

Corporal Ed “Pops” Davenport

Ed Davenport was born in the small town of Ellsworth, Kansas. A year later, his family moved to West Long Beach where they lived in several locations, including Carmelitos housing. Ed graduated from Jordan High School having earned the honor of being named to the ALL-CITY football team as offensive tackle and defensive middle line backer.

Two things of major importance happened to Ed in 1956. He married his beautiful wife Beverly, and he joined the United States Air Force, serving his country for four years.

After leaving the service, he worked in various jobs and then joined the Long Beach Police Department in May of 1962. During his outstanding career Ed has worked many assignments. He started in Patrol, moved to Vice-Zone patrol, and then to motors where he stayed for approximately ten years. In his next assignment, Ed worked undercover in the Suppression of Burglary detail, followed by his assignment as a staff member for the Deputy Chief of the Patrol Bureau.

Ed then went back to field, joining the Metro team, followed by his final transfer to the Combat Training Range as Rangemaster and Firearms Instructor. As the senior firearms instructor, he shared his skills and knowledge with over 600 police officers in the fine art of marksmanship and weapons handling. During his tenure at the Combat Range, he instructed thirteen regular and five reserves academies. He also taught courses specific to the various weapons the Department authorizes for duty, and taught a course in the application of chemical devices.

Without a doubt, Ed's favorite assignment was the SWAT Team. He was a member for over thirty-one years working as a scout, team leader, armorer, and tactical leader for several missions.

Ed and Beverly had three beautiful children together: Christi Lynn, Robert and Darren. Robert (a former Long Beach police officer) currently works for the Murrieta Police Department, and Darren is the Tactical Sergeant on the Long Beach Police Department SWAT Team. Each of Ed's children has two children of their own, making Ed a Grandfather six times over.

Ed was an outstanding husband, father and police officer who had the utmost respect of the entire compliment of the Long Beach Police Department. He contributed to the community by living his life as an example to others by always doing what was right, and he proudly served both his Country and City with distinction and honor.