

SICKLES

Continued from page 1

When Fontanelle and other departments purchased the same defibrillators, Sickles was instrumental in several area agencies getting together to train on them. Eddy, Sickles and others were instrumental in the purchase of fire pagers when that system began in the 1990s.

When Eddy worked at the school as custodian, Sickles would drive by and honk the same way every time. One day when he did it, Eddy didn't look up. When Sickles teased him about it he said he knew it was him.

At the lumber yard, Sickles kept a mental note of the things the school needed. Sickles always thanked those who helped him, Eddy said. Sickles loved his "critters" and could often be found sharing them with those who visited his farm east of town.

Chad Herr, a firefighter in Fontanelle since 1992, remembers going to the lumber yard with his grandpa, Wilfred, as a child. Sickles was always there and helpful.

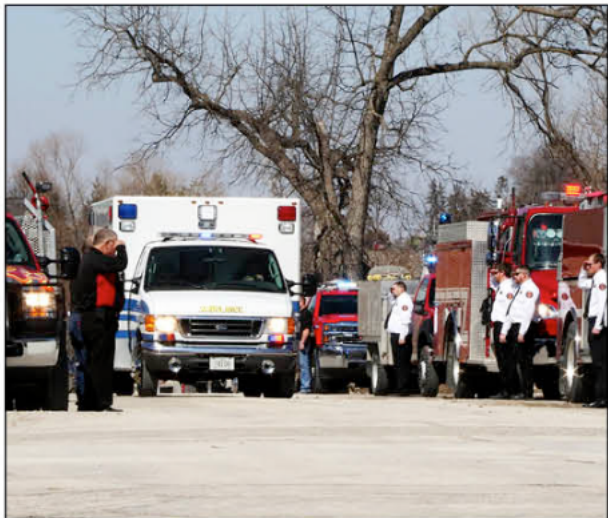
Once Herr became a firefighter, Sickles was great to learn from there. Herr remembers Sickles saying, "I'm getting too old for this and we need young guys on the department," and now Herr is one of the older ones.

Herr stated that because of Sickles, he will remember that hard work pays off. He said Sickles will always be his Chief and he won't be forgotten.

Josh Oder, who served as Greenfield's fire chief from 2019 to 2022, said working with Sickles was always a pleasure. He remembers Sickles as a man of few words, however when he spoke, Sickles spoke with a purpose. "You couldn't have asked for somebody better to work with. He was very easy to work with," Oder said.

Current Bridgewater Fire Chief Daryl Christensen echoed the sentiments of the others the newspaper spoke with.

Farmers Lumber Company manager Jim Dickerson, who will celebrate 60 years working there next week, said that as an employee there, you had to be a "jack of all trades, a



ACFP photos by DAN DICKINSON

The Fontanelle ambulance leads the funeral procession for Fire Chief Denny Sickles as firefighters from other departments stand by their trucks and salute.

master of none," and Sickles exemplified that. Dickerson said their routine would be to arrive at 7:30 a.m. and open up, then they'd have coffee and a staff

meeting at 8:15 a.m. He said he greatly misses that routine with Sickles.

In January 2022, upon his retirement from Farmers Lumber Com-

pany, Sickles said it meant a lot to him that he lived in Fontanelle his entire life. The community meant a lot to him.

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