

# FALLEN FINEST

## POLICE OFFICER JOHN KELLY

Patrol Borough Staten Island - Auto Larceny Unit

**O**n July 17, 2000, Police Officer John Kelly was killed when his police car struck a utility pole during a pursuit of a stolen motorcycle.



Officer Kelly was working a red-light enforcement assignment in uniform in an unmarked car.

At approximately 1:15 pm, he spotted a motorcycle which he quickly determined to have stolen license plates. Officer Kelly attempted to stop the motorcycle and a pursuit ensued. During the chase, Officer Kelly lost control of his unmarked vehicle, a 1999 Chevy Lumina, and collided with a utility pole. He was rushed to St. Vincent's Medical Center where he expired hours later after a frantic efforts to save his life. He was 31 years old.

The motorcycle driver fled the scene, but was arrested after police received a tip as to his identity. He was convicted of attempted assault second-degree, reckless endangerment, possession of stolen property, leaving the scene of an accident, and driving with a suspended license. He was sentenced to six years in prison.

Officer Kelly came from a family of cops, including his wife, his brothers and his in-laws. Considered by all who knew him to be a "Cop's Cop", Officer Kelly was posthumously awarded the NYPD's Medal of Honor .

Police Officer John Kelly served with the New York City Police Department for 8 years, 6 months. He was survived by his wife, Patricia and two young sons, Sean and Christopher.

