

# A Simple Thank You



by Steve Grimm,  
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On April 4th my daughter's fiancé passed away in his sleep. My daughter, a member of the Dickinson Volunteer Fire Department, valiantly performed CPR while waiting for the rescue squad. Unfortunately, he could not be saved. He too was a member of a volunteer fire and rescue department, so a full fire department funeral was held. The outpouring of love, dedication and support was awe-inspiring, not only for him and his family, but also for my daughter. The members of her home department and those of several surrounding departments have given her the comfort and support she really needed. And as I write this, after just returning from spending a day with her, they are still supporting her, being there when she needs them.

Now what, pray tell, does this have to do with water and wastewater? It occurred to me that many of our water and wastewater plant operators also do double duty as members of their local fire and rescue departments. It's often the joke when I'm out smoke testing that we have

half the fire department with us. Not only are you guys (and gals) working to protect the public health and the environment, you also work to protect our property and, in many cases, save our lives. I would tip my hat to you if I wore a hat. I appreciate the job you do for pay, and I am even more appreciative, and aware, of the job you do for free. All I can say is thank you.

I'll be back next quarter, I promise. 💧