



ROMAN KAMINSKI A Friend of the Fire Service Like No Other



As you know, we have often asked Stuart Nathan with the International Fire Buff Associates, Inc. for an update on Roman Kaminski, a former chair of the National Advisory Committee, at our semi-annual meetings. Sadly, Stuart informed us this past Friday that Roman died of heart attack at the age of 92.

Roman never wore the turn-out gear but he was one of the most dedicated and committed members of the fire service. For many years, he was the IFBA's representative to the CFSI National Advisory Committee. In 1997, his fellow NAC members selected him to serve as the committee's chairman for consecutive terms in 1997 and 1998. Always the consummate gentleman, Roman was highly respected by his fellow NAC members for his integrity, character and dedication.

In his hometown of Baltimore, Roman was truly a giant. He was the former president of Box 414, the Baltimore City Fire Department's canteen unit, and the chairman of the department's Fire Prevention Program for over two decades. For his 70+ years of service to BCFD, he received many honors and recognitions – the highest of which was the department naming the station closest to Roman's former home the Roman Kaminski Fire Station in 2006. Only five other individuals have received such an honor from BCFD.

Kevin O'Connor of the IAFF and former NAC Chair offered these words honoring his fellow Baltimore native. "Roman Kaminski was giant in the fire service in Baltimore and across the nation. Roman lived cross the street from the fire station that now bears his name and where my dad served as a Captain in 1960s. I knew Roman my entire life. He was a leader, successful businessman and benefactor to the community Roman truly made a difference. He will be missed and never forgotten."

A viewing will take place on Wednesday from 2-4 and 6-8 at Weber's Funeral Home at Bank and Chester in Baltimore. The funeral will follow on Thursday at 10 am at Holy Rosary also at Bank and Chester.