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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“Local Hero” To Be Inducted Into National Emergency Service Memorial

Off-Duty Bay Area EMT Died Aiding Stranded Motorist

In a ceremony on May 24th, a Bay Area EMT will have his name added to the national Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Memorial in Roanoke, Virginia, an honor in recognition of giving his life in the service of others.

On December 17th, 2005, Scott Lofgren, 43 of Berkeley, came upon an accident during a rainstorm along Interstate 80, and stopped to help. While putting out flares to secure the safety of a disabled vehicle, a passing motorist hydroplaned out of control, striking Lofgren and killing him instantly.

During the ceremony Lofgren’s widow, Chukka Sachs, will be presented with a US flag denoting Lofgren’s service to his country. Over the last decade and a half, Lofgren provided medical service in the aftermath of almost every major US disaster, including the Oklahoma City federal building bombing, the attacks on the World Trade Center on 9/11, and the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Lofgren worked for Mutual Aid Response Services, a company providing stand-by emergency services for special events. He also volunteered annually as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) at the Burning Man Festival, and the AIDS Ride. Lofgren also donated his time and skills to the Coast Guard Auxiliary and the Civil Air Patrol.

“He was doing what he loved to do best,” said long time friend and colleague Joseph Pred, of San Francisco. “I’ve never met a man who was more willing to go the extra mile to stop and help people.”

The National EMS Memorial is a federally designated memorial, which honors Emergency Medical Services personnel who have died in the line of duty. Held annually since 1993, the Memorial Day service in 2008 will add 75 names to the memorial, joining the 350 previously recognized. During the induction ceremony, scheduled for 3PM (PST), EMS providers are being asked to observe a moment of silence in honor of their fallen comrades who’ve given their lives in the performance of their duties.