

Mike O'Day



Michael C. O'Day was born on January 22, 1949. In 1967 Mike joined the Dayton Volunteer Fire Department following in his father's footsteps. In 1971 Mike was hired as a paid firefighter with the Dayton Department. 1971 also marked the year that Mike married his sweetheart, Alice Herzog. Mike and Alice have been enjoying married bliss for 37 years and counting. The O'Days have two children Michael II and Kevin. They have five grandchildren with number six on the way.

Mike remained a paid firefighter with Dayton until 1977 when he was hired by the Ft. Thomas Fire Department. Mike remains a member of the Dayton Volunteer Fire Department and has held every rank from firefighter to Asst. Chief, serving a stint as acting Fire Chief. He is currently serving in his 41st year as a member of the Dayton and the merged Fire Department of Bellevue/Dayton. At Ft. Thomas Mike served two terms as president of Local 1928, as well as 10 years as Treasurer. In May of 1977 Mike was one of the many firefighters on the scene of the Beverly Hills Supper Club Fire. You never read his name in the press or heard any tales of glory from him, but Mike O'Day was one of those truly responsible for saving lives at the Beverly Hills Supper Club.

Mike quickly became active in the fire service outside his home departments. He served as a three term president of the Campbell County Firefighters Education Association. He was president of the Northern Kentucky Firefighters Association in 1977, as well as secretary for 10 years.

Mike attended his first KFA conference in 1974 and has missed just one conference since. Mike has served on the Resolutions Committee, was KFA Parliamentarian and By-Laws Chairman from 1985-1993. As By-Laws Chairman Mike directed a complete revision of the then outdated by-laws.

He was elected Vice-President of the KFA in 1990 and was one of the few to complete seven years as Vice President, serving as President in 1996-97. During his term, President O'Day signed one of the first Civic Development Contracts and directed a strong lobby for pension reform. After his term as president, Mike served as Advisor providing vital guidance to 1998 KFA President Joe Turner, as well as many presidents since. He has served as a member of the Conference Planning Committee in 1985, 1990, 1997, 1998, 1999, and is a Co-Chairman of the current conference. Mike also served a distinguished role on the Kentucky Fire Commission from 1994 to 2002.

It sounds like Mike O'Day spends all of his time involved in the fire service. He does not. Somehow, Mike has found time to be an avid golfer and distinguished bowler, having bowled several 300 games. He even owned his own bowling alley for a time, perhaps explaining his 300 games. He and Alice love to travel and have enjoyed several vacations to a variety of exotic locations, but mostly they enjoy their grandchildren.

The Hall of Fame Committee is honored to present Michael O'Day for induction into the 2008 KFA Hall of Fame.