

TOLEDO AREA POLICE MEMORIAL SERVICE

A solemn obligation



Patrolman Walter Mullen
E.O.W. May 12, 1925

At 2:35 a.m. on May 4, 1925, Officers Walter Mullen and Fred Reaser responded to someone breaking into a garage at 2946 Garnett Street near Clarence Avenue. The two streets no longer exist but were located at the northern end of Front Street.

Officer Reaser reported, "When we arrived on Clarence Avenue, Mr. Russell Downs stopped us and said he had made the complaint and showed us where to go. . . . I went as directed, and expected Officer Mullen to follow. . . . As I approached the intersection of these alleys, I saw two men looking around a shed . . . I saw a gun shining in the hand of one man. I said throw up your hands . . . I heard no response. I commenced shooting in their direction. I shot three times. I then heard Officer Mullen saying - Fred you have got me. . ."

The bullet had traveled through two shed doors and had struck Officer Mullen in the right side of his abdomen. "Mullen was able to sit up in the machine [car] on the way to the hospital and conversed with Reaser on the way. It was not thought that he was seriously hurt, but when the hospital was reached he collapsed." Mullen survived until May 12, 1925, when he succumbed to his injury.

Mullen was a widower and had resided at 368 Avondale Avenue with his parents. His brother, George Mullen, was a pitcher for the Detroit Tigers. Walter himself was recognized as one of the best semi-pro baseball officials in this part of Ohio. Mullen had also been boyhood friends with Officer "Petie" McGuire, who was killed in the line of duty on December 22, 1921.

Walter Mullen

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2012