THE NEW ZEALAND BRAVERY DECORATION (N.Z.B.D.)

Bodey Thomas FOLEY

Date of action: 11 April 2020 Date of award: 6 December 2024

Citation

On the evening of 11 April 2020, Mr Bodey Foley was at home in Naenae, Lower Hutt, when his daughter drew his attention to a commotion on the deck outside their house. Mr Foley looked outside to see his neighbour lying on her back on the deck, being stabbed by a knife-wielding man kneeling on her.

Mr Foley grabbed a softball bat near the door and exited the house, approaching the struggling pair. He swung the bat at the man, which did not stop him attacking the woman. Mr Foley hit the man several more times to drive him away from his neighbour. The man, still armed with the knife, walked away from the woman, and began pacing up and down the driveway.

Mr Foley, with help from his family, moved their neighbour to the safety of their house and administered first-aid while waiting for emergency services to arrive. Mr Foley saw the man on the driveway and chased him with the bat. The man looked at Mr Foley and pulled the knife from his pocket, before turning and running away as Police sirens approached. Mr Foley demonstrated exceptional bravery intervening in the attack on his neighbour, saving her life.