

Sheriff Allen Bridges Hays County Sheriff's Office June 26, 1946 - Dec. 6, 2008 Our truly beloved friend, co worker, husband, father, teacher, mentor, boss and fellow law enforcement officer, Allen Bridges was called to be with the lord suddenly Saturday morning, December 6, 2008, at his home in rural Hays County. He was 62 years old. One doesn't have to stretch their imagination too far to know that the lord had a difficult job that needed to be done and called on the brightest and best man for the job. Allen loved serving people in his capacity as a law enforcement officer. He was the kind of person who could arrest you and not only talk you into the handcuffs but also had you enjoying the trip to the jailhouse. He didn't just arrest his way out of situations though. He was a man to reckon with if he needed to be but a man who was a gentle soul with those who needed a hand to lead them. He spent 25 years with the Austin Police Department and on the day he retired, in 1997, he went to work with the Hays County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy, only slowing down long enough to change uniforms. Allen worked in many areas but he excelled in the area of Crime Prevention/Community Services and Public Information. He was appointed Sheriff in 2005, won a special election after his appointment and most recently he won his re-election to the office. He was a brilliant leader who truly loved the people he worked with and lead. He would agonize over all his decisions trying to make sure that everyone was satisfied because he cared so much. That proved to be his toughest challenge. Allen didn't only love his work. He loved his family. He was always there for his wife and kids and was never shy about bragging about them and their accomplishments. He was always thinking of his friends too. And everyone was his friend. He truly cared what each and every one was feeling and was always there listening to their problems and stories about their families and trying to make them feel better. To put it simply, Allen was well liked and respected and made a positive difference in every life he touched. Allen was preceded in death by his parents Bob and Francis Bridges and Grandson Dallas Tatsch. He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Kathy; his children, Mabelle Tatsch and husband Gene, Shannon Robison and husband Joel, Natalie Bridges, Ashley Nicole Costello, Allen Bridges and wife Abby; 11 grandchildren, one great-grandchild; brother, Bob and his wife Irene (Stella, North Carolina); sister, Ida Stewart Fritz and her husband Norbert (Fredericksburg, Texas); brother, John (Rockport, Texas); and numerous other family and friends. In lieu of flowers please send donations to one or all of the following: the First Baptist Church Dripping Springs Building Fund, Hays County Brown Santa, Drippings Springs Senior Activities Center, and the Hays County Sheriff's Scholarship Fund. The family will receive friends Tuesday, December 9 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Thomason Funeral Home, 2001 Ranch Road 12, San Marcos. The funeral service will be held Wednesday, December 10 at 10:00 a.m. at First Baptist Church, San Marcos. Rev. David Smith will officiate. Interment will follow at Phillips Cemetery in Dripping Springs. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Thomason Funeral Home, 512-396-2300.

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