

To Chief Ed Jahnke and all of the Firefighters of The Howard Fire Department:

Mary and I cannot thank all of you enough for saving our house on Moon Drive December 28, 2010.

Sometimes we meet people who are trained professionals and know exactly how to do their job perfectly. Sometimes we meet people who generously give all they have to help people in desperate need. The people of Howard have the great blessing of knowing our firefighters have the combination of both of these amazing attributes. We realize it is tough to fly into action day or night, rain, snow and freezing temperatures and all in a minute's notice.

We realize you have given up many many days and nights in training to become the true professionals you are-experts that we needed desperately in just a couple of minutes at 3:30 AM!

Thanks to your dedication and your willingness to help those of us terrified to see our home going up in flames, we still have our home. Thanks to you, we still have our pictures, clothes and all that we hold as memories in our home.

We will never know how you were able to knock down that fire so quickly but, we promise, we will never forget all of you for doing this for us.

We have had the pleasure of meeting a couple of you since the fire but, to those of you we have not met yet, please know how much we totally and sincerely appreciate all you did for us and what you have done for so many people living in Howard. Thank you again for your countless hours in training and for your willingness to jump out of bed and into the cold to save our home.

We are sorry we may not recognize you on the streets of Howard but if you see or recognize Mary or me, please, stop us and let us know that you are one of the firefighters of Howard. We would love to have the opportunity to thank each of you personally.

Thank you Chief Jahnke and thank each and every one of you from the bottom of our hearts!

Very sincerely,

*Mike + Mary Blaney*