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(S.D.)-Former South Dakota Firefighter Among Those Killed In Arizona



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 07/03/2013 08:09 AM

PIERRE, S.D. (ASSOCIATED PRESS) - One of 19 elite firefighters killed while battling an Arizona wildfire previously worked in South Dakota.

The South Dakota Division of Wildland Fire says 21-year-old Kevin Woyjeck previously served on the Bear Mountain Crew based in Rapid City and Custer State Park from November 2011 to August 2012. Woyjeck was among the firefighters killed at the Yarnell Fire in Arizona on Sunday.

Woyjeck served on many fire assignments in Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming during the 2012 fire season.

Dale Deuter, a retired Division of Wildland Fire Crew boss, called Woyjeck an "overachiever" in everything he did with firefighting. He says he was a friend to everyone on the crew and was well-liked.

Funeral and memorial service arrangements are still pending.