



# Family, friends honor fallen officer during funeral

By Katherine Mozzone and Chris McKee

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**RIO RANCHO, N.M. (KRQE)** – Hundreds gathered Thursday to honor a Rio Rancho police officer who **died in the line of duty** (<http://krqe.com/2014/10/26/rio-rancho-officer-dies-in-crash-while-responding-to-call/>) over the weekend.

- **Photos: Funeral of Officer Anthony Haase**  
(<http://interactives.krqe.com/photomojo/gallery/14951/1/funeral-for-officer-anthony-haase/funeral-for-officer-anthony-haase/>)

Officer Anthony Haase died Sunday after crashing his patrol car on Idalia, near Highway 528, on the way to a domestic violence call. Haase had only been working on the street as a Rio Rancho police officer since May. People at the funeral said what he lacked in experience, he made up for with his

compassion for people and for his job.

A procession brought his body to the Santa Ana Star Center where hundreds of officers from Rio Rancho, Albuquerque and several other surrounding agencies paid tribute.

Rio Rancho Police Chief Michael Geier spoke about Haase at the memorial service, saying Haase was the kind of police officer any chief would want.

“One of Anthony’s goals as a police officer was to change the image and perception that people in the public had of police officers today,” said Geier. “It speaks a lot more to the type of officer he was, but also to the caliber of the person he was.”

Following the funeral, a **procession began** (<http://krqe.com/2014/10/29/flags-to-fly-at-half-staff-for-rio-rancho-officer/>) leading him through Rio Rancho to Vista Verde Memorial Park on Meadowlark Road. Drivers should watch out for closed roads around this time.

The 24-year-old had only been on the force for a little more than a year. He was recently married and leaves behind a family in Rio Rancho. That is also where he was a star baseball player in high school. He was even drafted by the Texas Rangers and had a good stint with them in the minor leagues.

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Michael Myers · 3 days ago

How terrible! Hundreds of officers attending in their uniforms and driving their law enforcement vehicles? Were they on the clock? Who is paying for the gas for those vehicles? What a shame!

3 ^ | v · Reply · Share



Emily → Michael Myers · a day ago

You, and you should be proud to do so!!!!

^ | v · Reply · Share



Unbelievable → Michael Myers · 2 days ago

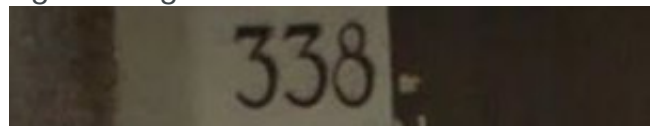
Because that is what we should be focusing on. This man died while on the job, have some compassion

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compassion.

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Paul Anthony NM** → Michael Myers • 3 days ago

Whenever a law enforcement officer is killed in the line of duty, traffic is stopped, hundreds of officers attend services. They drive to and from the services in their work vehicles. It ends up being a huge parade with us taxpayers footing the bill. Why are law enforcement officers placed on a pedestal? Why aren't private citizens, who are TRUE heroes, given the same honor? People die every day as a result of their occupation and do not receive acknowledgement or reverence as law enforcement officers do. Law enforcement officers take the job (and that's all it is - A JOB) knowing the risk and potential for loss of life. They and their families should have the respect and consideration for the rest of society and mourn privately, without making a death a huge production. A death/funeral of a law enforcement officer should NOT be a huge production. It should be a private affair and other public safety personnel should NOT attend services in their publicly funded vehicles while "on the clock".

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Emily** → Paul Anthony NM • a day ago

So your saying the military, firefighters, police are not TRUE heros? Where would you be without them? Yes they took the "job" knowing what the risks are but that is what makes them TRUE heros!!!! They were couragous & selfless enough to do so!!! I will gladly "foot the bill" for these heros! Have some respect and compassion. I hope you don't need police help anytime soon because karma is gonna come back and bite you in the ass.

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**lantern** • 3 days ago

Let's stay on track here. Officer Haase was the 2nd officer from RRPD to die. The other one crashed his motorcycle into a tree. Appears to me that RRPD needs some serious drivers education. can I get an Amen on that?? Ha!

4 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



This comment was deleted.



**lantern** → guest • 3 days ago

That should be "crashes and burns" not "crash and burns". Are you grammatically challenged or just stupid?

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Rioranchogirl** → lantern • 3 days ago



lantern · 3 days ago

What a horrible thing to say. It's hard to drive safe when you're trying to save someone from a potentially deadly situation. Lives are shattered by Anthony's death, show some respect.

2 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**DaniellaG** → lantern · 3 days ago

Show some respect for our officers! Fallen and still serving! They go out every day not knowing if they are coming back but still take that risk to keep our community safe!

7 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Emily** → lantern · 3 days ago

Wow! Do you know him or his family? Or what actually happened? His wife is a widow at 23 and you think this is a funny situation? Accidents happen to the best of drivers so learn your facts before you open your ignorant mouth.

8 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Unbelievable** → Emily · 2 days ago

I didn't realize his wife was so young, what a tragedy. People just don't realize how much situations can impact so many lives. I really hope her friends and family are there too support her.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Emily** → Unbelievable · a day ago

Yes, it's terrible. I went to high school with both of them and they were high school sweethearts. I can't imagine what she is going through right now.

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**ben dover** → lantern · 3 days ago

Amen

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**guest** → ben dover · 3 days ago

yours to. HA!

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Unbelievable** → lantern · 3 days ago

You find this situation funny? How about some sadness someone died?

6 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**FHRITP** · 4 days ago

May Allah help ease the suffering of those who are, particularly his widow, family, and fellow



May Allah help ease the suffering of those who are, particularly his widow, family, and fellow officers.

5 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Randy Bolo** → FHRITP • 3 days ago

WE don't believe in Allah; we believe in God; AKA///DBA///JESUS!

3 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**FHRITP** → Randy Bolo • 3 days ago

Good for you. Hopefully then, God DBA Jesus will comfort them. Shoot, I don't care if it's the whores on 7th avenue, SOMEBODY please comfort them!

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Fictionalmyth** → Randy Bolo • 3 days ago

Uhhh genius...Allah is the same god you believe in, the same myth who sacrificed his own son Jesus...I wish you believed in being educated.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Abel** → Randy Bolo • 3 days ago

TAKBIR!!!!!!!!!!

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Dusty** → Randy Bolo • 3 days ago

o shut up

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**allahisevil** → FHRITP • 4 days ago

Perhaps you could behead her and the other related infidels and martyr them to ease their pain.

4 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Dusty** → allahisevil • 3 days ago

judge muslims on the 1% a holes, than do so across the board on all religions, and by the way be incredibly wrong too

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**FHRITP** → allahisevil • 4 days ago

Well, try to keep in mind Islamic zealots don't accurately represent the mindsets of the 1.6 billion Muslims around the world, anymore than abortion bombers or the Westboro church zealots do the world's 2.2 billion Christians. I'd rather just offer a prayer for them.

6 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

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