

Donald H Marriott
U.S.F.S Fire Control Officer 1948-1972 Retired

June 30, 2013

Mr. Dan Fraijo
Fire Chief, Prescott Fire Department
1700 Iron Springs Road
Prescott, AZ 86305

Dear Sir,

I salute you. My heart and soul recognize that you will bear a heavy burden for a long long time.

I write as a retired fireman who knows the same feelings you will be up against and the toll it takes of mind and body, to continue your dedication and service.

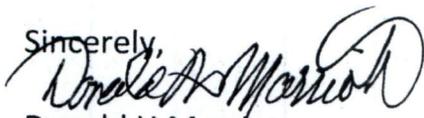
In the mid 60's, I was privileged to have the Inter Regional El Cariso Hot Shot Crew attached to my District on the Cleveland National Forest for 11 years. The Loop Fire on the Angeles National Forest claimed 13 of their team dead, and 12 critically injured. The months I spent with them in the hospital gave me insight into their bravery that I had not recognized before. Even critically burned, the men joked and called themselves "the crispy critters"

Their dedication and loyalty to one another is familiar to me, and the thousands of firemen I have lived with, fought fire with and shared good and bad times with. This has helped me endure my loss of them.

My thoughts tonight go out to you and I humbly mention that the one survivor of your team will need special consideration. He or she will never be fully capable of the emotional undeserved guilt that will accompany him for not being with the team in their lives last struggle. This is an unfair emotional burden, I wish him peace.

I listened last night to your remarks on TV, you handled difficult acknowledgement with clarity and pride. I salute you; my heart and soul are with you.

Sincerely,



Donald H Marriott

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