



HSV Firefighter, Lt. Zach Sykora in ICU

Description

Update on Lt. Zach Sykora and family

As many of you are already aware, one of our [Village firefighters](#) has sustained serious injuries from a fall off a treestand while deer hunting. [Lieutenant Zach Sykora and his wife Meredith](#) have two young children, ages 3 and 1. Zach's wife Meredith is staying with Zach in ICU. Meanwhile, Meredith's mother is taking care of the two children. Both children are sick. When it rains, it pours.

A valued member of this community, Zach works out of Cortez Firehouse and is the son of POA Grounds Maintenance Supervisor, Mike Sykora. Zach is a tireless champion of the life-saving benefits of smoke detectors. He has spoken to many organizations throughout the Village about this and other fire safety issues.

What happened

Zach sustained multiple injuries from his hunting accident on Friday, October 4, 2019. "He has numerous broken ribs, a punctured lung, numerous fractured and dislocated vertebrae and a broken scapula."

Update on Zach's condition

This is the latest update from Meredith:

"Zach is stable. Pain management is our biggest issue right now. The operating team manipulated his hip last night and determined it was stable enough to not need a replacement. He is not allowed to put any weight on it for 6 weeks. Neurotrauma is mostly concerned about his L2 fracture. Currently, he is in a back brace and they are hopeful that the fractures will start to heal on their own. If they don't, then he will have surgery down the road. His chest tube output has decreased and there's a chance it could be removed later today."

“The trauma team predicts he will be off work from the fire department for a minimum of 6 months.”

How to help Zach and his family

This is a devastating blow, physically, financially and emotionally, for the whole family. We are asking for your prayers and also for both emotional and financial support in the form of get well cards for Zach and donations if you can spare a few dollars. Sometime this week, there will be a fund set up at Bank OZK to help the family. Janet Rowe is assisting with this process. Further details on this will be forthcoming.



Sending healing prayers to Zach and family

Cards may be dropped off starting tomorrow, Monday, October 7 from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m at Linda Van Scotter's office which is located at Carmona Storage Area, next to Debra's restaurant. If Linda is with a client, the cards may be slipped under the door of her office. The door is in the lobby, which is located between Debra's Restaurant and Linda's office.

Thank you for all your support and love for this family!

by Cheryl Dowden, October 6, 2019

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