

LTC Crowe

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roically as others, who were not his equal, stood and watched in awe. "LTC Crowe was, by all means, a tremendous leader and I was blessed to have had a chance to work next to him. I miss LTC Crowe greatly. I miss his bluntness, straight talk, his passion and non-exhaustive energy.

"Many soldiers go to war and serve their time. Not all soldiers make an impact while they are there, but LTC Crowe was not that way. He tried passionately to make an impact. LTC Crowe was driven, a model infantry officer and the kind of officer our highest command is after. He fervently preached every day how important it was to pursue the bad guys with vigor. He was the type of leader that all the insurgents feared the most. He was feared for his ferocity and his commitment to never be deceived.

"Our Army needs more leaders like him, but instead we have one less." Crowe, who grew up on Grand Island and graduated from Bishop Duffy High School and Niagara University, is the final name on the Killed in Action monument in the DeGlopper Memorial Park.

After completing the ROTC program at NU, he also completed Airborne School and Air Assault School before receiving a regular Army commission into the infantry. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve and New York National Guard and was on active duty as a professor of military service at Canisius College when he was called to serve in Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2004. He had served in the military for more than 20 years and could have retired but, instead, chose to serve where and when he was needed.

Being in the lead in The Battle of Tal Afar was not a surprise to his sister, Peg White of Grand Island.

"Terry felt that, given his experience as an Infantry officer, he was well-suited to serve as a transition team leader," she said. "Once in Iraq, he again avoided the 'easy way out,' rejecting a safer assignment to serve on the front lines."

Crowe's body returned to Grand Island and was buried with full military honors at St. Stephen's Cemetery on Baseline Road. He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart, The Bronze Star and the Meritorious Service medals. There is a building in his honor at Fort Dix, New Jersey, as well as Outpost Crowe in Iraq.

The eldest of the five children, Terry grew up with a love of the military and always wanted to be a soldier. He had a "G.I. Joe" toy in his crib as a small boy and he idolized his father, who also served in the military. Growing up on Long Road in the 1970s, he and his friends played sports and built forts (one above the tree line was featured in the Buffalo News as it was adorned with a 1776 flag).

Crowe dedicated everything to his two children, Jeremiah and Clara, traveling to his children's sporting events. He spent hours at the Island's Veteran's Park, where diamond 4 has been named in his honor.

"He dearly loved his family, had a tremendous sense of humor, and had the capacity for an incredible amount of fun," White said. "Terry's laugh is a fond memory to this day. He was well-respected for his work ethic and desire for excellence. He is missed each and every day. Yet, far more important is the impact of his service, his dedication to the Army, and his love of this country. He was incredibly proud to have been in Iraq when the Iraqi people - including for the first time ever women - lined up to vote. Terry was willing to serve and ultimately sacrificed his life for a cause far bigger than himself.

"Our world today makes it easy to lose perspective. We frequently get caught up in issues and debates that, in the overall scheme of things, are unimportant. Our family grounds itself in the sacrifice of Terry and so many others who have given everything so we can enjoy freedoms so many others can only dream of.

"While we will forever mourn his passing, we will forever take pride in his patriotism and the example he has set. I will miss his courage and his low tolerance for the weak and the scared."

Ansav added: "I am certain LTC Crowe found peace in heaven because God knows he gave his life for it here on earth. Thousands of Iraqi people will enjoy a greater peace as a result of LTC Crowe's presence here. Most will benefit for years to come and not know specifically who to thank, but God knows and that's the most important."

Higgins asks New York to make COVID vaccines available to Canadian residents

Congressman wants to allow Canadian neighbors to make appointments in state

Congressman Brian Higgins, co-chair of the congressional northern border caucus and the Canada-U.S. interparliamentary group, is asking New York state to open up COVID-19 vaccine appointments to Canadians.

In a letter to the governor, Higgins wrote, "Western New Yorkers are anxious to see their Canadian family, friends, and neighbors. Sharing surplus vaccines should not just be about shipping vaccines around the world, but should also be about helping our closest neighbors. If there is excess supply of the vaccine, we should do everything in our power to see that those doses do not go to waste. The stakes of this pandemic are too high to do anything less."

Higgins pointed out all 30 New York-operated vaccine sites are currently showing available appointments, plus nearly 50 retail pharmacy sites within a 50-mile radius of the Western New York border have available supply.

Several states, including North Dakota, Alaska, Washington and Montana, have recently allowed Canadian residents to receive the vaccine. The Public Health Agency of Canada is allowing Canadian residents to cross to get vaccinated without imposing quarantine restrictions.

The border between the U.S and Canada first closed to nonessential travels in March of 2020. For months, Higgins has been pushing to immediately expand the definition of essential traveler to include people with family or property across the border and to develop a plan to safely reopen the border more broadly by July. The congressman says sharing surplus supply will help get closer to that goal.

Higgins' Western New York district includes the cities of Buffalo and Niagara Falls, borders Canada and is comprised of four international crossings.

Catholic Charities: HOPE Day 2021 nets \$317,228 for annual Appeal

Appeal 2021, which runs through June 30, now at 80% of \$10 million goal

HOPE Day, the annual 24-hour match challenge day of giving to benefit Appeal 2021, brought in \$260,016 on May 14. Matching funds of \$57,212 added to this total increase HOPE Day's grand total to \$317,228, toward the annual Appeal's \$10 million goal in support of Catholic Charities and the "Fund for the Faith."

"The goal of HOPE Day is to inspire first-time donors and those who already gave to go above and beyond to help those most in need, in addition to rallying Catholic Charities' supporters," said Rick Cronin, Appeal 2021 chair. "Thank you, thank you to individuals and corporate donors who participated in HOPE Day 2021. Your contributions directly bring hope in the form of emergency assistance, mental health counseling, youth and family support services and more to our neighbors most in need throughout all eight counties of Western New York."

To date, more than \$8,017,161 or 80% of Appeal 2021's \$10 million goal has been raised. The annual Appeal helps fund 57 programs and services administered by Catholic Charities across Western New York, along with several ministries that benefit all parishes through the Diocese of Buffalo's "Fund for the Faith."

Donations to Appeal 2021 can continue to be made at ccwny.org/donation through June 30.

Last year, Catholic Charities' programs and services helped more than 149,000 individuals of all faiths, ages, and ethnicities.

For more information, visit ccwny.org.

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