

Remembering firefighter Barry Martin

Barry Martin died on 27 January following injuries he sustained when tackling a fire at the former Jenners building in the city.

Later today his funeral will be held at St Giles Cathedral.

Barry Martin's wife has described him as a remarkable man who was exhilarated to be a firefighter.

The 38-year-old died on Friday, 27 January following the serious injuries he sustained during a large-scale fire at the former Jenners building on the Monday of that week.



Barry Martin with wife Shelley and sons Oliver and Daniel
Firefighters from across Scotland will join his family and
friends in paying tribute at his funeral service to be held at
St Giles' Cathedral on Friday.

The father-of-two from Fife, was the beloved husband of
Shelley, 36, and much-loved father of eight-year-old twins
Oliver and Daniel.

Shelley said: "Our sons could not have wished for a more
loving and attentive father. He was a busy dad, transporting
our sons to their various activities, and being there for
them. I felt utterly privileged to be his wife throughout our

life together and always will.

“Barry was motivated, proud, and driven to be the best he could be, for himself, for his family, for his colleagues, and for the community and wider public. Being there for people, during their time of greatest need, meant everything to him in his career.

“Our love, admiration and respect for him, will last forever.”



Barry Martin

Prior to joining the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Barry was a Pest Control Technician and set up his own company with

Shelley.

He was passionate about health and fitness and had a particular interest in the tattoo industry.

Barry was based at McDonald Road Community Fire Station in Edinburgh and was part of the Blue Watch. The Blue Watch in all Edinburgh stations will be stood down today on the day of Barry's funeral to allow staff to attend the service, should they wish to do so.



Firefighter Barry Martin

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Interim Chief Officer Ross Haggart said: "Our thoughts remain very firmly with Barry Martin's family as we plan to come together at St Giles'

Cathedral to pay our respects.

“Barry was a much-loved husband, father, son and friend to many. His Blue Watch colleagues and the wider Service will ensure that Barry’s selfless duty will never be forgotten.”

Barry’s family wish to thank everyone for their support, wishes and love at the hardest time of their lives.

Fire and rescue services fell silent on Monday, as a minute’s silence was observed to pause and reflect on Barry’s life and sacrifice.

That silence reached the earthquake disaster area of Turkey, where firefighters from the UK International Search and Rescue Team, stopped and paid a moving tribute to one of their own.

The City of Edinburgh Council last week paid tribute to Barry during a full meeting by observing a minute’s silence.

Lord Provost Robert Aldridge offered heartfelt condolences. He said: “It’s in tragic circumstances such as these that we’re reminded of the immense bravery and selflessness of those in our emergency services – putting their lives on the line day in, day out to keep us safe.

“The many tributes which have been placed outside Jenners show how deeply Barry’s passing has been felt, both by people throughout the city and by his firefighter colleagues in Edinburgh and across the country.”

At midday on Friday the funeral cortege will make its way from the base of the Royal Mile, arriving at the Cathedral at 12.30pm when the service, by invitation, will begin. There will be a private committal thereafter.

As the funeral cortege makes its way through the city there will be a number of rolling road closures supported by Police Scotland, however disruption will be kept to a minimum.



Barry Martin with his twin sons