

Monica J. Rath



Monica J. Rath was born on March 19, 1973. She grew up in Southgate Ky. Her father Wayne is a volunteer with the Southgate Fire Department and her mother Marlene is a member of the Southgate Auxiliary. Monica joined the Southgate Fire Department in 1993. She volunteered as a firefighter/EMT. Monica

and her sister, Missy, were the first female engineers in the history of the department. She also served in every administrative position in the Southgate Fire Department including serving as the first female president from 2003-2006.

Monica met Steve Rath when he joined the Southgate Fire Department in 1996. The two began dating in 2000 and were married on October 5, 2002. Monica is the mother of three children, Donnie Watson, Chelsea Watson Shay and Andrew Rath. She is one of more than a dozen members of her extended family that are involved in the fire service in Kentucky.

Monica gained an interest in the Kentucky Firefighters Association after attending conventions with her parents and husband. After the retirement of KFA Secretary Dave Jansing, Monica Rath was elected to the position in 2010. She was the first female ever to serve on the KFA Executive Board. Monica was extremely involved in the KFA attending E-Board meetings, line of duty firefighter funerals, KFA functions and schools. She made numerous trips to Frankfort promoting legislation aimed at improving the fire service in Kentucky. She was a strong proponent of the Cancer Presumption Bill even before she was diagnosed with Lymphoma. Monica remained as KFA Secretary until she succumbed to cancer on March 9, 2016. Presenting the award to Monica's husband Steve are Mike O'Day and John Daley.