



SHREVEPORT FIRE

D E P A R T M E N T

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For Immediate Release

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SHREVEPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT MOUNRS THE LOSS OF RETIRED ATF K-9 AGENT #853

With great sadness, the Shreveport Fire Department shares the loss of retired K-9 Jude. We celebrate the career of K-9 Jude and mourn in his passing. Thoughts go out to Chief Mike Hood and his family during this time of loss.

Jude was born on May 26, 2006, in Long Island, New York. As a puppy, Jude started his life of service in Guide Dog School. Before his second birthday, Jude would be transferred to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Explosives Detection K-9 Program. Jude graduated as ATF K-9 Agent #853, and was assigned to the Shreveport Fire Department's Bomb Squad, and specifically, Fire Investigator Mike Hood. After 10 weeks of basic training together, Jude became a certified ATF Explosives Detection K-9 (Bomb Sniffing Dog)

Jude and Chief Mike Hood worked in excess of 220 missions together throughout the United States. Their scope of work included explosives sweeps, VIP protection details, and numerous requests to search for explosives and guns used in the commission of violent crimes. Jude found explosives, many guns/weapons and projectiles, and hundreds of shells casings that were proven to be beneficial in the prosecution of violent criminals within our four state area. Some of Jude's protection details included:

- NFL Super Bowl
- MLB World Series
- NBA All Star Game
- NCAA Final Four Games
- MLB American League Championship Series
- Kentucky Horse Racing
- College Bowl Games
- Presidential Details
- The Pentagon

- CIA Headquarters
- FBI Headquarters
- Mount Weather
- Arlington National Cemetery
- Secret Service Requests
- VIP Protection Requests
- National Air and Space Museum
- National Governors' Convention
- Numerous Dignitary Sweeps
- Numerous Celebrity Concerts and Appearances
- Campaign Sweeps
- Red Mass for Federal and District Judges

Jude has traveled across the country, protecting others and was always willing to work hard, every day of his life. All he knew, was that he wanted to please Chief Mike Hood, and show how good of a job he could do, in everything ever asked of him. "I know without a doubt; Jude has saved me more than once", said Chief Mike Hood.

In all of his accomplishments and life-saving duties, perhaps his best quality, was that he was an "old soul". Jude faithfully stood by Chief Hood's side, working or not. He would not let just anyone touch his face or head, but he would always let a child or those with special needs love on him as much as they wanted. Jude was truly a gentle spirit. Everyone either knew Jude, or knew of Jude. "His whole life, he would lay his head in my hand to sleep, when his head got too heavy. That is exactly what he did when he took his last breath here on earth. It was my job to protect him to the end." – Chief Mike Hood

Jude passed away peacefully on Friday, April 2, 2021, after a long battle with failing health. Jude would have been fifteen years old next month. "Jude served his country, and community with loyalty and dignity. Jude never backed down from a challenge, and he forever stood by my side. I was proud to call Jude my partner. That is just a small window into the life of ATF Explosives Detection K-9 #853. Or as I prefer to call him, "my buddy Jude". - Chief Mike Hood

Memorial details will be released at a later date. ###

