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# Cheektowaga Chronicle

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*A smarter Cheektowaga is a better Cheektowaga*

## Cheektowaga Police K9 Wazi passes away

<https://cheektowagachronicle.com/cheektowaga-police-k9-wazi-passes-away/>

By  
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CHEEKTOWAGA, N.Y. – The Cheektowaga Police Department announced Friday the unexpected passing of their K9 Wazi.

Wazi passed away at 1:25 a.m. Friday after a brief illness.

“He was diagnosed a few weeks ago with a tumor on his heart, and it was inoperable. We knew he was sick, but we thought he had more time,” Assistant Chief of Police Jim Speyer told Cheektowaga Chronicle.

Wazi was born K9 Fello von Rapicar in Frankfurt, West Germany on January 28, 2010. The Cheektowaga Police Department purchased him and renamed him in memory of Cheektowaga Police Detective Wasyl Potienko who died in the line of duty in a car accident in 2002.

Like his predecessor, K9 Iozo, Wazi worked with Officer John Doskocz. Together, he and Wazi continued to give the department an edge on criminals by providing invaluable patrol, drug detection, and tracking capabilities.

“A pet is a tragic loss, but add that to losing your partner every day at work. They worked and trained in different departments and put on different presentations for the public – they were a team,” added Asst. Chief Speyer.

The department has not finalized plans for a memorial service.