Beat: News

Heroes Until The End

True Spirit Of Service

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USPA NEWS - Mike MacKenzie and Jenna Croucher personify the extraordinary impact of selflessness, courage, and compassion, bequeathing a lasting legacy that will galvanize and motivate future generations of first responders.

Over this past week, I have had the privilege of witnessing the extraordinary pride, comradery, unity and unwavering loyalty among first responders, not only here locally, but also heartwarming tributes pouring in from numerous other jurisdictions across our resilient nation. It has been deeply inspiring, yet also poignant to see many hurting. Below are a few uplifting thoughts and heartfelt tributes that I was to witness throughout our compassionate Maritime community.

Oulton College
"Last Friday, our Primary Care Paramedic students and instructors stood alongside first responders from across our region in honour of two Island EMS paramedics who lost their lives in the line of duty.
As educators, we are reminded that behind every uniform is a person with family, friends, and a commitment to serving others.
To their loved ones, and to everyone at Island EMS, please know that you remain in our thoughts.
Thank you to every paramedic who continues to answer the call, every single day."

Jenna's life was on the cusp of a brilliant new chapter, with her wedding just a couple months away. She was an unstoppable force for good - kind, genuine, generous and undoubtedly one of the most optimistic people you would ever meet.

Mike embodied the spirit of IEMS, inspiring countless lives through initiatives like the Christmas Toy Drive, his role as Mascot Nitro, and the 911 Ride. His legacy touches tens of thousands, leaving behind a profound impact and cherished memories. A true original, Mike's kindness, compassion, and zest for life continue to uplift and empower those who knew him, reminding us all of the incredible potential for positive change that lies within each of us.

A gentleman that I spoke with who knew both paramedics Jenna and Mike, holding back tears, had this to say; "Life's fleeting nature presents us with a profound opportunity to cherish every moment. I feel truly blessed and inspired to have known these two remarkable individuals. My thoughts also extend to the family, friends and their patient. One invaluable lesson we can glean from this tragedy is that our legacy begins today – let's seize every opportunity to live our best lives, nurture meaningful connections, and openly express our love and appreciation for those who matter most."

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Editorial program service of General News Agency:
UPA United Press Agency LTD
483 Green Lanes
UK, London N13NV 4BS
contact (at) unitedpressagency.com
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