

## GEORGE REX CASON

January 8, 1937 - October 6, 2006

George Rex Cason, GR to many, Rex to others, was a great man, husband, father, brother, father-in law, step-father, grand-father, son-in-law, Senior Chief Petty Officer Radioman United States Navy, law enforcement officer SWAT San Diego Police Department, cowboy, friend and Christian. By any measure, GR has truly been a leader among men.

Throughout his life he enjoyed an outstanding reputation and has been one of a unique group of individuals who truly was a legend in his time. He was not a flash in the pan, but unfailingly has been a man among men, a man's man, whether that was in the United States Navy, the San Diego Police Department, as a member of his community, or amongst his family and friends. He was always a standup, standout individual, willing to speak his mind and to do that which he believed was right, and always a man of his word and to be counted on. And even with his quick wit and unrelenting sense of humor, he took life seriously and was always a source of wisdom and sound guidance for those entrusted to his care, for those who sought his support, and for those he merely would take under wing.



He and his family sacrificed much throughout his life, because GR was a man committed to causes greater than himself. His 25 years in the United States Navy and his 17 years in the San Diego Police department speak to a man who gave of himself for the benefit of his fellow man. GR was willing to endure the long deployments and separation from family while at sea, or to face the daily uncertainty and risk encountered as a law enforcement officer, to preserve the freedoms we enjoy in this great country of ours. He was always the man others wanted as their instructor, or on their dive, or on their mission, or to be their friend, or to simply acknowledge approval of them, because he personified those characteristics that all men aspire to have and to uphold.

For those who were close and knew him, there was no greater gift from GR than to hear him pray, to see him maintain his dignity, to hear his testimony of the journey he took from being an orphan, to being told that he would not live to be thirty, to reading the entire Bible on a submarine deployment, to his acknowledging and reflecting on the devoted support of his family and friends throughout the years. While GR did not wear his religion on his sleeve, he carried it in his heart and his soul, and he was willing to share it.

Rex is survived by his wife, Kay; sister Barbara Allen; his two daughters, Vicky R. Michel and Carole L Thomas; and several grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his late wife, Darlene Wells Cason in 2001. Funeral services were held at the Calvary Baptist Church in Wickenburg, AZ on October 13th, and interment at the Wells Family Cemetery in Douglas, AZ.

## MISSION STATEMENT

### President Lonnie Wells:

It has long been the goal of the Wells Cemetery Association to raise enough money to ensure the perpetual maintenance of the cemetery. The plan is to build the fund up to the point where interest earned can be used to pay for annual cemetery upkeep. And my personal goal is to do it in my lifetime. But I'm afraid there is still a long way to go.

Currently, we have approximately \$32,000 in the cemetery fund which is held by the investment firm of A.G. Edwards. The funds are now earning 5.85%, or about \$1,872 a year. Dues are requested annually and set at \$35 per family member. This money helps fund both the Gazette newsletter, reunion expenses and the cemetery fund. This may sound like a lot of money until you consider the expenses.

The road from the highway to the cemetery is 1.6 miles, and most of that is a private road. For years, the County maintained the road but the County's coffers have waned drastically so they were forced to abandon many roads. It now falls on us to maintain the road. The road crosses several arroyos so the annual monsoon rains can cut big ruts in the road. Every year it costs us between \$600—\$900 to have the road graded. The desert environment is also relentless. If we didn't have annual work parties the cemetery would be overrun with grass and weeds in a matter of just a few years. We also usually have the area treated with pre-emergent and weed spray twice a year.

As the cemetery usage grows, it will become increasingly necessary to pay a local caretaker to, at least, visit the cemetery. And as some of you have noticed: Douglas is geographically hours away from almost everywhere!

It is really a miracle and a testimony to the Wells family that for exactly 100 years—first burial was October 19, 1906—this private cemetery has been so well maintained on a completely volunteer basis.

Speaking of volunteers—we want you! Our next general work party is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, February 16 & 17, 2007. We have more work to do than usual and will need some skilled workers so we plan to send out updates about our work party plans in the near future. Also, besides the normal weeding and spraying, we plan to paint the white fences and fix up the area around the flag pole. If you are able to, please set aside one or both of these days.

**DUES:** for those who haven't sent in their dues, please send them directly to the Secretary/Treasurer:  
Mary Ann Wells  
404 Branchwood Dr.  
Rio Vista CA 94571

**THANK YOU!!** Les Stimac has moved back to Douglas to care for his parents, Chic & Peggy Stimac. Les recently, almost single-handedly weed whipped the cemetery grounds so they looked great for the recent graveside services. Due to his demonstrated skill and basic geographic proximity, we have appointed him "Temporary Cemetery Manager." This job has no remuneration but he does earn the eternal gratitude of all the Wells Family—which is significant!!! Thanks again, Les!