

THE TOLEDO POLICE DEPARTMENT

A solemn obligation



Patrolman Harold Mosbrugger
E.O.W. June 9, 1921

Officer Harold Mosbrugger died trying to apprehend the man who had just killed his partner, Officer Harry "Happy" Dowell, minutes before.

Officer Mosbrugger, a young "rookie of only 6 months" lowered himself through a roof skylight into the attic where Kelley was held up. He was hoping to take Kelley by surprise. Officers who were brave enough to sneak into the building were able to provide Chief Herbert with the news that Officer Mosbrugger had died in the attempt.

"After an exchange of gunfire from officers and the lunatic, Chief Herbert arrived to take personal charge of the attack and ordered the machine gunners to 'let him have it'. . . . The firing was maintained steadily for almost an hour with practically the entire force of uniformed police and detectives surrounding the lodging house." Thousands of citizens also crowded the area to watch the incident unfold."

Officer Mosbrugger, who was appointed on December 18, 1920, was substituting for another officer on this day. "Mosbrugger was known to his friends on the force as a man of courage. Although he was only a new man, he gave promise of a future in the department."

Mosbrugger resided at 878 Forsythe Street and left behind a mother, two grandmothers and a young fiance named Mary Mertz. Miss Mertz and Harold Mosbrugger were to have married on June 20th, only 11 days after his death. He was preceded in death by an infant child from a previous marriage.

Harold Mosbrugger

TO PROTECT AND SERVE