

**DON CAMPBELL  
MEMORIAL SERVICE  
FEBRUARY 9, 2019**

Good morning. I want to thank the Campbell family for the honor of inviting me to participate in Don's service today.

To the entire Campbell family, our heart goes out to you. Your husband, father, grandfather and brother was truly a special man. This celebration of Don's life today is a testament to that.

Today I'm going to talk a little bit about Don's career, tell a few stories that his friends shared with me, but most importantly I am going to try and describe the kind of person Don Campbell was to all of us.

Sergeant Don Campbell (affectionately known as "DC") was a 28-year veteran with our police department, beginning his career in July of 1989 and retiring in December 2017. But there was so much more to Don's career with us. According to his classmates of class #61, many who are here today, Don was known for being a leader, motivator, somebody who would do anything for a friend and strong as an ox!

Don's character, competence and maturity were evident early in his career, and in no time, he was selected as a Field Training officer, Narcotic Enforcement Team, Gang Detail, Special Enforcement Section (SES) and SWAT. He also was a great teacher & mentor. He was the lead instructor for the department's first AR-15 rifle certification course and was a certified Less Lethal Instructor in addition to Riot/Crowd Control, Mobile Field Force and Firearms.

Don promoted to the rank of Sergeant in June of 2000 and returned to the Patrol Bureau and was soon assigned to the South Division Community Policing Team. In 2001, Don returned to SES and then in 2003, he returned to the Gang Enforcement Section until his retirement.

Throughout his career, he received many commendations from his peers, supervisors, other law enforcement agencies and community organizations.

He received the SWAT Commitment in Excellence Award and the Richard A. Rose Career Achievement Award, which are 2 of the most prestigious awards you can earn with the LBPD. Don also received numerous meritorious awards for heroism and bravery. He was one of our true heroes.

According to some of DC's closest friends and coworkers, he truly loved Terri and he often spoke of how proud he was of all of his children and the adults they became.

DC also loved building things. Another close friend, (Joel Camrin) considered him an artist and a magician when it came to framing.

Everybody I talked to couldn't say enough about DC's character, his work ethic, and what a wonderful human being he was. He was quiet, never showed any weakness, and was one of the toughest men we had ever been around. Although a very serious man, he often cracked a wicked smile and was known to have a great sense of humor.

I was told a story of how gang members used to refer to him as "Baldy" and they had so much respect for DC, because he was firm, but always fair. So much so, that one of the gangsters named one of the toughest pit bulls in the neighborhood "Campbell" after DC.

By the showing today, Don obviously had a huge impact on our police department. He was more than a coworker and a friend. Don was a member of our department family.

I know I have mentioned this before, but I believe it bears repeating, people often ask me what makes the long beach police department different than other departments. Of course, we have a tradition of honorable and courageous service, but we are so much more. We truly are a family. I want to thank all the LBPD family which includes their wives, who showed what helping a family member really means.

Although DC's life ended too soon, we will not define him by the way his life ended, but rather focus on the way DC lived his life and how he impacted all of our lives. I believe DC is and will always be one of the most courageous people who served with LBPD and because of my faith, I know he is no longer suffering. He is looking at us with that smile.

On behalf of the men and women of the Long Beach Police Department both current and retired, and our entire command staff, please accept our heartfelt condolences. We truly appreciated Don's service to our department and our community, he made us better and we will miss him very much.