

**Thomas P. Carey**, (9 Nov 1909 – 17 Jun 1941), Pennsylvania State Police Academy (Compiled by Bill Corl)

Private **Thomas P. Carey** was born November 9, 1909, at Ease Plymouth, Pennsylvania.

He enlisted in the State Highway Patrol from East Plymouth on May 2, 1935, and was assigned to Troop E, Philadelphia. As a result of the State Police/Highway Patrol merger, he was reassigned to Troop C-4, Reading. He was 35 years old and 5'11 1/2" tall.

At 8:20 p.m. on June 17, 1941, **Private Carey** and **Private J.J. Comerford** were dispatched to the scene of an accident on U.S. Route #22 near Boltz's Corner, Berks County. Upon arrival at the accident scene, they saw two occupants trapped in a wrecked vehicle which was in flames. **Private Carey** assisted firemen in putting the fire out, using a state-issued carbon tetrachloride extinguisher. He became ill immediately and was taken to a nearby doctor's office where he collapsed and died at 10:00 p.m. Dr. Paul D. Good, Berks County Coroner, attributed death to acute suffocation caused by poisonous fumes.

All carbon tetrachloride extinguishers were withdrawn from service and replaced with non-toxic extinguishers.

**Private Carey** is buried in Duncannon Cemetery, Duncannon, Perry County, Pa. He was survived by his wife, **Mrs. Mary M. Carey**, of Duncannon. At 31, he had completed six years and one month of Pennsylvania Motor Police service.

[www.theperryhistorians.org](http://www.theperryhistorians.org)