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City pays tribute to the late Teal Pomeroy



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This set of photos shows the group after the presentation of the American flag and the shadowbox plaque that included a photograph of Mayor Teal Pomeroy. The shadowbox tribute was created by City Manager Mary Ellzey. Here, Luke and Eli Pomeroy display the tribute to their late father Chiefland Mayor Teal Pomeroy. It was presented by Mayor Betty Walker, Vice Mayor Chris Jones, City Commissioner Teresa Barron and City Commissioner Rollin Hudson. City Manager Ellzey received permission to use a copyrighted photo of the late mayor that was provided by *HardisonInk.com* as she created the tribute for the family of the beloved city leader.

Story and Photos

**By Terry Witt © Sept. 27, 2016 @ 9:17 a.m., All Rights Reserved
Senior Reporter**

CHIEFLAND -- Chiefland City Commission members Monday night (Sept. 26) honored the late Mayor Teal Pomeroy with the gift of an American flag and a framed picture of the mayor presented to his widow Kristin and sons Luke and Eli.

Kristin Pomeroy was overcome by emotion when the presentation was made and did not wish to be photographed, but her little boys showed their mettle by standing strong to accept the honor on behalf of their father.

Luke asked his mother if she was sad as she walked away.

Pomeroy died while scuba diving in the Suwannee River last month.

He was a veteran of the United States Army, a business owner and a family man. The framed American flag was provided by a congressman.

The passing of Pomeroy was an emotional blow felt throughout the region. Chiefland Police Chief Robert Douglas said he talked to Kristin Pomeroy outside of the Hardy Dean Sr. Municipal Building (Chiefland City Hall) before the meeting started, and she

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was worried about being emotional and crying. Chief Douglas told her not to worry. He said he told her if she cried, then they would cry with her.

Her two sons were stoic throughout their visit to City Hall. Pomeroy was close to his sons and adored them, friends said. They were his pride and joy. He enjoyed taking them to a local restaurant for a father and son meal.

Pomeroy's replacement hasn't been appointed yet, but that event is scheduled to occur next month.

The city's code of ordinances requires city commissioners to appointment Pomeroy's replacement. The city is accepting letters of intent from people who would like to serve as a commissioner. The deadline is Oct. 5.

Applicants for the job of Chiefland City Commissioner must be 18 years old, a registered voter and a resident living within the city limits of Chiefland.

City Manager Mary Ellzey said two letters of intent had been received as of Monday night. She preferred not to release the names of the applicants to far. She wants to wait until Oct. 5 before releasing all the names.

A majority vote is needed for approval of the new commissioner. There are currently four commissioners serving - Mayor Betty Walker, Vice Mayor Chris Jones, Teresa Barron and Rollin Hudson. Walker and Jones were selected respectively by their colleagues at a previous meeting after the passing of Pomeroy.



Sandra Wilcox and Eddie Jean Williams discuss Mount Olive Cemetery with Chiefland City Commissioners

In other business, Commissioners voted to begin maintaining the grass at Mount Olive Cemetery near Chiefland Elementary School.

The city won't maintain individual lots, which are considered private property, but the city can use state prison inmates or city workers to mow the grass. The city maintains the grass at Chiefland Cemetery.

Sandra Wilcox and Eddie Jean Williams said the cemetery is in terrible condition and no one is volunteering to maintain the grass. They said community members will be responsible for maintaining individual lots.