

Ohio State Highway Patrol

Media Release

General Headquarters • Columbus, Ohio



For Immediate Release: June 16, 2008

Contact: Lt. Tony Bradshaw or Sgt. Craig Cvetan (614) 752-2792

Funeral arrangements for Patrol's eighth superintendent, retired Colonel Adam G. Reiss

The following are the funeral arrangements for retired Colonel Adam G. Reiss, who served as the eighth superintendent of the Ohio State Highway Patrol from 1976-1979. Colonel Reiss passed away on Thursday, June 12.

On the passing of retired Colonel Reiss, current Patrol superintendent Colonel Richard H. Collins said, "Colonel Reiss was an exemplary leader during a time of many changes. He continued to be active in our Division right up until the time of his death. He will be missed."

Funeral information for Adam G. Reiss:

Viewing and visitation:

Dwayne R. Spence funeral home

Monday, June 16, 2008, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. & 6:00 pm. – 8:00 p.m.

550 Hill Road North

Pickerington, Ohio 43147

Funeral:

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish

Tuesday, June 17, 2008, 10:30 a.m.

600 Hill Road North

Pickerington, Ohio 43147.

Interment:

Violet Twp. Cemetery

Tuesday, immediately following the services

State Route 256 approximately 3 miles from the Parish.

A media briefing will be conducted 30 minutes before the funeral. Reporters covering the funeral should contact Sgt. Craig Cvetan from the Patrol's Public Affairs Unit at (614) 752-2792 for information on a media staging area.

A career bio for Colonel Reiss is on page 2.

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Colonel Adam G. Reiss

Colonel Adam G. Reiss devoted 32 years to the service of the Ohio State Highway Patrol, including three years as its superintendent.

Colonel Reiss was born July 18, 1924, in Cleveland. After his 1942 graduation from Cleveland West Technical High School, he served four years in the U. S. Marine Corps, attaining the rank of staff sergeant before his discharge in 1946.

After graduation from the Academy in 1947 as a member of the 23rd Academy Class, Colonel Reiss served at Salem, Poland, Northfield, Canfield, Hiram, Warren, Delaware and Cambridge during the first 20 years of his career. He transferred to General Headquarters in 1968 at the rank of major.

His extensive experience eminently qualified him for the position of commander of the Division's Field Operations, a position he held prior to being named superintendent in 1976.

It was during Colonel Reiss's tenure as superintendent that the Ohio State Highway Patrol hired and trained the first female officer in the history of the Division. With the influx of women into the ranks, Colonel Reiss decided the word "Patrolman," which appeared on the Highway Patrol badge, was inappropriate. In 1977 he implemented the first design change in 43 years when the designation "Trooper" was instituted.

He implemented the Division's first federally funded selective traffic enforcement program. Called SMASH (Selective Management of Accident Site Highways), the crash reduction program was so successful that many additional selective enforcement programs followed and variations of the original exist yet today. These programs continue to prove that innovative enforcement in high crash frequency areas reduces property damage, injuries, and fatalities.

Among Colonel Reiss's many important achievements was a hazard pay supplement enacted in late 1978 which provided supplemental pay to officers in compensation for hazards faced in the line of duty. He also placed strong emphasis on public information and education. The Junior Trooper program, first conducted in 1977 to teach safety concepts to children aged 6 to 12 years, through the years has reached thousands of youngsters throughout the state.

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Note to editors: A photo of retired Colonel Reiss is available at www.statepatrol.ohio.gov

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