

# 'A PRINCIPLED LEADER, MENTOR AND ROLE MODEL'

## FORMER HALTON DEPUTY CHIEF MOURNED

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Carol Crowe was an inspirational role model, who overcame many challenges in her own life to become Deputy Chief of Halton Regional Police.

Crowe, 56, died Nov. 19 after a lengthy battle with cancer. She leaves behind two children, her daughter Kaitlin and son Andrew, her husband Ron Wheelton, and step-children Katelyn and Curtis.

"An inspiration to and for many past, present and future members of our Halton Police family and far beyond," Halton Police Chief Steve Tanner said on Twitter. "You will be greatly missed."

"Deputy Chief Crowe was not only a principled leader, mentor and role

model; she was a cherished wife, mother and friend to all those who knew and loved her beyond her badge," Halton Police tweeted.

Crowe joined Halton Police in 1989. She worked her way through the ranks and was named Deputy Chief in 2015. At the time of her appointment, she said she never imagined reaching such a position.

"The issues that we deal with as police officers every day, the addiction, abuse, mental illness, they were our reality and life became a lot more about surviving than about dreams. Don't get me wrong. My parents were great people and they did the best they could under the circumstances," Crowe said. "I want to provide proof that we can rise above the diffi-

culties in life. I have learned that we all have the power to choose our path."

Crowe was involved in numerous community groups, serving on boards or committees for the Children's Aid Society, Halton Women's Place, Thrive Group, Halton Industry and Education Council and the United Way.

"We worked with Carol for many years and her kindness, generous heart and advocacy will always be remembered," Halton Women's Place tweeted.

In 2014 Crowe was the recipient of the Women Worth Watching Leadership award. In her bio, she described the challenges of balancing her family and career.

"Before my son's first birthday, I became a single parent and the sole income source for myself and my two children. I knew I had



Metroland file photo  
Halton Police Chief Steve Tanner presents Carol Crowe and Nishan Duraiah with their new badges after the officers were named deputy chiefs in 2015.

to do everything I could to provide for my kids. We went from living a very comfortable lifestyle to living in a two-bedroom basement apartment. It was quite a balancing act working 12-hour night shifts, devoting time to my kids and

focusing on furthering my career."

Still, she managed to pass the sergeant's exam and advanced to a position in the Criminal Investigations Bureau.

"Although these achievements meant less

time spent with my family, I knew it was an investment in our future," she said.

At the time of her promotion to Deputy Chief, she was the district commander for 20 Division in Oakville. She was diagnosed with breast cancer less than a year later.

"This loss will be tremendous for so many of our members. Deputy Crowe did so much for so many in her time here. Unfair and sad that she is gone too soon," said Clay Gillis, president of the Halton Regional Police Association.

"You were not just our coworker, you are our sister, our friend and mentor," said Halton Deputy Chief Jeff Hill. "You made us better people, a true one of a kind. We love you and will never forget you, the world is a lesser place without you."

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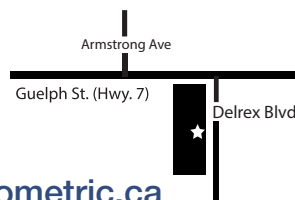
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