



Obituary



George C. Frasier, Texas Ranger 1938 – 2014

We are sad to report that retired Texas Ranger and Chaplain of the Rangers George C. Frasier passed November 13, 2014.

An ordained minister, for many years George conducted the annual memorial service at the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and was a comfort to two generations of Rangers in difficult times.

George Frasier was born in Gorman, Texas, but grew up in Odessa, where his father was an oil field “roughneck.” He graduated from high school in Odessa and worked at a service station after school. Then he attended Odessa Junior College.

In March, 1958 he married Faye Pruitt and went to work for the Rainbow Bread Company. George and Faye became proud parents to four children Scott, Russ, Johnny and younger sister Debbie who attended many schools as George was reassigned over the years. Scott eventually became a DPS Trooper.

Sometime later, George met some Odessa police officers and became intrigued with their work. He changed jobs and joined the Odessa police force. During his seven years as a city policeman he became acquainted with some DPS highway patrolmen.

George respected and admired the DPS troopers and applied to join Texas DPS in 1967. He was accepted, trained at the Homer Garrison Training Academy in Austin and was assigned to the highway patrol.

He started in the town of Andrews in West Texas. “I didn’t write many tickets in those early years,” he recalls. “I was sort of a friendly ‘trouble shooter’ - mingling with people, making talks at civic clubs.”

During his highway patrol years his three sons were born to the Frasers. George was transferred a lot. This, of course, affected his family life. His children were in school and growing. I give lots of credit to my wife for our good family life during these years,” he says, “she was and is a great trooper. Her attitude was, ‘where you go, I go.’”

In 1972, Trooper George Frasier felt a preference to do investigative work rather than work traffic. He took a test for the Texas Rangers, but was not accepted. Two years

later, he tried again, and was promoted. His first duty assignment was Big Spring, Texas.

George led the typical life of a Ranger. He investigated murders and made arrests. He investigated oil field thefts in the Odessa/Midland area. He served on one of the first Texas Ranger SWAT Teams (forerunner of today's DPS trooper SWAT teams). Young Ranger Frasier and his family were faithful in the Nazarene Church wherever they were. George found time to teach a Sunday school class.

And he survived dangerous situations. One happened while he was stationed at Eastland. There was a murder. In Cisco, only ten miles from Eastland, a drunken man had shot and killed a friend. When Cisco police officers approached him, he took them hostage. They were the police chief and two young officers.

Ranger George Frasier was sent to rescue the officer hostages. "As I got near him, he got the drop on me; suddenly I was a hostage and he released his other hostages. It was pretty tense. He was big, drunk, and pointing a full-size revolver at me, with the hammer cocked." But Frasier, after talking calmly to him, was able to grab the man's gun hand. A major scuffle ensued and the Ranger won. He protected the other officers and himself, and got the killer.

In George's latter years, he continued to be active in his Nazarene Church. He had taught Sunday school classes for years. At one point a church district superintendent asked him to go to San Angelo area and preach at a church lacking a pastor. Feeling unqualified, George nevertheless went and spoke. And he returned for four Sundays. Months later, another church in San Angelo, also without a pastor, asked for him to come and fill the pulpit. He was fully involved in the Waco Branch Davidian crisis, but said "yes" and commuted on weekends from Waco to San Angelo. He would eventually retire from the Rangers and law enforcement in 1992 after 34 years to pastor churches in San Angelo, Austin and Coleman.

As the years began to catch up with him, George and Faye retired to the San Angelo area where of his children and 11 grandchildren live. He continued to serve for many years as Chaplain of the Texas Rangers.

His son Scott Frasier, a DPS trooper, perhaps summed up George Frasier's life and works best: "Dad influenced me. His words, his life, his help, his values."

*Adapted with permission from an article in
Texas State Trooper magazine by Jack Lawler*

A 65 page oral history with George Frasier, recorded in 2008, is available by clicking or copying this link.

<http://texasranger.org/E-Books/Oral%20History%20-%20Frasier,%20George.pdf>

