

Sergeant Marvin Ray Gambill Jr. (1961 - 2018)

Marvin was born July 15, 1961 in Cincinnati to Marvin and Norma (Henderson) Gambill, Sr. He is a graduate of the Ohio Police Officer Training Academy's First Line Supervision Course and the Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command. He earned an Associate Degree of Applied Science in 2002 and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice in 2007, both from the University of Cincinnati.



Marvin joined the Harrison Police Department as a part time Police Officer during 1985. Mayor Ham Rolfes swore him in as a fulltime officer during 1987. During 1997, Officer Gambill was credited with using the Heimlich Maneuver to save the life of Lieutenant Jack Tremain who was choking; for which the Cincinnati Enquirer named him their "Hometown Hero." He was promoted to Sergeant in 1998 and assigned to Patrol. His additional duties included Bicycle Patrol, Business Files, Stolen Property Summary, and Firearms Instructor. During his career, the Department awarded him the Tornado Service Award, 9-11 Law Enforcement Memorial Award, several Exemplary Service and Exemplary conduct Awards, and the Medal of Merit. The City of Harrison awarded him the Council of Safety Award and an Employee of the Month award. FOP Lodge No. 113 once named him Officer of the Year and the International Association of Chiefs of Police gave him a Safety Belt Award.

He was also a member of the Ohio Horseman's Council, Inc., Ohio Farm Bureau, FOP Lodge No. 113, Police and Fire Retirees of Ohio, Inc. McMillan Lodge No. 141, and the Scottish Rite of Cincinnati.

Sergeant Gambill was forced by cancer to retire December 4, 2017, with 32 years of service to his community and dozens of letters of appreciation and commendation from citizens, judges and other law enforcement agencies. He was diagnosed with Stage 4 Pancreatic Cancer during September 2017. He began chemotherapy September 18, 2017 and, after a valiant fight, discontinued treatment during August 2018. He passed away peacefully at home at 5:30 a.m., September 14, 2018, at the age of 57.

He is predeceased by his father (2009). Sergeant Gambill is survived by his mother; wife, Donna (Kerth) Gambill; children, Michael Ray Gambill and Tayler Rae Gambill; stepchild, Karl Joseph Bragg; grandchild, Ryatt Biddle; and brothers, Gary Gabill and Michael Gambill.

Visitation will be held 4 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, September 19, 2018, at [Jackman Hensley Funeral Home](#) at 215 Broadway Street in Harrison.

Memorials may be made to Cincinnati Blue Line Foundation, c/o Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 69, 1900 Central Parkway, Cincinnati, Ohio 45214 or Old Friends Equine, 1841 Paynes Depot Road, Georgetown, Kentucky 40324.