

**John Mickel**  
**Fire Lieutenant**  
**Osceola County**  
**Fire Rescue**  
**MSC 82**



**I**t was to be a routine live-fire search and rescue training session in a vacant house that had been donated to Osceola Fire Rescue. But after a reasonable time had past, the two firefighters who had gone in didn't come out.

On that hot 30th of July, 2002, rescuers soon found Lt. John Mickel and FF/EMT Dallas Begg in a back bedroom badly burned and unresponsive. They had been victims of a flash-over, when heat in the room became so intense that everything in it burst into flame.

John left behind his wife Carlotta and two young children, Dillon and Mallory. In a tribute to John, Carlotta Mickel wrote, "He graduated from the Central Florida Fire Academy in the top ten of his class and received the highest score on his Physical Agility test. He volunteered to gain experience and was hired in 1993 by Osceola County.... He was promoted to Lieutenant in 1997.

"Fellow firefighters describe him as being a great leader: dedicated, brave, and someone who always put 120% effort into whatever he did."

For the complete tribute, please go to [www.firehero.org](http://www.firehero.org), click the photo under "Roll of Honor," type "Mickel," select "Florida," then hit "Submit."

