

Wade S. Walden, FDD Platelets Heroes Award Honor Roll

In honor of District Deputy Wade Walden, who died in January 2006, State Deputy Karl Hadley established the Wade S. Walden Platelets Memorial Award. It was first displayed at the 103rd State Convention in Kennewick.

Brother Wade was born January 31, 1959 and died January 21, 2006, ten days before his forty-seventh birthday. Wade joined the Knights of Columbus on February 18, 1999 and received his Second and Third Degree the same month and later became a fourth degree knight. He served as the grand knight of Holy Apostles Council 13186 in East Wenatchee. Wade wanted his two sons, Wade and Walter, to become knights. Regrettably, Wade did not live to see them take their First Degree.

The Wade S. Walden FDD, Platelets Heroes Award Honor Roll Submission Form is located at page II-39.2. Remove this report form and make a photocopy. All knights and family members are eligible to have their names added to the Honor Roll. The requirements are the knight or family member must have donated a cumulative amount of fifty units or more of platelets as of April 1st of each year.

The grand knight is to record the names of all knights and family members in his council who have achieved the above-cited requirement. The completed and signed form is submitted to the state community director by April 1. This Honor Roll will display the names of knights and family members who have donated fifty or more platelets to acknowledge their dedication to unselfishly give of themselves to save others.

The charter names inscribed on the Honor Roll were: Jim Orchekowsk, 98 Units , Council 5495; Louis B Hilderbrand, 88 Units , Council 4782; John Chromy, 85 Units , Council 13374; Bernard Wittgens, 74 Units, Council 13374; and Karl A. Hadley, 70 units, Council 8179.

Platelets are only usable for five days, so the supply must be constantly replenished. Each day people who undergo organ transplants need ten units of platelets; a marrow transplant recipient needs 200 units; a cancer patient who requires chemotherapy needs six to eight units daily for two to four weeks.

Apheresis (Greek "to take away") is a procedure in which a specific component, most often platelets, is collected. Platelets are essential for blood clotting and are produced in the bone marrow of healthy people. You may donate up to 24 times per year as your body will replace the platelets within 24 hours.

This Wade S. Walden, FDD, Platelets Heroes Award Honor Roll will be on display at the Summer Meeting. It will also be on display at the Winter Meeting and at the Regional Meetings. Prior to the State Convention, it will be updated with the name of knights and family members who have achieved these requirements.

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