Francis Burns Dies at 38; East Hartford Fire Official

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EAST HARTFORD — Deputy Fire Marshal Francis E. Burns, 38, died Friday afternoon at Hartford Hospital after suffering a heart attack at McDonald's restaurant on Main Street in Glastonbury.

Fire Marshal Albert Fournier, who was with Burns at the time, said he administered cardio-pulmonary resuscitation until the Glastonbury Volunteer Ambulance Association arrived with East Hartford Fire Department paramedics. The ambulance took Burns to the emergency room, where he died at 3:45 p.m., a hospital spokesman said.

Fire Chief Thomas W. Dawson Jr., who was at the hospital late Friday, said he was shocked by Burns' death. "He was one of the best at his trade, a real stickler for detail," Dawson said. He said that Burns had suffered a heart attack previously, but apparently had recovered without complication.

Burns, a fire department member since 1968, had been appointed deputy fire marshal in 1981.

No funeral information was available.

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