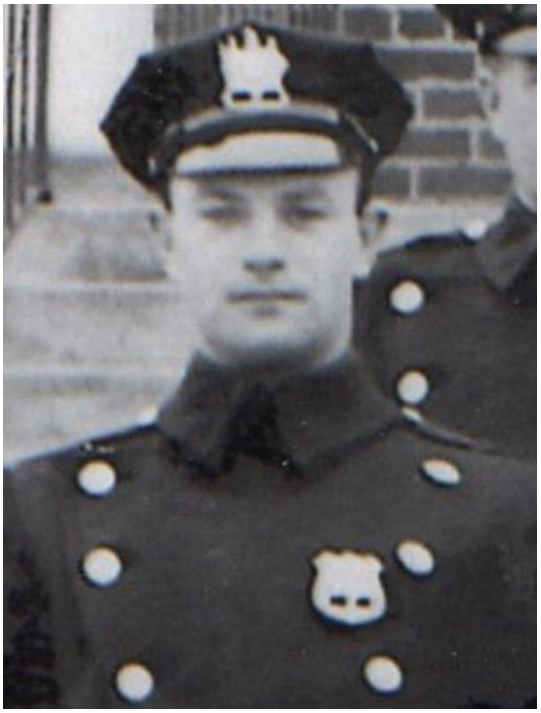
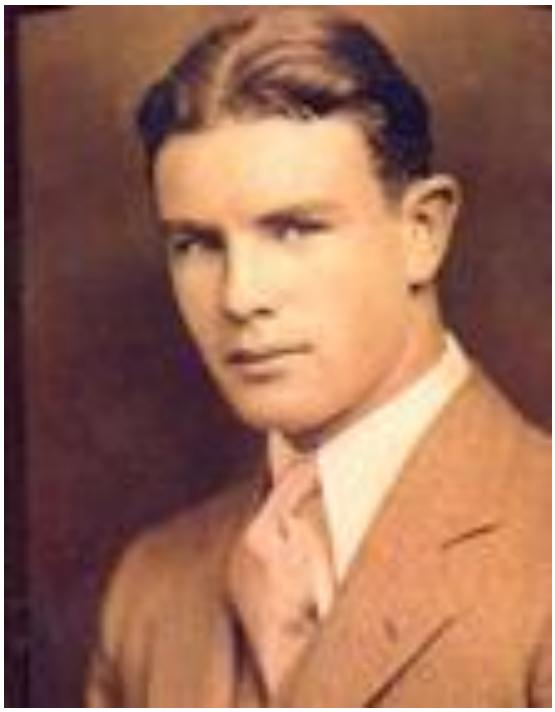
Please join us Friday May 18th at 11:00 AM outside Police Headquarters as we reflect on the 80th Anniversary of the passing of our Brother Officer, who died in the line of duty.

THEODORE E R BRAUN





Officer Rank: Patrolman
Department: Verona, New Jersey, P.D.
Years of Service: 1
Cause: MOTO

Memorial Panel: 7-E: 11
End of Watch: May 18, 1938
Age: 24
Description: Motorcycle accident

Verona Policeman Dies of Injuries Sustained in Accident

Friday, May 20, 1938– Services will be held tomorrow for Theodore R. Braun, 24, of 451 Bloomfield Avenue, the first member of the Verona Police Department to have been killed in the performance of his duty. He died in Mountainside Hospital Wednesday night of injuries sustained in an accident which occurred while he was pursuing a speeding motorist Saturday. The funeral will be held from the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frederic A. Braun of 84 Personette Avenue, parents of the police officer. A police guard of honor will remain on duty at the home until the time for services. A solemn high mass of requiem will be celebrated at Our Lady of the Lake Church at 10 o'clock, with the Rev. James J. Kelly, pastor, as celebrant, the Rev. Sylvester P. McVeigh as deacon and the Rev. Edward Kane as sub-deacon. Interment will follow in the Gate of Heaven Cemetery at Hanover. Named a Chanceman on June 15, last, Mr. Braun was on Motorcycle patrol duty when the accident occurred. He was traveling east on Bloomfield Avenue when a speeder passed him. Swinging his motorcycle he took up the chase, sounding his siren as he speeded up his machine. Meanwhile, William F. Fismer of 33 Chestnut Street, employed by the Golden Lad Dairy almost directly across Bloomfield Avenue from Mr. Braun's home, parked his car in front of the officer's house and started across the street. As Mr. Fismer's hearing is not acute, he did not perceive the motorcycle until too late to get out of the way. He is in Mountainside Hospital. He sustained a fractured pelvis and injuries to his head and left arm. Thrown over the handlebars of the motorcycle, Mr. Braun sustained a skull fracture, from which he never regained consciousness. An emergency operation Monday and a transfusion Wednesday failed to help him. A native of the borough, Mr. Braun attended Our Lady of the Lake School, from which he was graduated in 1932. He was a member of the Holy Name Society of Our Lady of the Lake Church. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Emma Braun; a daughter, Evelyn Braun, 2, of the Bloomfield Avenue address, and his parents, two sisters, the Misses Anita and Bernice Braun, and two brothers, Vincent and Norbert Braun, all of the Personette Avenue address. A charter member of the Verona Canoe Club, Mr. Braun was enrolled in the National Guard. He was a member of the police pistol team, taking part in matches which recently placed his team in first place in the Inter-county League. Honorary pallbearers tomorrow will include former classmates and personal friends, most of them members of the canoe club: Walter Kiefer, Walter Lehrer, George McCusker, James McCusker, Jr., Arnold Meyer and James Reilly, Jr. Sergeants Raymond M. Johnson and Arthur H. Zink and Patrolmen Edgar D. Coffin, Paul P. Gelpke, Charles K. Marchant and Earl N. Mills will be the pallbearers. The Montclair Times, May 20, 1938