

# 1969

## Detective William E. Crosier

### Willoughby Police Department

Detective William E. Crosier of the Willoughby Police Department was in the early years of a stellar career, a fact recognized by the law enforcement community and the Lake County Blue Coats when he was named as the honoree of the 1969 Distinguished Service Award. In a unfortunate twist of fate, Crosier would not be present on the night that he was honored, due to being hospitalized that evening. The award would be accepted on his behalf by his friend and fellow Willoughby detective, Richard Torpey.

Crosier had been nominated for the award for his overall, outstanding work and his dedication to duty. He also had an innate ability to recognize and produce the evidence that resulted in convictions in many difficult criminal investigations.

The award was presented on his behalf at the annual awards dinner at the Kirtland Country Club on December 3, 1969. Crosier was the fourth recipient of the award, following three officers who were similarly honored in 1968.

Crosier honor was well founded, and was legitimized many times over as he continued his successful career in law enforcement. He rose through the ranks of the Willoughby Police Department, eventually becoming Chief of Police. Later, he would also assume the title of Willoughby Fire Chief serving in a dual role, which was unprecedented in Lake County. After he retired from the City of Willoughby, he was appointed as the Chief Deputy of the Lake County Sheriff's Department, in January 1993. Crosier's law enforcement career spanned over 50 years prior to his retirement from the Sheriff's Department.