

## JERRY WAYNE ADAMS

On August 16, 1941 in Paris, Texas, Jerry Wayne Adams entered this world a two pound premature baby with a small chance of survival. Proud parents Leonard and Pearl Adams were so happy to have such a special boy, so special he fit into a small shoebox.



Jerry started his education at Graham Elementary school, where he attended the first through eighth grade. He continued his education at Paris High School (Home of the Wildcats) and in addition to playing football, Jerry at the age of twelve began working with his father in the Family Logging business. After graduation, he attended Paris Junior College and while working for a local Air Conditioning Company enrolled and studied Engineering and Drafting.

Jerry had another interest which was serving his Country. He enlisted in the Army in 1959, where his Basic Training began in the town of Fort Hood, Texas. Soon after, he would transfer to Fort Rylie, Kansas where he would serve in the Advanced Infantry Training. His career with the Army took him to Fort Campbell, Kentucky, where he served in the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. On July 1961, Jerry Adams was honorably discharged for his years of service to our Country.

On August 20, 1966, Jerry became a Garland Firefighter and is still a member of the Garland Firefighters Association. While providing years of service to the community, he began to acquire his flying ratings under the GI Bill and his work would include Flight instruction and crop dusting for over fifteen years.

On September 20, 1968, Jerry welcomed a new son, Randy Wayne Adams, who would soon follow in his father's footsteps to become a Grand Prairie Firefighter. December 1991, Jerry remarried and became a father to two daughters. Jerry became a Service Officer at American Legion Post 111, where he volunteers and provides leadership to his fellow veterans. Jerry Adams has led a life of serving others and after almost 40 years of serving, Jerry retired from the Garland Fire Department. His dedication and devotion to helping others continues to this day.