



THE UNITED PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS UNION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CIRCULAR

President: Clem Chan

Secretary: Katherine O'Hara

CIRCULAR NO: 88/2022

10th October 2022

VALE

District Officer Alden "Wayne" Cooke

Attention All Members:

It is with great sadness that the Union acknowledges and, with the consent of his family, formally advises of the passing of District Officer (DO) Alden "Wayne" Cook on the 5th of October 2022. The Union particularly expresses its sympathy and condolences to Wayne's Partner Carmen and Children; Terry, Deborah, Greg, and Craig as well as his Stepdaughters; Emilia and Sarah. The Union also passes along its condolences to his extended family and friends.

Wayne joined the West Australian Fire Brigade (WAFB) on 30 July 1982, completing his probationary training as part of WAFB Probationary School 24. Upon graduation, Wayne served as a "D" Platoon firefighter at Perth Station (Hay St, 1982-1992) and Wangara Station (1992-2004). In 2004 Wayne transitioned to become Community Fire Manager (CFM) for the City of Swan providing him with valuable experience working with volunteers and in the management of bushfires.

A move to northern WA was next in Wayne's career taking up a Station Officer position in the North Regional Office with responsibility for West Kimberly (2009-2010). A promotion to Area Officer (AO) was soon to follow where he served as AO Exmouth Gulf based out of the Karratha Regional Office (2010-2016) and AO West Kimberly based out of the Broome Regional Office (2016-2019). During the final part of his career, he was promoted to District Officer East Kimberly at the Kununurra District Office where he served from 15 July 2019 until his passing. Wayne's combined regional service in the Pilbara and Kimberly Regions makes him the longest serving career officer since these regions' establishment in 1993. In total DO Cooke served the WA Community for 40 years and 2 months. The Union's thoughts extend to all of Wayne's colleagues, serving and retired.

Cont.

Please read at Muster and post on Notice Board

Alden Wayne Cooke, affectionately known as "Cookie" to those who knew him, was born in New Zealand and named after his father Alden. After the family migrated to Australia, Wayne joined the Australian Army where he completed an apprenticeship as a carpenter/joiner. Following his military service, he moved to WA and joined the WAFB. Fellow firefighter and carpenter John McMillan and Wayne formed a roofing team helping many firefighters pitch roofs on their own homes during their days off. In his down time Wayne loved to go fishing. He kept in close contact with his fishing mates from his shift days and proudly displayed a great number of photos of his best catches. Sadly, he was struck down with Motor Neurone Disease with retirement looming, he was still employed by DFES at the time of his passing.

Funeral details are as follows:

Date and Time: Tuesday 18th October, 15:00hrs

Location: Pinnaroo Valley Memorial Park, West Chapel, Padbury

Dress: Uniform as per DFES SAP Dress and Grooming

Wake: The Breakwater, Hillary's Boat Harbour, following the funeral service

May He Rest in Peace

Strength in Unity



Katherine O'Hara
Secretary

Please read at Muster and post on Notice Board