Incident Name: Colorado Fire, Palo Colorado Canyon (North of Big Sur) near Monterey
Date: Accident date: 10/08/07; Death date: 10/9/2007 (CA Death Records)
Personnel: Matthew Richard Will
Age: 30
Agency/Organization: CAL FIRE
Position: Heavy Equipment Operator

Summary: Heavy Equipment Operator Will was driving a heavy bulldozer as he and other firefighters fought the Colorado Fire near Monterey on the morning of 10/8/2007. During operations, the bulldozer rolled over and crushed Heavy Equipment Operator Will. He was airlifted to a regional hospital but did not survive his injuries -- he died the next day.
Bellflower, Calif. - The Office of the Director of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Ruben Grijalva, Chief, pursuant to the provisions of the California Fish and Game Code Section 9144, hereby announces the death of Matthew Richard Will, a uniform personnel of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE).

Matthew Will died in the line of fire as a result of a bulldozer rollover on the Colorado Fire in Monterey County, California, on Monday, October 8, 2007.
Here is a link to a memorial plaque for CAL FIRE Dozer Operator Matt Will who died in the line of duty in Palo Colorado, Monterey County. Could you please add Matt Will (I also added it above.)

Also, the legislature and Gov. recently passed resolution ACR-106, in Matt Will's honor, five miles of Hwy 156, between Hollister / San Juan Bautista to Hwy 101, will be designated as CAL FIRE FIREFIGHTER MATTHEW WILL MEMORIAL HIGHWAY. The signs will be placed by Cal-Trans, but no state funds can be used. Once the signs are up, still months away, we will forward a photo of them to you for the memorial page.

The Matt Will Memorial was placed at the accident site on Palo Colorado Road on November 22, 2009 and a stretch of Hwy 156 in San Benito County -- near the communities of San Juan Bautista and Hollister -- was dedicated in his honor.

The sign was destroyed in a vehicle accident in late 2012 or early 2013, but was replaced the end of April, 2013.

Annual Memorial Desert Runs to fund the local Matt Will Scholarship, SIX so far -- 2008-2014

California Memorial Firefighter Wall in Sacramento: CAL FIRE LODD Wall by Wall Order. (84 K pdf) --see page 24
Please support the Wildland Firefighter Foundation