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# Freedom™



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**(12/30/2001)** Chris Thomas Hanger Chris Thomas Hanger, age 54, of Austin, Texas, died at home December 27, 2001, after an initially victorious and always valiant battle with cancer. He was born on October 24, 1947, in Ft. Worth, Texas, to Willett and Margaret Hanger. He was a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and received his J.D. at South Texas College of Law. He practiced law both privately and as a member of the Harris County District Attorney's Office, Texas Attorney General's Office, various other state agencies, and served as Assistant General Counsel for Gov. Mark White. Thirteen years ago he joined the Jollyville Fire Department as a Volunteer Firefighter/EMT. He found the work of helping people directly sure beat the hell out of being a lawyer. In spite of the disbelief of his legal colleagues, Chris abandoned the practice of law and became a full time paramedic with Williamson County EMS, which he described as the best job he ever had. Chris often said through this service he felt he was actually touching peoples' lives and making a real difference. Chris and Pat continued to work with Jollyville, teaching, fighting fires and serving as medical first responders. While the vocation of being a paramedic fulfilled him spiritually, Chris had many other passionate avocations. As WA5LGM Chris had been an avid Ham radio operator since 1964, organizing the Amateur Radio Operators of Williamson County and coordinating Emergency Ham Radio Operations. Chris was an amateur Meteorologist, an avid gardener, and a respected instructor/coordinator at Taylor Fire Academy. But Chris's true passion was Winston S. Churchill. To quote Sir Richard Langworth of the Board of Governors of the International Churchill Society, "Chris Hanger was a big a piece of unbridled enthusiasm we ever could have hoped for. He contributed a series of abstracts published in FINEST HOUR AS "Inside the Journals." He visited schools and lectured students on Churchill's life and times; he was a good friend of Churchill historians like Sir Martin Gilbert, Roger Lewis and Lady Mary Soames (Churchill's daughter). He touched many lives with his infectious determination. He was the kind of person we couldn't afford to lose." We couldn't afford to lose Chris, but we were so gifted with his presence while we had him. There was never born a man with more integrity, compassion and true kindness. He leaves a hole that will be impossible to fill. We love you Chris. Look out for us, and tell Winston we said 'Hello.' Chris was a Veteran, having served his country as a Lieutenant, in the U.S. Army, and also served as former board member of the Williamson County Humane Society, member of the Masonic Lodge, and Critical Incident Debriefing Team of Central Texas. He was preceded in death by his parents. Surviving him are his wife Patricia Hanger, of Austin; many relatives, and friends too numerous to count. Visitation will be Sunday, December 30, 2001, from 5:00 p.m. til 7:00 p.m., at The Gabriels Funeral Chapel, followed by Recitation of the Rosary at 7:00 p.m. Mass will be 2:00 p.m., Monday, December 31, 2001, at St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 10205 Ranch Road 620 in Austin. In Lieu of flowers, Memorials may be made in his memory to The Churchill Center, 8016 McKestry Dr., Laurel, MD 20723. Phone (888)WSC-1874. Arrangements were made by The Gabriels Funeral Chapel, 393 N. I-H 35, Georgetown, Texas 78627-1727. (512) 869- 8888.



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