

AMERICAN AVALANCHE ASSOCIATION MEMORIAL LIST

Halsted Morris
American Avalanche Association, Awards Chairman

In the fall of 2007, the board of directors of the American Avalanche Association approved the creation of a Memorial List, to honor and remember those individuals that were killed while engaged in avalanche and snow safety related work.

The criteria for being listed on the American Avalanche Association Memorial list are:
The American victim must have been engaged in either a professional or in a volunteer capacity while “on the clock,” in snow-safety or avalanche rescue work, at the time that they were killed.

As of August 2009, there are fifty individuals listed on the American Avalanche Association’s Memorial list. These individuals represent a complete cross section of “snow and avalanche workers.”

<i>Occupations of the listed victims</i>	<i>Percentage breakdown of each occupation</i>
21 Ski Patrollers	42% Ski Patrollers
13 Highway Technicians	26% Highway Technicians
3 USFS Snow Rangers	6% USFS Snow Rangers
3 Avalanche Forecasters	6% Avalanche Forecasters
2 Avalauncher Gunners	4% Avalauncher Gunners
2 Climbing Guides	4% Climbing Guides
2 Helicopter Ski Guides	4% Helicopter Ski Guides
1 Railroad Technicians	2% Railroad Technicians
1 Search and Rescue Team Member	2% Search & Rescue Team Members
1 Snowcat Ski Guides	2% Snowcat Ski Guides
1 Ski area Trail Crew Member	2% Ski Area Trail Crew Members

Types of accidents in which the victims were involved:

42 Avalanche Accident Victims
2 Explosives Related Accident Victims
6 Gunnery Related Accident Victims

Two Avalauncher gunners and 2 highway technicians were killed at Helms Creek, CA in one accident. Two USFS Snow Rangers were killed in two other separate gunnery accidents.

The following individuals are those that we should remember:

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March 31, 1944
Adam Fraiser
CDOT Highway Technician
Loveland Pass, CO
Avalanche Accident

May 26, 1953
George Beaton
Highway Technician
Glacier National Park, MT
Avalanche Accident

May 26, 1953
William Whitsord
Highway Technician
Glacier National Park, MT
Avalanche Accident

April 8, 1957
Wayne Whitlock
CDOT Highway Technician
Berthoud Pass CO
Avalanche Accident

March 9, 1958
Tony Deane
Ski Patroller
Snow Basin, UT
Avalanche Accident

March 12, 1964
Richard Pittman
Ski Patroller
Snow King, WY
Avalanche Accident

March 29, 1964
Lawrence H. Allen
USFS Snow Ranger
Snow Basin, UT
Avalanche Accident

March 16, 1966
Ole Olefson
USFS Snow Ranger
Crystal Mountain, WA
Gunnery Accident

February 18, 1967
Carolyn Laffoon
Ski Patroller
Skyline Ski Area, ID
Avalanche Accident

February 18, 1967
John Johnson
Ski Patroller
Skyline Ski Area, ID
Avalanche Accident

November 26, 1967
Earl Gentry
Ski Patroller
Arapahoe Basin, CO
Avalanche Accident

March 2, 1970
Robert F. Miller
CDOT Highway Technician
Red Mountain Pass, CO
Avalanche Accident

March 16, 1971
Tom Simpson
Snowcat Ski Guide
Aspen Mountain, CO
Avalanche Accident

December 13, 1973
Marvin R. Critton
Ski Patroller
Mammoth Mountain, CA
Explosives Accident

February 7, 1974
Duane Gifford
Highway Technician
Thane Highway, AK
Avalanche accident

November 23, 1974
Peter Horridge
Ski Patroller
Arapahoe Basin, CO
Avalanche Accident

February 9, 1978
Tyler Hammond
Highway Technician
Helms Creek, CA
Avalanche Accident

February 10, 1978
Terry Kishbaugh
CDOT Highway Technician
Red Mountain Pass, CO
Avalanche Accident

February 10, 1978
George Morris
County Road Operator
Twin Lakes, CA
Avalanche Accident

March 4, 1979
William F. "Willi" Unsoeld
Climbing Guide
Rainier National Park, WA
Avalanche Accident

March 31, 1981
Roberto Gasperl
Ski Patroller
Snowmass Ski Area, CO
Avalanche Accident

January 25, 1982
Albert Dow
Search & Rescue Team Member
Mt. Washington, NH
Avalanche Accident

March 31, 1982
Bernie Kingery
Ski Patroller/Mountain Manager
Alpine Meadows, CA
Avalanche Accident

March 31, 1982
Jeffery "Jake" Smith
Trail Crew Member
Alpine Meadows, CA
Avalanche Accident

December 22, 1982
Gary Pheister
Avalauncher Gunner
Helms Creek, CA
Gunnery Accident

December 22, 1982
Douglas Wiens
Avalauncher Gunner
Helms Creek, CA
Gunnery Accident

December 22, 1982
Charles Marvin
Highway Technician
Helms Creek, CA
Gunnery Accident

December 22, 1982
Steven Forsythe
Highway Technician
Helms Creek, CA
Gunnery Accident

December 24, 1982
David Stutzman
Ski Patroller
Big Sky, MT
Avalanche Accident

December 18, 1983
Mickey Johnston
Ski Patroller
Copper Mountain Ski Area, CO
Avalanche Accident

March 31, 1984
Chris Kessler
Ski Patroller
Highlands Ski Area, CO
Avalanche Accident

March 31, 1984
Craig Soddy
Ski Patroller
Highlands Ski Area, CO
Avalanche Accident

March 31, 1984
Tom Snyder
Ski Patroller
Highlands ski Area, CO
Avalanche Accident

December 2, 1985
Paul Driscoll
Ski Patroller
Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, WY
Avalanche Accident

February 4, 1986
Kim Momb
Helicopter Ski Guide
Selkirk Mountains, Canada
Avalanche Accident

February 17, 1986
Tommy Raymer
Ski Patroller
Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, WY
Avalanche Accident

August 3, 1986
Ian Kraabel
Climbing Guide
Mt. Baker, WA
Avalanche Accident

February 19, 1989
Jefferson Wong
Ski Patroller
Mount Hood Meadows, WA
Avalanche Accident

February 12, 1992
Mark Yates
Avalanche Forecaster
La Sal Mountains, UT
Avalanche Accident

March 5, 1992
Eddie Imel
CDOT Highway Technician
Red Mountain Pass, CO
Avalanche Accident

November 23, 1994
Roger Evans
USFS Snow Ranger
Alpine Meadows, CA
Gunnery Accident

December 17, 1994
Steve Burchett
Ski Patroller
Mission Ridge, WA
Avalanche Accident

June 14, 1995
Bruce Hance
NPS Highway Technician
Tioga Pass, Yosemite National Park, CA
Avalanche Accident

February 2, 1996
Jeff Brewer
Ski Patroller
Solitude Ski Area, UT
Avalanche Accident

February 10, 1996
Jim Otteson
Helicopter Ski Guide
Paradise Peak, ID
Avalanche Accident

December 25, 1996
Erika E. Pankow
Ski Patroller
Big Sky, MT
Explosives Accident

February 1, 2000
Kerry Brookman
Alaska Railroad Heavy Equipment Operator
Avalanche Accident

January 22, 2004
Jeffery Nissman
Avalanche Forecaster
Portage, AK.
Avalanche Accident

March 8, 2008
Mike O'Leary
Avalanche Forecaster
Cordova, AK
Avalanche Accident.

March 3, 2009
Andrew "Drew" James Entin
Ski Patroller
Squaw Valley, CA
Avalanche Accident

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