



Chief Johnny Beddingfield

May 3, 1943 - August 4, 2017

“Chief” Johnny Beddingfield went to be with his Lord and Savior on Friday, August 4, 2017. He left this world peacefully at his home in Whitehouse, Texas. He was a member of Pine Brook Baptist Church, Tyler, TX.

Born May 3, 1943, in Bullard, Texas, to Howard and Maurine Beddingfield, he was the youngest of three brothers. Johnny loved life, never meeting a stranger and always ready to help anyone in need. He could portray a tough exterior, but he had one of the kindest and loving hearts, he always went above and beyond to help anyone in need.

He was a 50 year member of the Masonic Lodge 785 in Bullard, and was a Shriner for the last three years.

Johnny attended schools in the Dallas area, returning to Bullard to start his adult life. He worked at General Electric until 1967, when he decided to take the test for the Tyler Police Department, where he met his friend J.B. Smith. He worked his way up through the ranks, and left there to work for Smith County Sheriff Harlan Long. Charles Wilson, Jessie Moore, John Wyman and he were the only deputies at the time on the midnight shift and paroled the entire Smith County areas. Taking a break from law enforcement in the 70's Johnny went to work for the Southland Distribution Center as a truck driver and stayed there 9 years. He returned to the Smith County Sheriff's office in 1983 to be Chief Deputy for his longtime friend Sheriff J.B. Smith. While Chief Deputy he was instrumental in organizing the first K-9 unit, where he trained dogs and horses with the help of his fellow deputies and trustees. They had

over 100 successful apprehensions, along with searching for missing children and the elderly. His team traveled all across the state, including the Fort Davis standoff, the Davidian Branch compound in Waco, and was always ready to assist other agencies. Johnny served as the head of security for the East Texas State Fair for many years, and headed up security at the Broadway Square Mall.

In 2001 Johnny retired from Smith County to spend more time with his family, his favorite past time was his mules and wagons. He was happiest driving his team on many a week's trail ride, parades or just training his newest team. Johnny raised three children Linda "Kitten" Milanovich, David Beddingfield and Tina Beddingfield. In 1983 he married Daveda Beddingfield, his best friend and the love of his life. At that time he took two addition children to raise as his own, Jason Bradberry and Brandy Smith.

Johnny was preceded in death by his parents Howard and Maurine Beddingfield, and loving brother B.T. Beddingfield. He is survived by his wife, Daveda Beddingfield of 34 years, children Kitten and Mark Milanovich, Omaha, Texas, David Beddingfield, Omaha, Texas, Tina Beddingfield Whitehouse, Texas, Jason Bradberry, Vidor, Texas, and Brandy and John Smith, Gilmer, Texas. Grandchildren include Jock Beddingfield, Misty Fortunas, Manny Hobbs, Danielle Beddingfield, Ashley Eaves, and Abigail Smith. He had 9 great-grandchildren. Brother C.F. "Curley" Beddingfield of Bullard, and a host of nieces and nephews.

Thank you to Heart to Heart Hospice of Tyler, for the love and comfort you provided during his illness for the last few years.

Honorary Pallbearers are John Smith, Jr., Jimmie Johnson, Bobby Garmon, Steven Chaney, Brent Lowery and Charles Wilson.

Services for Johnny will be held Wednesday, August 9, 2017 at 2:00 pm, at Lanes Chapel Methodist Church, 8720 Old Jacksonville Hwy, Tyler, under the direction of Stewart Funeral Home, Rev. Roy Thoene and Sheriff J.B. Smith officiating under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home. Visitation will be Tuesday, August 8, 2017, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM, at Stewart Funeral Home

7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy, Tyler. Anyone wishing to make donations may do so to Flint Community Church or Pine Brook Baptist Church, or a charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 8. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703
(903) 581-2008

Service

AUG 9. 2:00 PM (CT)

Lanes Chapel Methodist Church
8729 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703

Tribute Wall

RH

“ *I wish to share our sincere Condolences to the Beddingfield family for your loss.
Roger /Donna Henry.*

roger henry - August 08, 2017 at 05:00 PM

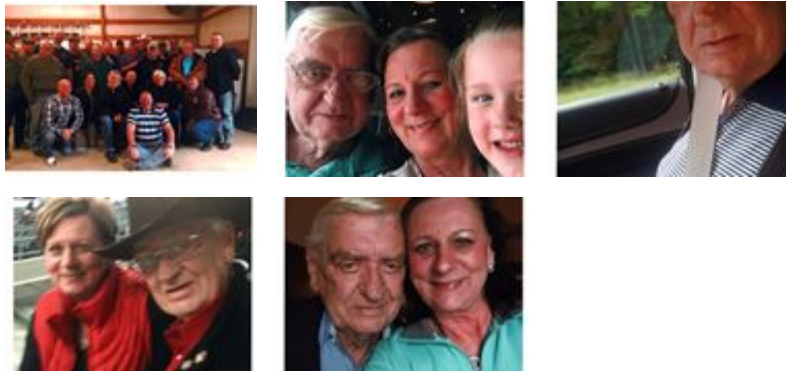
TB

“ *Sending sincere sympathy to Daveda and Curley and all of the family as well. Johnny had a crazy funny sense of humor and I enjoyed working with him at Southland and also when he was at the Sheriff's Office. Much love and thinking of you all in prayer, Terri Burleson*

Terri Burleson - August 08, 2017 at 02:21 PM



“ *86 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Stewart Family Funeral Home - August 08, 2017 at 01:59 PM

SP

“ *Sincerely, Your friends at Family First Pharmacy purchased the Ringed by Love for the family of Chief Johnny Beddingfield.*



Sincerely, Your friends at Family First Pharmacy - August 08, 2017 at 11:33 AM

BB

“ *Bob and Sue Beddingfield purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Chief Johnny Beddingfield.*



Bob and Sue Beddingfield - August 08, 2017 at 10:51 AM

JE

“ *Johnny I'am sorry that I not able to come to Tyler. I wish I could. But I have many good Memories when we were partner with Smith Co. Sheriff Dept. in the early 70s. You have always been a very good friend.*

Jesse (Sonny) Moore

Jesse(Sonny)Moore - August 08, 2017 at 10:51 AM

BE

“ Thank you Deouty Sheriff Beddingfield for your service to Smith County and your support of public health. You are a true champion of protecting our residents. I appreciate the sacrifices you add to our county. May God bless you and yours forever grateful Brenda Elrod Environmental Health Director Northeast Texas Public Health Director rest in peace



brenda elrof - August 08, 2017 at 12:26 AM



When being a judge was fun. Telling the dispatcher that it is Chief playing the harmonica and I will tell him to turn the volume down. Or just knowing he had your back through thick and thin. Judge Mitch Shamburger

Mitch Shamburger - August 08, 2017 at 03:53 PM

PS

“ My deepest sympathy to you the Family of Johnny. Very fond memories from Southland Corp. & also because he worked with my Father Gerald Miles when they were at the Sheriffs Dept .



Pamela Shepherd - August 07, 2017 at 08:39 PM

 Sally
Atwood

“ Johnny Paul & I, will certainly miss Johnny. He was one of the most colorful people I have ever met and it seemed like he knew everyone. He had a never ending supply of tales and could make you feel like you were right there in the midst of it. Johnny loved life and lived it to the fullest . He loved to karaoke and one of his favorites tunes was " My Way" and he definitely did it his way. One thing I know for certain, is he loved Daveda more than anything in this world and she him. He was a proud man and loved his family, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Several years ago he rededicated his life to Jesus and he knew where he was going. We will see you again Johnny, and I'm sure you will have a lot of new stories by then. We love you

Sally Atwood
(sister in-law)

Sally Atwood - August 07, 2017 at 04:44 PM

TS

“ I am sharing this for Thomas Swindle. Johnny was a great man. I drove a truck with Johnny when we both worked at Southland Distribution Center when they were in Owentown. Lots of good memories.

Tom and Sue Swindle - August 07, 2017 at 03:07 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Chief Johnny Beddingfield.



August 07, 2017 at 11:17 AM

DF

“ a good man who always had a kind word.my sympathy to the family.

David Farrow - August 07, 2017 at 07:50 AM

TB

“ I want to send my sincere condolences to the family. Please know that Scott and I are praying for ya'll. I am sure he is flying high with his new angel wings. Sending my love.

Tea Burns

Tea Burns - August 06, 2017 at 02:36 PM



JC

“ John and Charlotte Coon purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Chief Johnny Beddingfield.



John and Charlotte Coon - August 05, 2017 at 07:53 PM

GR

“ Sometimes friends are closer than kin and over 60 years Johnny, became our family in heart and love. When we called, he answered. He always loved talking about when we were all young, and telling stories about the "Hawk" (car) to his new friends. Thanks for the memories, we will miss you, our lost too soon again. Pete Crawford, Tiny Crawford Revis, Gay Crawford Ramsey and our families.

Gay Crawford Ramsey - August 05, 2017 at 05:54 PM