



Jim Mathiesen

Father, Friend, Hero.

End of watch: July 19, 2011

Early on July 19, 2011, Marin County Deputy Sheriff Jim Mathiesen was murdered in an off-duty incident. Jim's death comes as a shock to his immediate family and to his extended Sheriff's Office family. We are all in a state of shock and racked with a tremendous sense of grief.

The incident was investigated by the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office who published a press release earlier today detailing how Jim died. As we would have expected, courageously and without regard for his own safety, Jim unselfishly went out to confront a man he knew to be a convicted felon with a sordid past; a man who earlier in the night had threatened to kill his ex-girlfriend. Those threats and the fear they created in the victim and her family were the reason Jim was there in the first place. The victim and her family were Jim's friends and they called him because they knew he was a peace officer and they knew he would know what to do.

Helping someone in need was Jim's persona. I can't count the number of times Jim sacrificed his own money, sleep or time off to help someone who needed something. "Whatever it takes, we'll get 'er done." He'd say. I know this may be of little consolation to those of us who loved the man so much, but Jim died just as he lived, reaching out to someone in need. He had a heart of gold, solid gold. Jim knew the meaning of the word friend; in fact, I think if you look in Webster's Dictionary under the word "friend" you will see a picture of Jim's smiling face there. The world has lost one of its best men. So many things will not be the same without Jimmy. We will miss him and he will remain in our hearts forever.

Jim is survived by his wife and two sons. A trust fund has been established for their benefit and will remain open until September 2011. Donations can be sent to:

**The Mathiesen Family Trust
Account # 12439
c/o Marin County Federal Credit Union
30 North San Pedro Road #115
San Rafael, Cal 94903**

Alternately the family asks for donations to Meals on Wheels:

**Meals on Wheels Association of America
Development Department
203 S. Union Street
Alexandria, VA 22314**

Donations to Meals on Wheels are tax deductible.
They are a 501(C)3 organization recognized by the IRS.

