

## 05-24-1998 Douglass Co NV – Edward R. Callahan – LEO Boat Accident

<http://www.nleomf.org/newsroom/news-releases/deadly-dangers-patroling-our.html?referrer=https://www.google.com/>

On May 24, 1998, Deputy Sheriff Edward R. Callahan, of the Douglas County (NV) Sheriff's Office, was on routine patrol with his partner on Lake Tahoe. As they were coming into the dock, a large wave overturned their boat. Deputy Callahan was pulled under the water and never resurfaced.

### James D. Hoff Peace Officer Memorial

In memory of officers fallen in the line of duty.

<http://www.hoffmemorial.org/enshrined-officers/edward-callahan>

#### NEVADA APPEAL DOUGLAS DEPUTY DROWNS

Monday

May 25, 1998

*"They did everything they could. You absolutely cannot swim in water that cold." Ron Pierini, Douglas County Sheriff on the death of on-duty deputy*

**STATELINE** – The cold waters of Lake Tahoe claimed the life of a Douglas County deputy sheriff Sunday afternoon. Douglas Sheriff Ron Pierini said Deputy Edward Callahan, 54, died of drowning due to apparent hypothermia after the dinghy he was climbing into capsized about 200 feet away from the lake shore at Zephyr Cove.



**Edward Callahan**

He is the first Douglas County officer to die in the line in duty. Officer Callahan and a reserve Deputy Wes Rice were finishing a day of patrolling the lake's waters, using the department's patrol boat. A Zephyr Cove Marina employee met the two around 5 p.m. at the department's boat to ferry them back to shore.

"The boat capsized as soon as they were getting into it. They had taken off their gear to get into the boat and they didn't have a chance to even put it on," Pierini said.

...Deputy Rice and the Zephyr Cove employee were able to reach the department's boat, where they called over the radio for help, but Callahan could not, Pierini said. Paramedics and firefighters from several Lake Tahoe-area agencies were able to pull Callahan from the water, estimated between 10 and 15 feet deep, approximately 15 minutes later. He did not have a pulse and efforts to revive him were unsuccessful.

May 27, 1998

### California services for drowned officer Friday

Minden – Funeral services for Douglas County Sheriff's Deputy Edward Callahan will be Friday afternoon in Hemet, California.

...Callahan was a retired U.S. Customs agent. He worked as a boat patrolman on a seasonal basis for the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, spending the winter months at another home in Hemet. He is survived by a wife and three children.



## OFFICER DOWN MEMORIAL PAGE

REMEMBERING ALL OF LAW ENFORCEMENT'S HEROES

<http://www.odmp.org/officer/15393-deputy-sheriff-edward-r-hoffman>



<i>Bio &amp; Incident Details</i>
<b>Age:</b> 52
<b>Tour:</b> 23 years
<b>Badge #</b> Not available
<b>Cause:</b> Heart attack

*Deputy Sheriff*

**Edward R. Hoffman**

**Marinette County Sheriff's Office, Wisconsin**

**End of Watch: Friday, May 26, 2000**

Deputy Edward Hoffman died when he suffered a heart attack while conducting a search and rescue operation.

Deputy Hoffman, a member of the department's dive team, was sent to a neighboring county to search a lake for a missing fisherman. During the search, Deputy Hoffman surfaced unconscious. Other rescue workers on the scene attempted to revive him, but were unsuccessful. The search was taking place in 50 to 75 feet deep water.

Deputy Hoffman had been employed with the Marinette County Sheriff's Office for 17 years, and is survived by his wife and four daughters.

### Autopsy indicates deputy drowned

<http://www.tahoe.com/bonanza/stories.5.29.98/region/callaautopfuner01Jan6235.html>

01-01-99 North Lake Tahoe *Bonanza News Service*

A funeral will be held today for Douglas County Sheriff's deputy Ed Callahan in Hemet, Calif. The Douglas County Honor Guard will attend and act as pallbearers. A local memorial service is planned Tuesday morning at the Zephyr Cove marina, Sheriff Ron Pierini said. It will be open to the public and other interested groups. Callahan, age 54, died Sunday after the dinghy he was climbing into capsized, pitching him and two other men into about 15 feet of water in the Zephyr Cove Marina.

Autopsy results released Wednesday say hypothermia was a factor in the drowning. Douglas Sheriff's Sgt. Lance Modispacher said toxicology results on Callahan probably will not be ready for several weeks.

"We don't suspect anything. It's just part of the standard investigation," he said. An autopsy done by the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office says Callahan drowned, and that while hypothermia was a factor, Callahan was otherwise physically fit, Modispacher said.

The Nevada Division of Wildlife is investigating the tragedy. A spokesman said it should be completed today.

The other two men on the boat with Callahan, deputy Wes Rice and the Zephyr Cove harbor master, were able to climb out of the water, but Callahan could not. Rice and Callahan had just finished their shift patrolling Lake Tahoe's Douglas County waters. The harbor master had met them at their patrol boat to ferry them back to shore.

Rice and Callahan were climbing into the smaller boat and did not have a chance to put on life jackets before the wind tipped it over. Callahan was pulled from the water about 15 minutes after he fell in.

The Douglas patrol boat has remained docked and probably will be for a few weeks, Pierini said. Surrounding agencies have agreed to watch the lake's Douglas waters in the meantime.

Callahan's death shocked his colleagues and friends. It also has them warning well-wishers about telemarketers who may try to profit from his death by soliciting donations.

Sheriff's Sgt. Lance Modispacher said the department is not endorsing telemarketers and others who may attempt to raise funds claiming the Callahan family as beneficiaries. He recommends that residents get the names and phone numbers of anyone who seeks money for the Callahans and report it to the Attorney General's office at (702) 688-1958.

Locally, those wishing to make a donation in Callahan's memory can call the Sheriff's Office. No formal funds have been set up, but sheriff's officials can steer potential donors to legitimate beneficiaries.

For more information, call Modispacher at (702) 782-9931.