

Officers pause to remember Officer David J. Tolsma

By **Jim Herr** - October 21, 2017



Cheektowaga Police Officer David Tolsma's memorial inside police headquarters. (Jim Herr/Cheektowaga Chronicle)

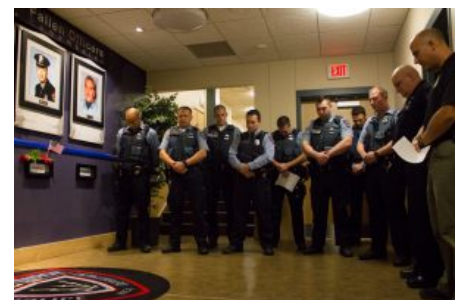
CHEEKTOWAGA – Cheektowaga Police officers assigned to the afternoon shift Friday paused for a moment of silence to remember Officer David J. Tolsma who was killed in the line of duty 40 years ago.

His brothers in blue gathered by Officer Tolsma's memorial inside police headquarters as part of their afternoon briefing.

Officer Tolsma was shot and killed while responding to a hold-up alarm inside a hotel on Genesee Street around 1:00 am on October 20, 1977. He was 32-years-old.

A six-year veteran of the department, he left behind his wife, Judith, and two children, Kimberly and Jason.

Tolsma Place, a street off Sonwil Drive, was named in his honor by the town in 2007, and the police firearms training facility on Scott Street is named after Tolsma and Robert



Cheektowaga Police officers assigned to the afternoon shift paused for a moment to remember Officer David J. Tolsma who was killed in the line of duty 40 years ago on October 20,

Burgess, a 30-year-old officer who was killed in the line of duty responding to a drugstore robbery on July 1, 1977.

1977. (Jim Herr/Cheektowaga Chronicle)

A moment of silence for Officer Tolsma was also observed at the [retirement sendoff for Sgt. Larry Bauer](#) earlier in the day.