

Burch Biggerstaff

Burch Biggerstaff of Austin, passed away Wednesday, September 17, 2003. He was born on November 5, 1916, in Bowie, Texas to James and Helen Biggerstaff.

After graduating from Bowie High, Burch moved to Austin and attended the University of Texas.

In 1937, Burch became the youngest member of the Austin Police Department starting out as a motorcycle officer. After serving in every rank in the department, he was promoted to major and head of the Uniform Division. His last years were served as head of the Criminal Investigation Division, from which he retired in 1978. He attended enforcement circles. Burch was a charter member and Past President of the Texas Police Association in 1977.

He was an active member of the South Austin Rotary Club for many years, serving as President in 1983.

Burch was a member of the Masonic Organization in Austin serving as Master of Hill City Lodge #45 in 1958-1959. He was awarded the Golden Trowel Award on May 15, 2001.

Burch served as Potentate of Ben Hur Shrine in 1976. He enjoyed his association with all the Uniformed Units of Ben Hur Shrine since 1949. He was an active and Past President of the Patrol. The first Provost Marshall and also Honoree member of several Units. Burch's favorite charities are the Masonic Home for children and Home for the Aged Masons. Also, the Shriner's Hospital for Crippled Children Houston Unit and Burned Children Galveston Unit.

He is survived by his wife, Nettie Biggerstaff; daughters, Patsy McLeod and her husband, Kenny of Jacksonville, Texas, and Beverly Paul of Dallas, Texas; six grandchildren, Jay Walker of Cleveland, Texas, Amy Walker Johnson of Sugarland, Texas, Robin Walker Rodriguez of Jacksonville, Texas, Christina Keilson of Euless, Texas, Melissa DeMaagd of Plano, Texas, and Dawn Cox of San Antonio, Texas; and 14 greatgrandchildren.

The family will receive friends from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Friday, September 19, 2003, at Cook-Walden/Capital Parks Funeral Home.

Funeral services will be held at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, September 20, 2003, in the Memorial Chapel of Cook-Walden/Capital Park Funeral Home. Entombment will follow at the Mausoleum of Cook-Walden/Capital Parks Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Ben Hur Shrine Patient Transportation Fund, c/o Ben Hur Temple, 3851 Airport Bivd., #105, Austin, Texas 78722. All donations will be used to transport children and families to the Burn Unit.

