



NEWS RELEASE



**Grundy Emergency Medical Services, Beersheba Springs Fire & Rescue,
Air Evac Lifeteam, Coffee County & Mountain Central E911 Dispatch Center
Honored as State Winners at Seventh Annual Star of Life Awards**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NASHVILLE, TN – [Tennessee Emergency Medical Services for Children](http://www.tnemsc.org) recognized Grundy Emergency Medical Services, Beersheba Springs Fire & Rescue, Air Evac Lifeteam, Coffee County & Mountain Central E911 Dispatch Center at the Seventh Annual Star of Life Awards in Nashville at Rockettown on Thursday, May 14. The mission of Tennessee Emergency Medical Services for Children Foundation, the host of the EMS Star of Life, is to ensure that every child in Tennessee receives the best pediatric emergency care in order to eliminate the effects of severe illness and injury. These crews were the recipients of the inaugural Dr. Michael Carr State Star of Life Award. The ceremony reunited the EMS personnel on stage with the patient, Tom Surface. The Star of Life Awards are designed to honor Tennessee's excellent prehospital providers for their lifesaving care. The evening recognizes these crews who are on the frontlines of emergency care. Below are the recipients for the State Award:

State (Region 3) – Grundy Emergency Medical Services, Beersheba Springs Fire & Rescue, Air Evac Lifeteam, Coffee County & Mountain Central E911 Dispatch Center	
Director Don Hutcheson, EMT-P	Daniel Scruggs, AEMT
Greg Shadwick, EMT-P	Jacob M. Anderson, EMT-IV
Julie Ward RN, CEN, EMT-IV	Flight Paramedic Timothy Ball, CCEMT-P, NREMT-P
Flight Nurse Melissa Perry, RN, CEN, EMT-IV	Marty Sampley, NCIC, TIES, NLETS
Wanda McDaniel, EMD, PSC, NCIC, TIES, NLETS, TIBRS	Chief Jackie Eubanks
Roger Morgan, NCIC, TIES, NLETS	Firefighter Jason Walker
Chief David Whitman	Firefighter Robert Norris
Firefighter Alton Scruggs, Chaplain	Firefighter Ed Fults, Jr
Firefighter Jonathan Tate	Firefighter Michael King
Firefighter Michael Kirby, Jr	Robert Whitaker, Pilot

On July 4, 2014 Tom Surface was hiking with his friends and wife when he decided to head back to their cabin in Beersheba Springs. While on his way back on a strenuous hike, alone, he began suffering a heart attack. Frightened and alone he received help from a passerby who stayed with him until help could arrive. Mr. Surface called the men and women who played a role in getting him lifted up the ridge he was hiking and to safety, "his angels." The physical effort of the extrication, the mental demands under extreme stress and the emotional comfort continually provided to Mr. Surface were all a part of naming these crews as the recipients of the 2015 Dr. Michael Carr State Star of Life State Award.

The 2015 Star of Life Star Partners were Air Evac Lifeteam and Erlanger Children's Hospital and Erlanger Health Systems.

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