

Michael LaVallie is a lifelong resident of Ticonderoga. This son of Fred and Mary LaVallie was born June 30, 1981 and graduated from Ticonderoga High School in 1999. He and his wife Kara live in Pine Springs Park, and are raising their 4 children, ages 10, 9, 6 and 4. Just that alone is a monumental task. Mike loves fishing, running and time spent with his family.

Mike was a three sport athlete while attending Ticonderoga High School, excelling in football, track and field, and his true love, basketball.

From a young age he always wanted to be part of our fire department and give back to our Community. When the first opportunity occurred, he joined Ticonderoga Fire Department as a junior firefighter in 1997. In 1999, after receiving all his necessary training, Mike became a full member of the department at the age of 18.

After graduation he attended Lake Region Community College in Laconia, New Hampshire, where he earned his Associate's Degree in Fire Science. As a member of the Fire Department, he has earned the rank of Lieutenant, Captain and Assistant Chief.

In 2004 he applied to become a member of the Ticonderoga Police Department as a patrol officer. Upon his approval from the Town Board, Mike attended Basic Municipal Police Officers

Academy. After six months of grueling training, he became a full time police officer and served Ticonderoga from 2004-2017. He worked his way up from a patrol officer to a sergeant. Recently he willingly stepped in to help the town by serving as its Interim Police Chief.

In the subsequent years he became certified as a Field Training Officer and General topics Instructor. He was now in a position to train new recruits, an experience he relished. Mike is now employed as a patrol officer for the Warren County Sheriff's Patrol.

In his quest to be of service to the residents of the Greater Ticonderoga area, Mike also worked for a time with Lemoyne Ambulance Service and joined the Ticonderoga Emergency Medical Squad. However, as his roles and responsibilities increased in both the fire and police departments, Mike found himself without enough time to properly serve this organization.

While serving in the Fire Department, Mike has been involved in several very emotionally draining incidents, events in which victims were pronounce dead on the scene following his arrival. One involved a plane crash in the deep woods in the back of Three Brothers Mts. overlooking the golf course. The other involved a house fire that resulted in the death of a young boy. Both left emotional scars that are felt by Mike even today.

As a result of the tragic house fire, Mike is passionate about being involved in the elementary school's Fire Prevention Week. He and other members of the Fire Department demonstrate the

proper protocol for saving one's life and the lives of others in their household. It is especially important that critical life saving techniques are taught at a very early age. Mike estimates that he attends approximately 100 calls a year. That can be day or night and whenever and whatever the incident demands.

Mike is well-liked and respected by fellow workers, firemen and townspeople. They know him as a tireless employee and volunteer who cares deeply about the Community of Ticonderoga and the people who live here. I am proud to honor my former student and friend, Mike LaVallie, and present him a 2018 Ticonderoga Alumni Association Special Service Award.

Ticonderoga Alumni Association Special Service Award

Speech Given by Bob Dedrick on July 27, 2018