



Santa Clara City Fire Fighters

February 17, 2005

President Gary Niblock
Santa Clara Firefighters
Local 1171
P.O. Box 1185
Santa Clara, CA 95052-1185

Dear President Niblock and Executive Board:

It's with sadness, yet extreme pride that I write you this letter. The tragic death of Brother Fire Captain Marc McCormack has been a difficult task for our families including our brother and sister firefighters. In dealing with these unfortunate events, we depend and survive due to the support from our families. Thankfully, this support comes to those in need in all different ways...

Our Brothers and Sisters at County Fire Department literally experienced "the set from hell", and last Wednesday, February 16, was the last shift of this infamous set. In wanting to support our extended family, I came up with an idea to make this last shift a little easier for all of them by supplying dinner for the stations that responded to the tragic fire.

An email was sent out describing the venture, and before I had my shopping list made, there were more offers of help than we really needed. The outpouring from the members and family of Santa Clara Fire Department and the community was just amazing. Just a few hours after I had begun planning the meal, I had people bringing gas BBQs to my home, helpers going in all directions and a huge food donation from the Outback Steak House (in Campbell).

Before long, the complete meal was planned, purchased, cooked and delivered to the County Fire Stations of Los Gatos, Shannon, Sunnyoaks, West Valley, Campbell, Winchester and Saratoga.

As stated earlier, the outpouring of support was just amazing, and recognition goes out to **Jim Polizzi, Darrell Sales, Mark & Wendy Selves, Ron McDowell, Mike & Terri Ryan, Kevin Maloney, Jeff Orlando, Vince Lucero, Nick Delgado, Rick Harsh, Dan Navakovich and Kim, Natalie & Ryan Picchi.** Equally as essential to this venture was the help from Santa Clara Firefighters Local 1171 and the Outback Steak House (in Campbell).

We all hope this small show of support to Mark's Family and our Brothers and Sisters at County Fire Department helps them in coping with their unfortunate loss.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Picchi

Paul J. Picchi
Battalion Chief
Santa Clara Fire Department
Active Retired member of Santa Clara Firefighters Local 1171