

TOLEDO AREA POLICE MEMORIAL SERVICE

A solemn obligation



**Patrolman Harry "Happy" Dowell
E.O.W. June 9, 1921**

Officer Harry "Happy" Dowell was killed on Thursday, June 9, 1921, along with his partner, Harold Mosbrugger. The two had responded to 611 Walnut Street after the landlord, Mrs. Nellie Key, stated her tenant, James Kelley, produced a pistol when her son tried to retrieve his room rent.

Kelley began shooting sniper-style from the attic of 611 Walnut Street. Officer Dowell never had a chance. A reporter witnessed the event and wrote ". . . a bystander across the street yelled 'why don't you send patrolman Dowell up there and hang a red tag on him?' Dowell for many months had been assigned to checking traffic violators on downtown streets and placing red tags on cars violating parking regulations. Dowell, the best natured man on the police department . . . looked up at us and gave us a kind of half smile. A moment later a shot came from the attic window and Happy dropped with the smile still there."

Officer Dowell's body lay on the street for more than an hour as police battled with Kelley. Finally, Inspector Joe Delehanty was able to get a rope around Officer Dowell's feet, and with the help of two brave bystanders, Francis Bogateley and William Fisher, they were able to retrieve his body and carry him away from the scene.

"Happy" Dowell resided at 1719 Oakwood Avenue and had just bought a new home on an installment plan. He left behind a wife and three small children. He had been appointed to the department on March 1, 1918.

Harry Dowell

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2012