

THE TOLEDO POLICE DEPARTMENT

A solemn obligation



**Patrolman Charles "Petie" McGuire
E.O.W. December 22, 1921**

Three days before Christmas, 1921, a man ran into Engine House No. 8 at Division and Indiana Streets and made a complaint that two men who had just burglarized his home were walking outside. Officer Charles McGuire had just started his shift.

According to witness accounts, "When McGuire went to search them, one backed down off the curb. At that moment, McGuire reached for his gun. Then they grabbed his arm and one of them shot him. McGuire fell. Then he emptied his gun, arose and started to follow them. He went a step or two and fell again."

"The policeman's parents, living a block away at 397 Avondale Avenue, heard the report of the weapon that cut off the life of their only son who, five minutes before, had kissed his mother farewell and reassured her that he'd be 'a good boy'."

"Mr. McGuire himself ran to investigate the source of the fusillade, only to learn that his own son, 'one of the most handsome young men in the police department,' had been shot down without being given an opportunity to defend himself."

"McGuire died at the very corner where he played as a boy and from which he later marched to join the army during the war." Chief Herbert reportedly cried when he was informed of the murder. "Petie was a regular copper. He was one of the best in the department and certainly had a promising future." He had been a policeman for less than one year and was planning to be married in the spring of 1922.

Charles McGuire

TO PROTECT AND SERVE