

HAL REYNOLDS PVID WATERMASTER



EMPLOYED BY PVID 12-22-69 THRU 12-19-11

Our beloved friend and Watermaster, Hal Reynolds died 12-19-11 after a long and courageous battle with cancer. Hal will be greatly missed by all in the District for his efficiency in running our canal system, knowledge of the workings of the District, and calmness in critical situations. Hal will mostly be missed by his fellow employees. He was an absolute pleasure to work with and cared greatly about those that worked for him.

Hal became an employee of PVID on 12-22-69, as a Night Ditch Rider, he was 18 years old. He rolled up to the District office atop a “chopper” not expecting to put in an application much less be hired. He just accompanied a friend that was applying. Well, the District hired him and passed up on the buddy. From this humble beginning a future Manager was hired. He worked his way through the ranks of night patrol, zanjero, dispatcher, Senior Water Control and in 1986 he became Supervisor of Water Operations, then in 1987, he became Watermaster. He did that until our General Manager, Jerry Davisson retired in 1999. Hal decided to try his hand as General Manager, after the PVID Board of Directors offered him the position. He did that for a year, and decided that he liked running water and working with the growers a lot better, so he moved back to being Watermaster, at which time our current manager, Ed Smith became the General Manager. Hal remained Watermaster until his death. Hal worked his entire adult life at P.V.I.D. and although he was never able to enjoy the grand retirement he had planned, he had indeed found his place in the world. He enjoyed it, he did it well and everyone knew that and counted on him.

Hal was devoted to his family, wife Pat, daughter Marci and sons Henry and Rafael (Hal was quite proud of Rafael’s efforts and dedication to the District). He appreciated and loved his extended family that included step-children, their spouses, grandchildren and a host

of critters that shared his home. It was normal to pass his house and see him surrounded by dogs, and have huge colorful parrots perched on his shoulders.

Hal was quick witted and was never afraid to engage in a lively debate especially about politics and finances. He had definite ideas about how things should be, but if you disagreed with him, he was never mean spirited.

Hal had a great love of the open road, especially when it involved his motorcycles. He loved to ride, but not in a group. He loved the wind in his face and the chance to get out and away from it all, if only for a few hours to decompress, think things through and enjoy the solitude a bike and the road can bring. Though Hal had many pets over the years, this love of riding prompted him to give a special name to one of his favorites, a little Chihuahua, yeah you guessed it, "Harley".

Hal was a good man and will be missed. His own dedication to family and his work garnered him love and respect on both fronts. The challenges he suffered were tremendous but through it all he maintained grace and hope. Hal put his mark on PVID over the years through method and practices that he found effective, that mark, those choices will endure and the District will benefit from them. Hal Reynolds, Watermaster has become a treasured part of Palo Verde Irrigation District, forever.

THANKS HAL