



Raymond Smiley

Webster Police Chief Ray Smiley died January 7, 2014 after a long illness, department officials confirmed. He was 67.

"I've lost a friend and I've lost a mentor. He was like another father to me," said Thomas Claunch, the department's acting police chief. Smiley, who was appointed Webster's police chief in 2004, had been in and out of the hospital for several months due to serious liver problems, Claunch said.

He went into Methodist Hospital at the Texas Medical Center shortly before Christmas and remained there until his death, Claunch said, "His health had been deteriorating for a long time".

Smiley's law enforcement career began in 1975 when he joined the Missouri City Police Department, spending nearly the past 10 years as chief in Webster.

He's survived by his wife, Elaine, children and grandchildren.