

In an Assembly Resolution, Senator Rob Ortt acknowledged Chief Swick, "Within every community of the State of New York there are certain individuals who, by virtue of their commitment and dedication, deserve the respect and admiration of their community for their exemplary contributions and service on behalf of others; Chief John J. Swick is one such individual;"



"with his proficient leadership and love for the Village of Middleport, [John] truly epitomized the roll of a community police officer; he tirelessly and selflessly served the residents of his beloved community with compassion, integrity, and fairness, attributes which will forever serve as an example for his fellow officers".

**Matthew 5:9**  
**Blessed are the peacemakers,**  
**for they shall be called sons of God.**

**THANK YOU**  
*& Congratulations*





**Joshua 1:9**  
Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.



**Matthew 11:28-30**  
Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Chief Swick, you have fought the good fight, kept the faith and finished the course. Thank you for sharing God's love, not only with your words but also with your life. You have made a difference in many lives around you. May God bless you with a wonderful retirement.



**John 15:13**  
**Greater love hath no man than this, that a man  
lay down his life for his friends.**

Born and raised just outside of Middleport in Hartland, NY, John's dedication to community goes far beyond police work. His service to others is well known at Hartland Bible Church, where he has been an elder since 2010.



In addition to his first wife of 35 years, the late JoAnne, with him throughout his illustrious career, Chief Swick has had the love and support of his wife, Wende, as well as his three children, John, Grace, and Jeffrey, and six beautiful grandchildren.

**Isaiah 1:17**  
**Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed.  
Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of  
the widow.**



John Swick began his career with the Middleport Police Department as a part time patrol officer on March 23, 1978, a 19 year old criminal justice student still in his last semester at Niagara County Community College. At the time, there was one full-time and six part-time officers working in the village under the command of retired Chief Earl Woodworth.

For his first few years with the department, John maintained a full-time job at a local grocery store before becoming a full-time officer in 1982. Spending several years on the midnight shift, John took great pride in getting DWIs off the road.

Just nine years into his career, in April 1987, John was appointed as Village of Middleport Police Chief.





During his tenure, Chief Swick has grown the department to include 3 full-time and 6 part-time police officers. Over the years, 75 police officers have worked under his leadership. Many officers started their law enforcement career in Middleport, including members of the U.S. Secret Service, New York State Police, Niagara County Sheriff's department, and many local police departments.

In addition to protecting the Village of Middleport, Chief Swick contracted with several surrounding towns to provide extra police services, including court security for Royalton Town Court. He was also successful in implementing the School Resource Officer program at Royalton-Hartland Central School.

Chief Swick has been a member of the Niagara County Traffic Safety Committee since 1990, and served as chairman of the Traffic Safety committee since 2009; he is also a past President of the Niagara County Police Chiefs Association, and served as a member of the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police, Western New York Chiefs, and Niagara County Opiate Task Force.

In 2014, John Swick was named Lawman of the Year by the Niagara County Police and Judge's Association after saving six lives from a burning building. He was in his patrol car down the street from Royalton-Hartland High School when a call of a fire at an apartment on Telegraph Road came across his radio. Swick and Niagara County Sheriff's Deputy Shannon Rodgers were first to arrive on scene. As thick smoke poured from the burning, two-story apartment building, Swick and Rodgers rescued four children- an infant, a 2 year old, a 4 year old and a 7 year old - as their mother handed each child down from a second-floor window. Finding a ladder in a nearby yard and leaning it up to the window, they were subsequently able to save the mother and her 19 year old sister.



**Isaiah 6:8**  
**Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,**  
**"Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"**  
**And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"**