

## New Bridge Honors Memory Of Longtime LaPorte District Employee



*Family, friends and co-workers gathered on the bridge to honor Mike Lamb's memory April 23. Granddaughter Bella (front right) helped with the sign unveiling as a tribute to her late grandfather.*

Those who knew Mike Lamb said he would have laughed at the attention he was receiving during a moving ceremony in his honor April 23. It was this day that the Cass County Road 500 South bridge over the new State Road 25 (Hoosier Heartland) was dedicated to Lamb. On a Saturday night last August, Lamb lost his life in a house fire. During the week, Lamb, a 32-year INDOT employee, was working as a project engineer at this bridge location.

Lamb's co-workers and the bridge's current project supervisors, Mike Kinsey and Mike Flores, organized the bridge dedication ceremony, where many spoke of how Lamb touched their lives with his love of music, storytelling and passion for his work. Flores spoke about how Lamb was especially helpful a few years ago with encouragement and good career advice. Now Flores is finishing the bridge project that his mentor left behind.

Lamb's supervisor at the time, LaPorte District Construction Area Engineer Nate Pfeiffer, also celebrated Lamb's life at the ceremony.

"He really cared about the work he did," said Pfeiffer. "He wanted to make sure that the investment INDOT was making in infrastructure would last the expected life cycle. He was gracious accepting occasional corrections, and was equally gracious when he corrected others. And, being Mike, he often had a story to share when he offered his corrections. He was a pleasure to work with."

LaPorte District Construction Director Brad Minnick said Mike continues to be missed.

"He was a wealth of knowledge ... and he was more than willing to share his experience and insight," said Minnick. "We all still miss him—as a valued co-worker and friend."