



CITY OF SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
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Sacramento, CA 95814-2599

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF  
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To: <u>Mayor Serne</u>		
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Comments/Message: <u>FYI - Officers Killed</u>		
<u>in the line of duty</u>		
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## SACRAMENTO POLICE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY

**Joseph Scott**                      **December 12, 1878**  
Killed in the line of duty.

**P.F. "Pop" Becker**                      **April, 1910**  
Killed in the line of duty.

**Erskin Fish**                      **August 11, 1935**  
Killed by suspects who were terrorizing residents of the Woodlake District.

**Frank Mello**                      **June 30, 1951**  
Died from injuries received in a police motorcycle accident while en route to a fire alarm.

**Francis Rea**                      **January 3, 1954**  
Shot in the head during a running gun battle.

**Arnold Gamble**                      **February 15, 1963**  
Shot to death during a gun battle at a local bar.

**Eugene McKnight**                      **July 23, 1963**  
Killed while attempting to apprehend suspects who had robbed a market.

**Bernard Bennett**                      **May 9, 1970**  
Killed by a sniper bullet while he was patrolling Oak Park.

**Andrew Collins**                      **April 19, 1972**  
Killed in a motorcycle accident while in pursuit of a suspect.

**Doyle Popovich**                      **August 3, 1974**  
Killed while apprehending a suspect for grand theft auto.

**Rodney Butts**                      **October 15, 1975**  
Died of a heart attack after a struggle with a felon.

**Michael Gartrell**                      **April 25, 1991**  
Killed during a pursuit of a drunk driver.



*Emily Morgenthau*  
OCTOBER 17, 1997 killed in the line of duty





# Officer Emily J. Morgenroth is deeply missed by her friends and colleagues.

Officer Morgenroth is survived by her parents, James and Mary Morgenroth, along with her brother James, and sister, Monica, all from Pleasanton, California.

Officer Morgenroth graduated from Amador Valley High School in June of 1988. She then went on to study Political Science at UCLA where she graduated in 1992. Officer Morgenroth taught English in Japan for two years before receiving a Certificate of Japanese Language Proficiency from the National University in Osaka, Japan in October of 1994.

Officer Emily J. Morgenroth began her law enforcement career with the Sacramento Police Department as a Police Officer on August 21, 1995. Officer Morgenroth was fatally injured in the line of duty on October 17, 1997.

## Officer Emily J. Morgenroth December 5, 1970 - October 17, 1997



Sacramento Police Department  
1997 Annual Summary  
Dedicated to the Memory Of

ADJOURN  
IN MEMORY OF  
DONALD MICHEL

30 yrs

# Private plane crash during storm kills business owner, 30

By Emily Bazar  
Bee Staff Writer

Every Tuesday, Donald Thomas Michel's routine was the same.

The East Sacramento resident would climb into his single-engine Mooney at Sacramento Executive Airport and fly to Santa Monica, where he'd spend a couple days working with clients before returning home.

But early this Tuesday, the 30-year-old entrepreneur and new father was killed on impact when his plane went down in a thunder and lightning storm south of Bakersfield.

Family members, reeling from the news, described Michel as a committed family man who built his computer consulting firm into a multimillion-dollar business.

"A lot of times you have people in business who are very successful who have big problems with their family and home lives ... but Don really had it all," said his brother Neil, 28, of Davis.

"Any time Don entered or left your presence, he wrapped his arms around you. It wasn't sometimes or only on good days. It was every time he walked into a room," he said.

Officials aren't sure what caused the 9:30 a.m. crash about 12 miles south of Bakersfield. The National Transportation Safety Board has begun an investigation.

They do know that witnesses saw the plane falling out of the sky into a field just 200 yards from Interstate 5, said Kern County Sheriff's Cmdr. Donny Youngblood. One witness said the plane was missing a portion of one



Donald Michel

of its wings.

"The airplane appeared to come apart prior to hitting the ground," Youngblood said. "What was left of the fuselage did not appear to be an aircraft.

It was a clump of metal."

Michel was an experienced pilot with hundreds of hours of flying time, said his brother.

Michel graduated from Simi Valley High School before attending Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, and earning a bachelor's degree in business finance.

He worked at Price Waterhouse until he started his computer consulting business three years ago. The firm, Application Associates Inc., has offices in Sacramento and Los Angeles.

An athlete who loved boating and golfing, Michel was also a new parent. His wife, Traci, gave birth to their first child, a daughter, Sydney, three months ago.

"He just loved to be with his family," said Matt Albers, the manager of Michel's Sacramento office. "Especially since the birth of his new daughter, you could tell from the look in his eyes, it was complete happiness."

## Funeral Service

Saturday, May 9, 1998 - 10:00am  
Sacred Heart Church  
1040 39<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, CA 95819

## Burial

Immediately following mass  
East Lawn Cemetary  
Folsom Blvd. & 43<sup>rd</sup>  
Sacramento, CA 95819  
916.732.2000

## Donations

→ Sydney Michel College Trust ✕  
Great Western Bank  
1300 21<sup>st</sup> Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Donald Thomas Michel is survived by his wife Traci Lee and his daughter Sydney Josephine (of Sacramento), his mother Ada Maria and his father Donald Howard (of Simi Valley), his sister Christina Diane (of Sacramento), his brother Neil Edwin (of Davis), his grandmother Dorothy Loraine and his grandfather Donald Cuddy (of Grants Pass, Oregon).

Class of 1986, Simi Valley High School / Class of 1991, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo

Economic  
Development  
Staff