

Colonel Christopher A. Knight
Neil Kirkman Building
2900 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32310

Dear Colonel Knight:

I'm writing on behalf of my parents, William and Lucy Beaudoin, in recognition of Trooper Robert S. Ray, badge # 2414.

In the afternoon of January 15, 2006, my father, William, had a minor accident whereby he turned too wide making a U-turn and ended up in the ditch. My dad sustained a minor laceration to his forehead, however, due to blood thinners, the cut bled profusely. Paramedics took into account his age, the bleeding and the fact that it was a head wound, and determined he should be taken to the ER.

At this point, my father's main concern was for my mother who was alone at home. My mother, Lucy, has Alzheimer's Disease, and my dad is the main caregiver. As luck would have it, my husband and I had just returned from an out-of-town trip, and at that time, my daughter, Chris, was en route to pick us up.

Trooper Robert S. Ray, having responded to the scene, heard my father, understood his concern, and acted accordingly. He assured my father that he, himself, would go and stay with my mother until a family member arrived. Of course, as soon as we learned of the mishap we went directly there. Trooper Ray explained the situation, was most courteous and inquired if there was any other way in which he could render aid to our family.

Not only did Trooper Ray demonstrate that he was an outstanding example in his chosen vocation that Sunday afternoon, but by the simple humanitarian act of taking the time to really listen, he illustrated his humanity, and his empathy for a fellow human being.

Granted he didn't throw himself in front of a moving train, and too often it is the small gesture that goes unapplauded, but it is these acts of quiet kindness which make all the difference.

Trooper Robert Ray's kindness to our family was very much appreciated. We wish him luck, and pray that he remains safe from harm in his chosen profession.

Sincerely,
Nancy Merada

Nancy R. Merada