experiencing and the grief that they will carry with them for the rest of their lives. Amanda, Kyleigh, Abby, and Gracie, we stand with you and will support you in any way that we can.

I was grateful to see the amount of support that poured out of not only the law enforcement, paramedic, and fire communities, but our local communities as well. Sometimes as a law enforcement officer, it can be easy to feel unappreciated. The job satisfaction can be hard to find. We often feel like our work behind the scenes goes unnoticed, but our communities made it abundantly clear that we are appreciated. Thank you to all the public service agencies that participated in Troy's visitation and funeral. Thank you to all of community members who showed your support. Lew11/FC16, you will be sorely missed and never forgotten.

John Werland

Chief of Police

Lewistown Police Department