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## Official Funeral Arrangements and Procession Information for Chief Anthony Cuda



Published October 31, 2023  
An official guide published by Foxwall Emergency Medical Services  
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For Immediate Release

Funeral arrangements and public safety services announced regarding the death of Foxwall EMS Chief Anthony (Tony) Cuda

FOX CHAPEL, Pennsylvania – October 31, 2023 – Please see the attached funeral guide regarding the funeral arrangements of Chief Anthony (Tony) Cuda. If you have any questions regarding the attached announcement, please contact [media@foxwall.org](mailto:media@foxwall.org). Foxwall EMS encourages everyone to check the website for updates – [www.foxwall.org/cuda](http://www.foxwall.org/cuda).

All questions and inquiries can be directed to [media@foxwall.org](mailto:media@foxwall.org). We appreciate your cooperation and understanding during this difficult time.

Foxwall Emergency Medical Service is a 501(c)(3) private agency in the northern suburbs of Allegheny County and provides emergency and non-emergency medical care to Aspinwall and Fox Chapel communities.

The outpouring love and support since Tony's untimely death on October 28, 2023, is a true testament to the impact that he had on other people. He was a family man who was devoted to his wife, Michele, and his children. His dedication to family was an inspiration to all who witnessed it. We have been fortunate and prosperous that Tony's love of people and fervor for life spanned the public safety professions. He touched countless people who were mentored by him, who worked alongside him, and who were fortunate enough to have him as their prehospital caregiver in EMS. We will all honor Tony in various capacities throughout these next few days. In the coming years, his legacy will live on in the work that he taught us to do and through the riches of his life.

We thank each and every one of you for your unwavering kindness, understanding, patience, and assistance as we have navigated this tragic situation.

#### A Note from the Family

**It is with immense sadness that The Cuda Family acknowledges the sudden passing of Tony Cuda. Tony was a beloved husband, father of five, soon to be grandfather of one, and friend to many.**

**Our family would like to express our profound gratitude for all of the heartfelt words, prayers, and condolences. The last few days have been rough for everyone but the support of his close friends and colleagues continue to help us through this tough time. At this time our family would appreciate privacy as we grieve the loss of a most beloved family member. We appreciate everyone's understanding as we navigate this challenging time.**

~ The Cuda Family

#### A Note from Foxwall EMS

#### Donations

Donations are being collected in memory of Tony Cuda, our fallen first responder who was not only an instructor, but also a dedicated paramedic, firefighter, and a dear friend. We are reaching out for your support to assist Tony's family. Tony is survived by his wife, Michele, and five kids. Your donations will help provide much-needed financial and emotional support for Michele and the children. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you donate to the Animal Rescue League and your local EMS agency. Let us stand together and honor Tony.

Foxwall EMS coordinated this fundraiser and will give all proceeds to the Cuda Family.

[Go Fund Me Link](#)

**In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to your local ambulance service or local animal shelter.**

#### Memories of Chief Cuda

In memory of our beloved EMS Chief, Tony Cuda, we are compiling stories, quotes, photographs, and mementos that celebrate his legacy. Tony was more than just an instructor; he was a dedicated paramedic, firefighter, and a cherished friend to many. We kindly invite you to share your experiences, memories, and any keepsakes you may have of him. Your contributions will help ensure that his spirit and the impact he had on our community are remembered for years to come. Use any wording or language as you please as this is the most authentic way to encapsulate his huge personality.

[Memory Wall Link Here](#)

### Important Contact Information

Press Contact Public Information Officer: Jenifer Swab and Gino Mollica ([media@foxwall.org](mailto:media@foxwall.org))

### Funeral Arrangement Information

#### Wednesday, November 1, 2023

- Public calling hours - 6:00p - 8:00p

#### Thursday, November 2, 2023

- Public calling hours - 2:00p - 4:00p
- Public safety (CLOSED) calling hours by **INVITATION ONLY** - 6:00p-7:00p
- Public Safety (OPEN) calling hours - 7:00p - 8:00p

#### Public Safety Calling Hours Instructions

- There will be a brief EMS memorial service at the funeral home for invited guests only. The family is being supported by multiple public safety agencies including the Western PA EMS Honor Guard who will direct public safety personnel at the funeral home.
- At the request of the family, public safety personnel who wish to pay their respects in person are asked to NOT bring heavy apparatus to the funeral home and surrounding areas. Smaller utility and support vehicles are permitted. There is not enough room at the funeral home for apparatus staging, and this is a request of local police and the planning committee.

#### Friday, November 3, 2023

##### Private Funeral Home Service

ALL PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL AND VEHICLES SHOULD FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW.

If your public safety agency is interested in lining the procession route:

Public safety personnel are permitted to stage along the procession route below. We encourage personnel – if staged – to utilize their emergency lights and stand at attention while the funeral procession passes. Vehicles lining the processional route are NOT PERMITTED to join the procession.

If your public safety agency will be staging at the final procession stop:

- Staging begins at 1100 hours at Monroeville Fire Department Station 4 (4370 Northern Pike, Monroeville, PA 15146).
- Staging for apparatus is on Circle Drive West (between Haymaker Road (Rt 48) and Berkley Way).
- Shuttles will be provided from Circle Drive West to Monroeville Fire Department Station 4.
- The anticipated procession arrival at Monroeville #4 is between 1300 and 1330 hours.
- Upon the arrival at Monroeville #4, a short public safety memorial service will ensue.
- In the event of inclement weather, Monroeville #4 will provide cover in their garage bays.  
Please utilize this link to [RSVP](#) for your department if you plan to join.



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INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC

The funeral procession begins at Bock Funeral Home, 1500 Mt. Royal Boulevard, Shaler Township, and weaves through multiple communities including: Shaler, Etna, Fox Chapel, Aspinwall, Penn Hills, and Monroeville. The funeral procession route and times are mapped for you in the attachment.

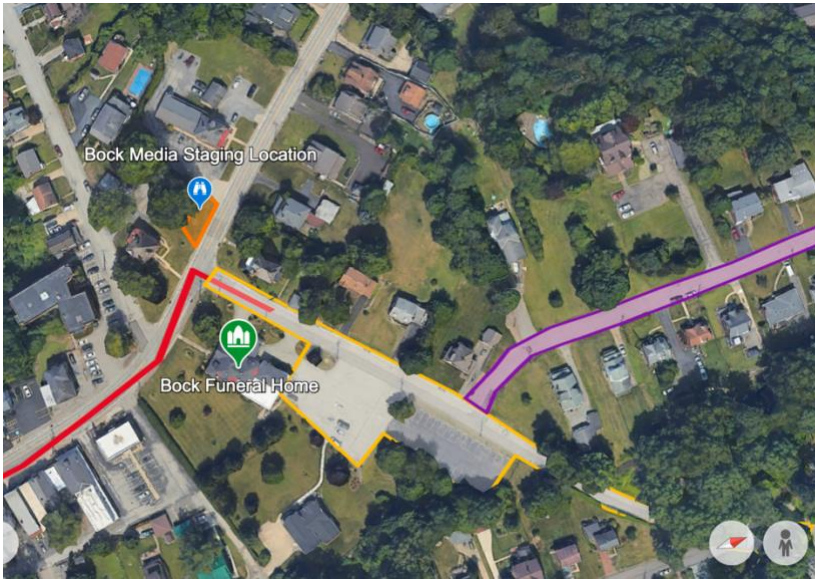
To honor Chief Cuda, it is requested that community members step out of their homes and businesses to support Tony's family and fellow public safety workers. Suggestions include saluting as the procession drives past, making posters, honking horns, or simply waving flags or hands. Tony's family and fellow public safety workers are heartbroken and will benefit greatly from as much support as possible. We thank you for your consideration.

INFORMATION FOR THE MEDIA

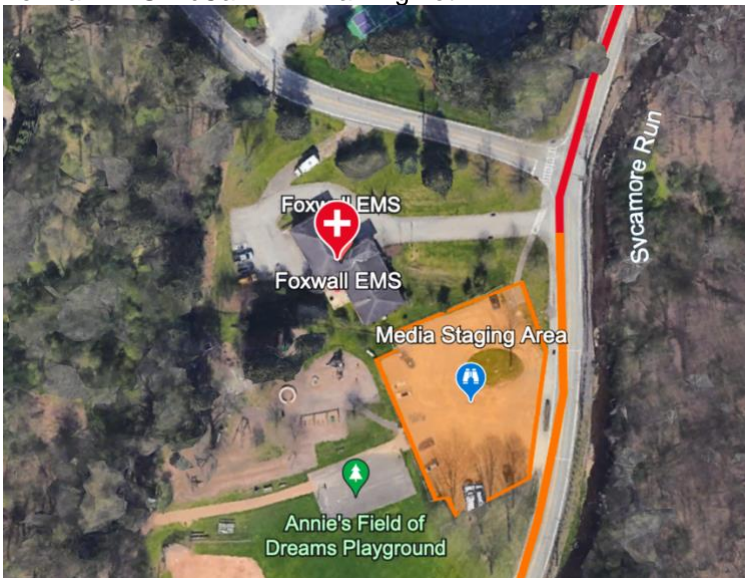
Media Staging Locations

Media can stage at any point along the procession route (map below).  
DO NOT FOLLOW the procession.

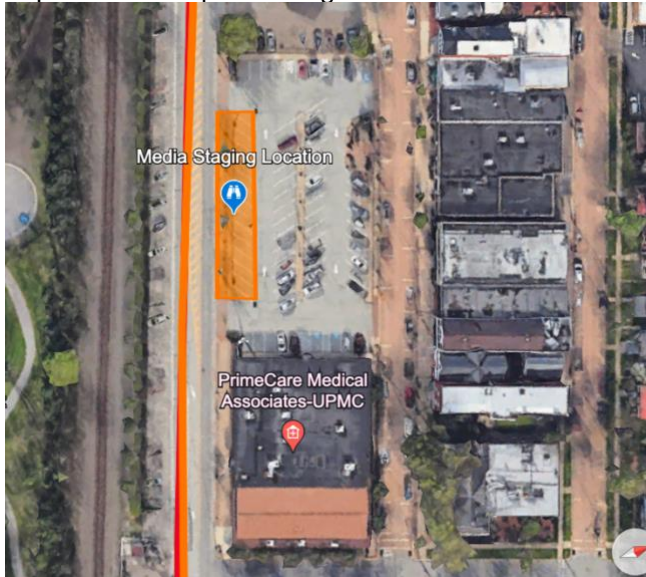
1. Bock Funeral Home



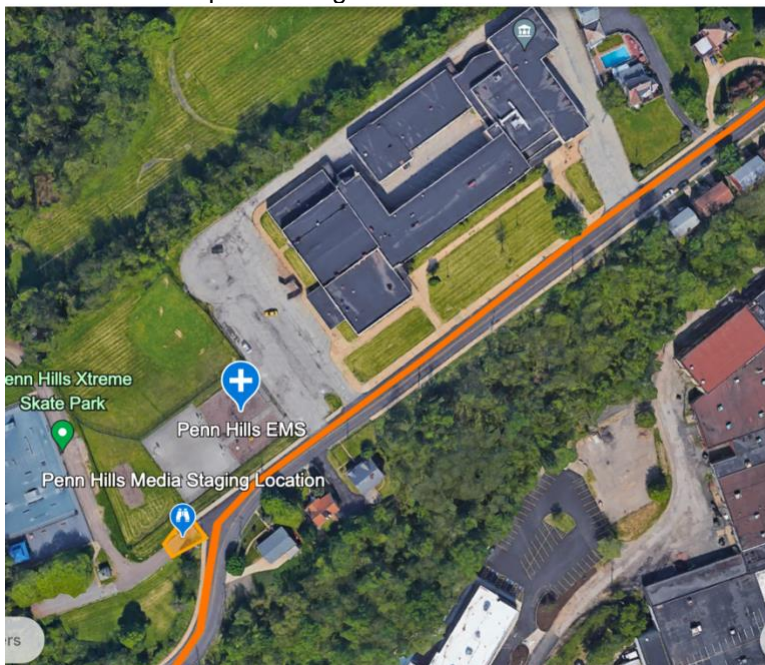
2. Foxwall EMS McCahill Hill Parking Lot



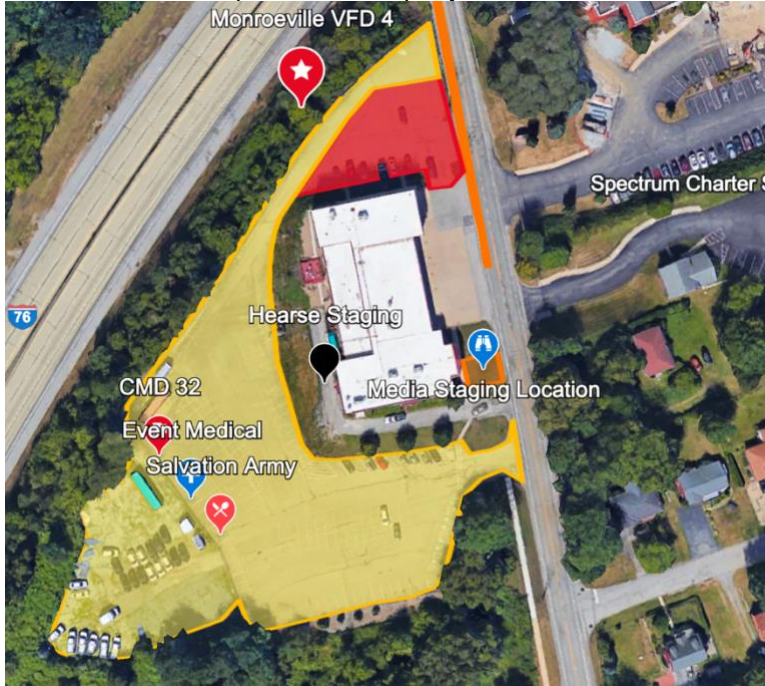
3. Aspinwall Municipal Parking Lot



4. Penn Hills Municipal Building



5. Monroeville Fire Department Company 4



### Chief Tony Cuda – Biography

On October 28th, 2023, the EMS community lost a true beacon of dedication, compassion, and leadership.

Anthony “Tony” Del Cuda was born on April 3rd, 1969 in Swissvale, Pennsylvania. From humble beginnings, Tony left behind a legacy of unparalleled contributions and impact, serving as a benchmark for excellence and a source of inspiration for generations to come. From a young age, Tony had always dreamed of becoming a first responder and as a testament to his decorated career, he accomplished that and beyond by setting the standard for what it means to be excellent.

At the age of 16, Tony began his career by joining the Swissvale Fire Department as a firefighter. He then became a paramedic at the age of 18, beginning what would be almost 40 years of incredible service and dedication to EMS. He first joined Wilksburg EMS (now Eastern Area Prehospital Services) in April 1987, where he was later promoted to Crew Chief. He became a St. Margaret Hospital’s response paramedic in 1991 at the age of 22, providing critical assistance to crews in the surrounding areas. In addition, Tony became the Chief Officer of Seneca Area EMS in 1991, where he would serve for 15 years. In 1992, Tony joined Penn Hills EMS, where he would work as a paramedic for 23 years, becoming an integral part of the community and memorable member of the service, even to this day. Tony also worked as a firefighter and paramedic for Monroeville Fire for 6 years and was a life member of Aspinwall Volunteer Fire Department (VFD). Other notable organizations Tony served at include East Ambulance, Medline Ambulance Service, and Guardian Angel Ambulance Service.

Tony continued to expand his reach within this field in 2017, when he became a response medic for Northwest EMS, where he served in a supervisor role. From 2013 through 2023, Tony served as a response medic for AHN Prehospital Services, expanding his expertise and leadership to Westmoreland County. In March 2020, Tony joined Foxwall EMS as Deputy Chief and in August 2020, Tony became the Chief of Department. In the short three years Tony served as Chief at Foxwall, he transformed the service from a historically volunteer-based and largely basic life support (BLS) service to a fully staffed advanced life support (ALS) service that continuously rises to meet the needs of the community. In 2023, with Tony’s guidance and support, Foxwall proudly announced 8 newly certified paramedics.

In addition to Tony’s immense contributions working in the field, Tony was an educator that inspired students to reach their potentials as providers, emphasizing principles of clinical excellence, patient advocacy, and compassion. From 2010 to 2013, Tony was the simulation education specialist at West Penn’s STAR Center, where he developed curriculum and innovated realistic simulations for health care providers. From 1999 and through his most recent 2023 graduating paramedic class, Tony served as the program coordinator of ALS Programs at the Public Safety Institute of Community College of Allegheny County, where he supervised more than 70 program instructors and course coordinators. From his very first class to his last, while the curriculum evolved to meet new standards of care, Tony’s core teachings of what it means to be a paramedic never changed. He proudly instilled that the best paramedics are the ones that never stop learning. In addition, the best part is not necessarily in the medicine one gets to practice but the privilege of learning the patient’s story and the human connections one makes



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along the way. He would always say, “Medic class teaches you enough to not kill a patient...the patients you will encounter will take you the rest of the way.”

Throughout all the titles and roles Tony held, he was, above all, a steadfast mentor who unwaveringly believed in all his students, employees, colleagues, friends, and family. When others doubted, Tony believed. As a fearless advocate and pillar of support, he not only offered guidance but was a true champion of many dreams, enabling those he believed in to overcome challenges and achieve their fullest potential. The passion and immense support he exhibited as a mentor undoubtedly stemmed from his love of family. Tony was the beloved husband of Michele of 16 years; loving father of Zachary, Morgan, Shannon, Caitlyn, and Kirsten; dear brother of James Ruscella and Janelle Hood; proud soon to be grandfather of Anthony Robert Cuda; and cherished uncle of many nieces and nephews. Tony was their biggest advocate and supporter, and despite all the responsibilities he held, he carved out time to spend with family from days spent at Kennywood, evenings playing Dungeons and Dragons, and nights filled with stories and laughs. In his free time, Tony indulged in his love of history and reading, including classics like Lord of the Rings, Harry Potter, and Eragon. The Pittsburgh community suffered a great loss on Saturday, October 28th, 2023, but the memories, teachings, and contributions of Chief Cuda will forever remain through his family, friends, and countless lives he influenced and shaped.

# Funeral Procession Information - Friday October 3rd

## Route Detail - Procession 1 Detail

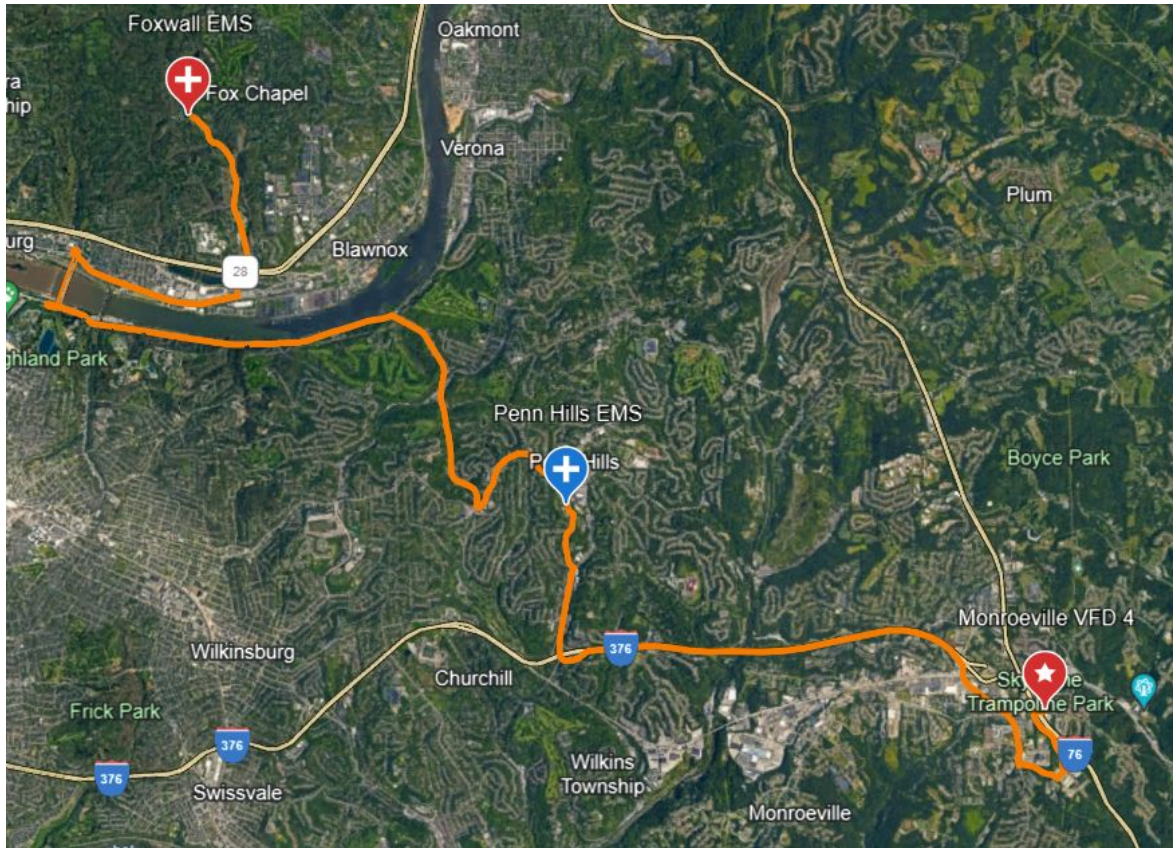


Interactive  
Map

- Depart Bock Funeral Home at 11:00am and proceed to the Foxwall EMS base
- Route Information
  - Staging Location: Glenshaw Ave. and Zeuger Way
  - Start Left on Mt. Royal Blvd
  - Left onto Crescent St./Butler St.
  - Left onto Bridge St.
  - Left onto N Main St. >Main St. >Freeport Rd
  - Left onto Fox Chapel Road
  - Left onto Riding Meadow Road
  - Left onto Hemlock Hollow Road
  - Pause at Foxwall EMS

# Funeral Procession Information - Friday October 3rd

## Route Detail - Procession 2 Detail



Interactive  
Map

- Depart the Foxwall EMS base site at 11:45am and proceed to the Monroeville #4
- Route Information
  - Right on Freeport Road
  - Right onto Highland Park Bridge
  - Exit to Washington Blvd and continue straight on Allegheny River Blvd.
  - Right onto Sandy Creek Rd.
  - Left onto Frankstown Road
  - Right onto Duff Road
  - Right onto Rodi Road
  - Enter 376 towards Monroeville
  - Exit on Rt. 48.
  - Veer left onto Haymaker Road
  - Left on McGinley Road
  - Left on Circle West Dr.
  - Right onto Northern Pike to Monroeville Station 4 on Right

# Funeral Procession Information - Friday October 3rd

## Location Detail - Monroeville Fire Station #4



Interactive  
Map

- Honor Guard and Last Call Ceremony will take place on the front apron
- Parking - **By invitation only**
  - **Parking at the station will be limited due to the anticipated turnout**
  - Areas in **red** are reserved for members of Monroeville VFD #4
  - Areas in **yellow** are reserved for guests to the **invitation only** luncheon
- Ladder Cross - Northern Pike
  - Monroeville Fire stations 1 and 4 will provide crossed ladders on Northern Pike just West of the fire station
- Additional Assets - Rear of lower parking lot
  - Monroeville Command 32 will be in operation
  - The Salvation Army will have a unit in operation
  - An event medical team will be on site and standing by
- Staging opens at **11 AM**

# Funeral Procession Information - Friday October 3rd

## Location Detail - Monroeville Fire and EMS Apparatus Parking



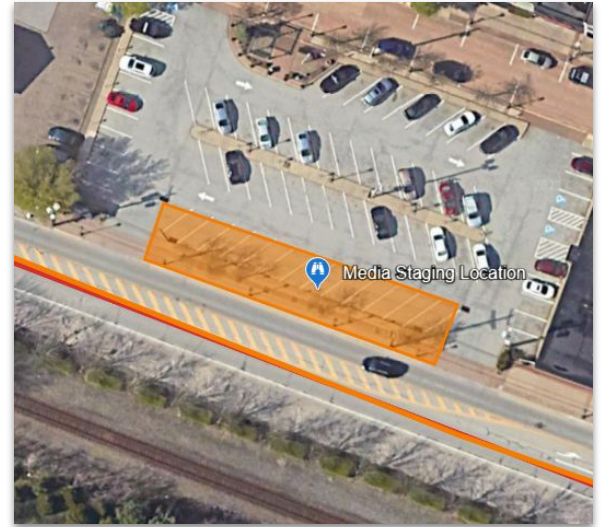
Interactive  
Map

- Fire and EMS services are required to park along Circle West Drive in Monroeville
  - From 376 Outbound Exit on Rt. 48.
    - Veer left onto Haymaker Road
    - Right on McGinley Road
    - Left on Circle West Drive
- Please use the area highlighted in green for apparatus parking
  - The official procession with Chief Cuda and his family will be routed past this parking area
  - It is appropriate for some or all of your personnel to remain by your apparatus and salute the procession as it passes
- The procession will pass sometime between 12:30 and 13:00
- There will be shuttle service available from Circle West Drive to Monroeville #4
- **Please do not attempt to join the procession**

# Funeral Procession Information - Friday October 3rd

## Media Staging Locations

- The following locations have established media staging locations which have been coordinated beforehand
  - Bock Funeral Home
  - Foxwall EMS Base
    - 749 Hemlock Hollow Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15238
  - Aspinwall
    - 241 Freeport Rd, Aspinwall, PA 15215
  - Penn Hills EMS Base
    - 102 Duff Rd, Penn Hills, PA 15235
  - Monroeville Fire Station #4
- Media staging locations are designated with orange boxes on all map data being published
- Media staging locations for the following locations have been included on their respective pages
  - Bock Funeral Home
  - Monroeville #4 Fire Station
- An interactive map with all location information is available at the following link
  - <https://tinyurl.com/2uyku77b>



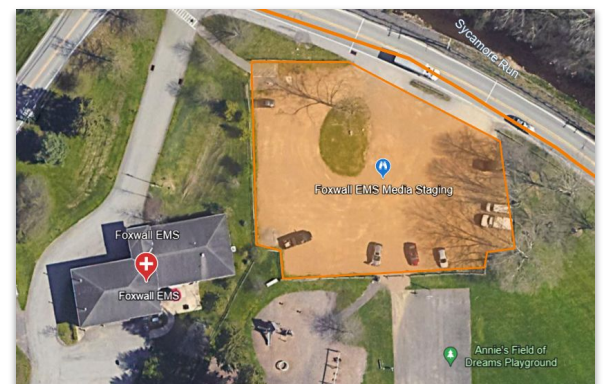
**Aspinwall**



**Penn Hills EMS Base**



**Interactive  
Map**



**Foxwall EMS Base**