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21st Century Shining Star:
Barry Caver

Barry and Tammy, his wife of nineteen years, have two sons in high school, a senior and a freshman. Barry also has an older daughter from a previous marriage who recently received an associate degree in nursing.

Barry got law enforcement in his blood from his dad, who was a reserve deputy in Angelina County Sheriff's Office. In December of 1976, at the tender age of nineteen, Barry began his career as a peace officer when he went to work in that very same sheriff's office as a jailer-dispatcher.

Barry had just started this assignment when he met his first Texas Ranger, Charlie Neel. From that moment on, he knew that he wanted to wear the cinco peso badge of the Texas Rangers. But before anyone can even apply to become a Ranger, that person must have eight years' experience in the Texas Department of Public Safety. Barry began working toward his goal.

In March 1978, this future Ranger Captain was certified as a Texas Peace Officer. He went to work as a patrolman with the Diboll Police Department, just south of Lufkin. He remained in that position until December 1978.

Barry applied for and was accepted into the Texas Department of Public Safety Training Academy. On January 9, 1979, he started Class A-79 for eighteen weeks of training. He graduated on May 11, 1979, and was assigned as a Highway Patrolman in Livingston, about midway between Lufkin and Houston. In 1981, he transferred back to Diboll. He remained there until an opening became available in Lufkin in 1984. On April 1, 1987, he promoted to Highway Patrol Sergeant and was stationed in Weatherford, just west of Fort Worth.

As soon as Barry's eight years of DPS experience was up, he applied for and was accepted into the Texas Rangers. On November 1, 1989, the career of one of the Rangers' brightest stars began. Barry was posted to Company "A" in Huntsville, just north of Houston.

His superiors soon recognized Barry's outstanding ability, not only as an investigator, but also as a natural leader. On November 1, 1993, after only four years as a field Ranger, Barry promoted to Lieutenant of Company "C" in

Lubbock. He didn't remain a Lieutenant long either. On November 1, 1996, he became the youngest Texas Ranger Captain in the history of the Texas Department of Public Safety when he took over the reins of Company "E" in Midland.

Fortunate seems to be an over-used word when Texans speak of their Rangers, but it just happens to be a true description in the case of Barry Caver. Texas is fortunate indeed to have him in its service.

