

Donors

Blake Hopkins and family



Dec. 5, 1998



1 year old Harlans morph Redtail, Yala, on a cottontail. Photo taken at 1998 NAFA field meet, Vernal, Utah

Backdraft

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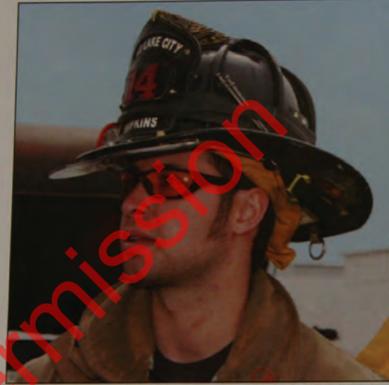
The Greatest Fireman I Know

By Ty Shepherd,
SLCFD Heavy Rescue / Paramedic

On November 21st, 2008, three of our Salt Lake City brothers were on their way to a retreat in Colorado. The trip was piloted by Paramedic Craig Bryon and Paramedic Dylan Hopkins, all members of the SLCFD Heavy Rescue Team.

While in the Uinta Mountains they encountered problems. Through their efforts, Craig was able to put the plane down in a clearing and commu- nicate for help, launching a rescue of the severely injured them- selves. However, Dylan's injuries were so severe and he did not survive.

Dylan was spoken of highly in the community and will be missed by our department and the fraternal members of the service. As editorial staff of



Jay Dyal Photo



Dave Wharff Photo

How do you measure a man? Do you measure him by the success he had? Do you measure him by his selfless acts? Or do you measure him on his reputation with the world? Measuring the quality of man's life is a hard task to complete. It is one that may never be solved. But if you measure the quality of a man's life by the impact he had on the people around him, our friend, Dylan Hopkins, came in perfect.

climber, a river runner, a biker, a sailor, a son, and a friend. But what the world lost cannot be written down on paper. It can't be captured with pictures, or words, or labels. Sometimes a person comes into your life and your life becomes instantl



On a river trip down Westwater Canyon, looking for Peregrines



The scene is of Dylan and his father, Blake, building Dylan's first mew in 1997. It was custom all the way with safe flat walls inside. Dylan definitely wanted to take care of his bird. Dylan became an apprentice falconer on his 14th birthday. His father became Dylan's apprentice after Dylan received his general falconry license.



Crash Victim Remembered As a Dedicated Firefighter
By Laura Hancock and Jared Page
—*The Deseret News*

Dylan Hopkins, a Salt Lake City firefighter who was killed in a plane crash in the Uinta Mountains on Friday, is being remembered as an unassuming man who took his life's work of rescuing people and saving lives seriously.

Flags at all Salt Lake City fire stations are being flown at half-staff in honor of Hopkins, 25, who served at Fire Station No. 5.

He was traveling to Colorado Springs, Colo., with fellow firefighters Craig Weaver and Byron Meyer for a weekend trip. Weaver was piloting the single-engine Cessna 172 and attempting to make an emergency landing.

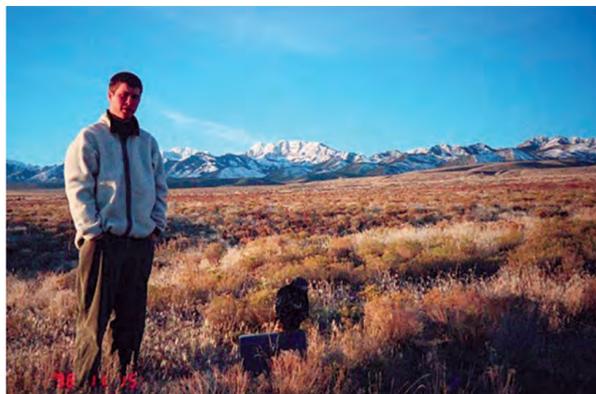
Meyer and Weaver were listed in critical condition Saturday evening, said Scott Freitag, spokesman for the Salt Lake City Fire Department. The crash is under investigation.

Hopkins was part of the city's heavy rescue team at station No. 5, 1023 E. 900 South. The elite group of firefighters – including Meyer and Weaver – specializes in low frequency but high risk operations, such as rope rescues, and heavy machinery entanglement and extrication.

Hopkins worked for Salt Lake City for five years. Before that he worked as a firefighter in West Valley City, hired at age 18, said his uncle, Tom Yeager.

"He was writing essays when he was 6 years old for school classes that he wanted to be a firefighter," Yeager said. "He would do ride alongs when he was young with any place he could."

As a teen, Hopkins' friend went through a plate-glass window at school. After 911 was called, Hopkins used first aid. "They say he saved his friend's life," Yeager said.



Hopkins attended Judge Memorial Catholic High School and graduated from Olympus High.

Hopkins was one of the first responders at the Trolley Square shootings in 2007 and the Wasatch Junior High School fire in 2005, Yeager said.

"Dylan Hopkins was a committed, dedicated public servant," said Mayor Ralph Becker, who called for the tribute Saturday. "On behalf of Salt Lake City, I extend deep sympathy to the Hopkins family and gratitude for Dylan's life of service."

Flags will be flown at half-staff in Salt Lake City until after Hopkins' internment.

"I also send condolences to Dylan's firefighting family at station No. 5," Becker said, "and express my wishes for the healthy recovery of firefighters Meyer and Weaver."

Hopkins enjoyed skiing, boating, climbing, whitewater rafting and kayaking. He practically lived on the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon each summer of his life, starting when he was 3 months old, his uncle said.

"Dylan and my daughter, they consider themselves siblings," Yeager said. "They grew up going down the Grand Canyon with Dylan's father and myself. We were grand canyon boatmen for 30 years."

The children worked as staffers on their fathers' trips, which lasted 8 to 10 days and had 28 passengers and 4 crew members. They helped run the kitchen, assisted on hikes and helped with other chores, beginning when Hopkins was 5. As an adult, he continued to spend time at the Grand Canyon during his vacations.

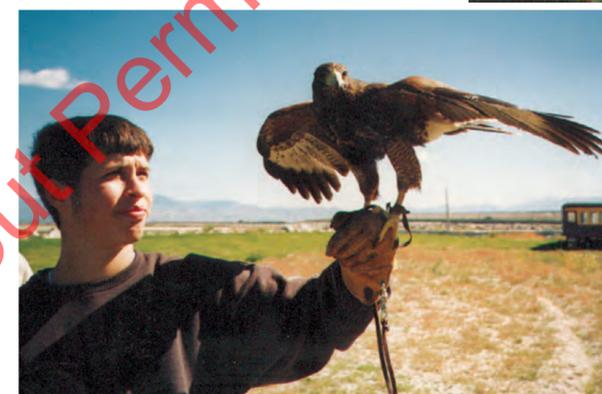
Despite an interesting life and work that required loads of courage, Yeager said his nephew wasn't boastful.

"He wasn't afraid of anything," Yeager said.



Introduction

I am interested in this subject because I like birds. Birds are one of my favorite types of animals. I am also doing this to gain knowledge so I can possibly have a future working with birds. Birds are a great part of our environment and I want to help preserve them. I have been around birds all of my life and hope to stay around them for the rest of my life. I love birds and that is why I am doing this project. Hopefully I will someday get a career working with birds so that I can be around them all day long. And who knows maybe this will help me later in life so that I can be more knowledgeable of birds.



Prairie Falcon photo taken by Dylan Hopkins, Dec. 2007



At Firestation #5, Salt Lake City, where he served as a firefighter paramedic and heavy rescue technician