

Message: Dear IAFF,

I cannot begin to express the feelings Cathy and I have for the kindness shown by your chapter in supporting Tyler Browns Swim for Devin Beers.

Words really do fail me, and as anyone who knows me can tell you, that's rare!

I thought you would like a brief background concerning Devin, his Grandfather, Great Uncle, and Great Grandfather. I have sent this information to Jim Pietrangelo, but thought you may find it surprising as well.

Devin's Great Grandfather (Leroy Augustus Beers), Grandfather (my Dad, George Beers) and Great Uncle (Roy Beers), all served with the Fort Collins Fire Department.

Leroy was the first full time mechanic employed by the FD, Roy was assistant chief under Carpenter, and George (my Father), served between 1947 and 1962. If you look in the "History Of Larimer County", Vol 2, you will find a piece entitled "The Chief is Dead". It recounts the tragedy that was the Denver Dry Goods fire, and the death of Chief John Carpenter. This piece was itself penned by my father, and he was one of the last people to see the Chief alive (even though he was "retired", he still answered the call whenever the sirens blew...)..

As you can see, my family has ties going back nearly 100 years to Fort Collins Fire Fighters, and it is a connection I have always been proud of.

Regards,
David L. Beers