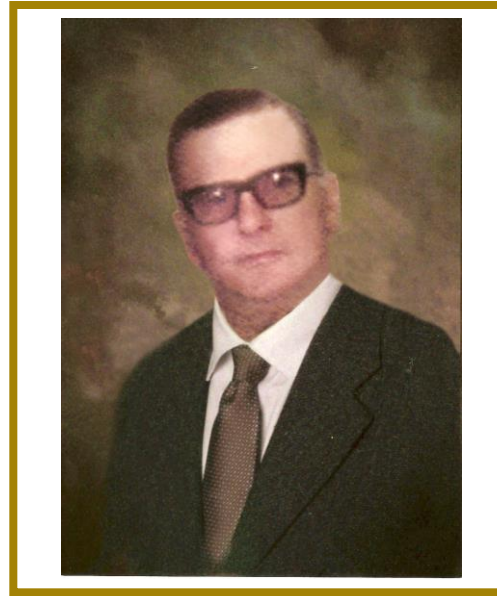




HIRAM E. COOK

25TH SHERIFF



Hiram Elliott Cook, Jr. served as Sheriff from 1959 – 1972

Hiram was born February 12, 1916 to Hiram E. and Eva (Harris) Cook of Henry County. He was married to Gloria (Barker) Cook.

Sheriff Cook began his law enforcement career in his teens when he went to work for Sheriff Lewis Hightower. Except for two departures for military service during World War II and a couple years farming, he served all his adult life in law enforcement.

Hiram Cook was elected to fill the unfinished term of Sheriff E. Quillian Owen, who died while in office. Hiram was the Chief Deputy while serving under Sheriff Owen. He then won two more elections for Sheriff by large margins.

In the 35 years he served Henry County in law enforcement he was a police officer, Chief Deputy and then Sheriff. It was said that Hiram Cook “genuinely liked people” and that “he was a good businessman, a friend and benefactor, a farmer, but most of all he was a lawman.”

Eck Brannan, a McDonough City policeman and a very fast runner at six foot, nine inches, remarked that Hiram could out run him any day, and added he could run like a rabbit.

Sheriff Cook decided to leave office early. He stated, “I never thought a man ought to get in office and just stay there. It’s time for me to come out.”

Hiram Cook died in his sleep at the age of 57 on August 24, 1973.

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If you have photographs or additional information about past Sheriffs' of Henry County that you would like to share for this display, please contact Major Jack Oakman at 770-288-7034.