



**Denney, Leonard D.**

1933-2022

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Chico~ Leonard D. Denney, 88, went to be with our Lord Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2022 in Fort Worth.

Funeral will be 2 p.m. Thursday, March 3, at Zion Valley Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Chico with burial in Pleasant Grove No. 3. Family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Hawkins Funeral Home in Bridgeport.

Rev. Barney Hudson will officiate. Pallbearers are to include Lane Akin, Craig Johnson, John Pellizzari, Cavin Riggs, Randy Eyster and David Walker.

Leonard was born April 27, 1933, to Hurston P. and Ruth M. (Redwine) Denney. He was united in marriage to Angela M. Smith March 8, 1997, in Chico. Leonard learned to be a hard worker from an early age as the son of a farmer. Leonard was a veteran and served our Country in the United States Army including 1 year, 1 month, and 17 days overseas in Japan, Korea and Hawaii. After his service he worked for General Dynamics as a machinist from 1956 to 1959, then he worked at Gifford Hill and was Maintenance Foreman from 1959 to 1975, He owned and

operated Denney's Exxon Station from 1975 to 1981 in Chico. From there Leonard worked as a repairman and heavy equipment operator for Chapman Engineering in Houston. It was around 1982 he began his career in law enforcement upon graduating from North Central Texas Regional Police Academy in Arlington. Leonard retired as constable for Wise County Sheriff's Office after many years of service. His law enforcement career was impressive, first with Bridgeport Police Department as Police Chief from 1984 to 1987 and then with the Wise County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy and Investigator. Leonard was our Wise County Constable for many years thereafter, his service with our County spanned almost 40 years. His commitment to serve his fellow officers and residents of Wise County was second to none. Leonard was a Corporal in the United States Army; a 32nd Degree Mason and a member of Chico Masonic Lodge No. 508, a member of Decatur Lodge No. 447, Alvord Chapter and Council; Eastern Star; VFW; Fort Worth Scottish Rite; and Elder at Zion Valley Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

He loved his family, friends, children and especially his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and enjoyed spending time with them all.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Alva Dean Dodd; brothers, Melvin Denney, who passed at birth, and Harold Denney.

Those left behind to cherish his memory are wife of 24 years, Angela Denney of Chico; daughter, Peggy Denney Ainsworth and husband, Rodney, of Bryson; son, Bobby Denney of Bowie; stepchildren, Maria Bishop and husband, Daniel, of Florida, Tanya Hanks and husband, Jon, of Nevada, and Ronnie Gerhart, Jr. of Chico; his grandchildren, Lindsay Michaelis, Stephanie Bradley Miller and husband, Derek, Jessica Lynn Turner and husband, Barry, Leslie Robbins, Coltan Denney, Raylon Hailey, Dameon Johnson and wife, Sarah, Alana Crockett, Marina Crockett, Gabriel Gerhart, Florence Hart, Rita Hart, Atlas Gerhart and Kayson Gerhart; four great-grandchildren; numerous extended family members; a host of friends and law enforcement family.

Hawkins Funeral Home (940) 683-2211 [hawkinsfuneralhome.com](http://hawkinsfuneralhome.com)