



## BUFFALO GROVE FIRE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Buffalo Grove Firefighter Passes Away After 4-Year Battle with Colon Cancer**

**Buffalo Grove, Illinois** – The Village of Buffalo Grove is mourning the loss of 23-year veteran, Firefighter/Paramedic Kevin Hauber, 51, who bravely fought against colon cancer for the last four years before succumbing to the disease Saturday, January 27, 2018. Hauber was surrounded by family at the time of his passing, including his wife and four young daughters.

“Kevin fought long and hard all while still on the job protecting the people of Buffalo Grove, which was his true passion. He grew up in Buffalo Grove and became a firefighter because his childhood dream was to protect and serve,” the Hauber family said in statement.

Growing up, he and his twin brother Jim, also a firefighter/paramedic with the Buffalo Grove Fire Department, idolized the characters on the 1970’s show, EMERGENCY! which profiled the crew of a California fire department. In 2014 while undergoing chemotherapy treatments, Hauber met one of the stars of the show, Randy Mantooh, and was able to explain to him how the show motivated he and his brother to become firefighters. Mantooh signed a picture of them as little boys during the meeting, an experience that Hauber cherished.

Hauber began his full-time career in Buffalo Grove in 1994 as a firefighter/paramedic. In 2004, he joined the Associated Firefighters of Illinois (AFFI) Honor Guard, which exists to provide final honors to fallen firefighters throughout the State of Illinois.

According to Buffalo Grove Fire Chief Mike Baker, Hauber deeply believed in the mission of the AFFI Honor Guard, and always made himself available to serve at events that honored fallen comrades.

In 2018, the AFFI Honor Guard presented Kevin with the 2018 Donald J. Bower Commitment to Excellence Award for his dedication and commitment to the Honor Guard.

“Kevin was a caring, loving person who was always happy and never had anything bad to say about anyone, even when he was sick,” said Chief Baker. “He is already missed.”

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***The Village of Buffalo Grove respectfully asks that the news media allow the Hauber family time to mourn the loss of Kevin. We specifically request that the media not contact members of Kevin’s family during this time. Thank you for this respectful consideration.***