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JIMMY H. GLASS

26TH SHERIFF



Jimmy Hasting Glass served as Sheriff from 1973 – 82.

Jimmy Glass was born August 29, 1933 to Thomas H. and Rubye (Ford) Glass of Henry County. He married Martha Miller Hall on August 8, 1958; she was also from Henry County. Jimmy was the Step-father to her son Dan Hall from a previous marriage.

When previous Sheriff Hiram Cook left office before completing his last term, there was no special election called because it was a scheduled election year. Jimmy Glass was elected in 1972.

When taking office, the county was often covered with two patrol cars. The railroad running vertically through Henry County was the divider for the two zones, East and West.

In November, 1974 after a gun battle and manhunt in Henry County for the mass murderer Paul John Knowles (dubbed the Casanova Killer), Sheriff Glass decided he needed additional trained Deputies to “call out” for emergencies. That month he formed the Sheriff’s Volunteer Reserve Force (SVR). That unit, now known as the Sheriff’s Office Reserve Unit, has served Henry County ever since.

Sheriff Glass also started the Senior Teen Deputy program for High School students who wished to learn more about law enforcement first hand. That program evolved into an Explorer Post # 97.

It is believed that Jimmy Glass was related to Newton Glass the 19th Sheriff of Henry County. Jimmy’s Great-grandfather was said to have been a close relative to Newton.

Jimmy Glass left office in 1982 and Donald Chaffin was named to succeed him by Governor George Busbee.

Jimmy Glass died at the age of 79 on April 25, 2013 and was buried at the Eastlawn Memorial Gardens in McDonough, Georgia.

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.