



Obituary



Capt. Jim Ray, Texas Ranger 1914 - 2003

Texas Ranger Capt. Jim Ray (Retired), passed away April 29, 2003 after a prolonged illness. He was a distinguished officer who served Texas for 38 years.

Jim Ray's career with the Department of Public Safety spanned three divisions. He began a law enforcement career in 1941 as a Highway Patrolman. Selected for the Texas Rangers, he rose through the ranks of Companies "B" and "E" to become Captain of Texas Ranger Company "C". In 1969 he was transferred to the

Director's staff and made Chief of the new Public Safety Criminal Law Enforcement Division.

Friends, relatives, Department of Public Safety officials and Texas Rangers attended Capt. Ray's funeral in Tyler, Texas, on May 1st. Their memories of Jim were many and fond. One often repeated Jim Ray quote about Rangers was: "You're a Ranger seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day." This was a code he lived all his life.

Nacogdoches Ranger Tom Davis and Ranger Glenn Elliott (Ret.) conducted the clergy at his memorial service. In an emotional tribute, Ranger Elliott recalled the leadership of his great friend and mentor, sentiments shared by all.

Ranger Davis quoted John 15:13: "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for a friend." He continued, "I will tell you someone with a great love of mankind was Jim Ray. He was one who put his life on the line every day taking care of the people of the state of Texas. For those lucky enough to have known him, Proverbs 22:1 summed up his life: "A good name is to be more desired than great riches. Jim Ray: that has long been known across Texas as a good name."

Memorial Page Sponsored by Capt. and Mrs. Robert Mitchell



An oral history of Jim Ray is available at:

http://texasranger.org/E-Books/Main_Page.htm

