



Obituary



Danny Vaughn Rhea Texas Ranger

1947 – 2018

Sgt. Danny Rhea, 70, holder of the Texas DPS Medal of Valor, passed January 19, 2018 in San Angelo, Texas. He was born in Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas.

Sgt. Rhea was a Navy veteran who joined the Texas Department of Public Safety in 1976 and served in the Texas Highway Patrol; Criminal Intelligence Division.

He was promoted to Texas Ranger in 1988 and served in with distinction in Companies "E" and "B" in Ozona and Sulphur Springs, Texas until retirement in 2003. Sgt. Rhea was a specialist in crime scene blood pattern analysis and fingerprints and a member of the Texas Commission on Alcohol & Drug Abuse.

In June of 1998 he was awarded the Medal of Valor, the highest award presented by the Texas Department of Public Safety. It may be issued to any member of the Department who intelligently distinguishes himself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his or her own life. His citation reads:

"On January 6, 1998, Ranger Sergeant Danny V. Rhea assisted Trooper Cody Sanders and Trooper George K. Harris in dealing with a man who was carrying what was identified as a bomb at the Sulphur Springs Texas Department of Public Safety office. The man told Trooper Harris to evacuate the building because he was going to blow himself up. The building was evacuated and the officers negotiated with the man for almost an hour believing he was holding an explosive device and intended to detonate the device. The man eventually displayed a handgun and pointed it at Trooper Harris. Ranger Sergeant Rhea then fired one shot, fatally wounding the man.

Ranger Sergeant Rhea's courage, decisive action, and dedication to duty in this tense and volatile situation bring great credit to him, the Texas Department of Public Safety, and the profession of law enforcement."

