



## ***FORMER TEXAS RANGER MEMORIAL CROSS APPLICATION***

Because the mission of the Former Texas Rangers Association is to preserve and perpetuate the true history of the Texas Rangers, we ask that you take a moment to fill in as much information as possible. We will use it to update our records. While we know that not every family has been able to preserve their history, if you do have any physical records or photographs, we would appreciate copies to include in our archive. *Crosses are furnished at no cost to eligible members of the Former Texas Rangers Association.*

Rank and name of Texas Ranger \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_ Served under \_\_\_\_\_

Service dates \_\_\_\_\_

Notable events, if any \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Born on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_

Died on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_

Buried in \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_

Your name and relationship to Ranger \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*For Memorial Cross sponsorship opportunities and additional information, please contact the FTRA Office.*

*Fill in this form and return to:*

**Former Texas Rangers Association  
P. O. Box 290229  
Kerrville, TX 78029**

**Email: [jeanftra@windstream.net](mailto:jeanftra@windstream.net)**

**888-766-4055**

**[www.FormerTexasRangers.org](http://www.FormerTexasRangers.org)**

### ***History of the Former Texas Rangers Association***

The roots of the FTRA go back more than a century, when former Ranger Captain John S. "Rip" Ford spearheaded a movement to organize a reunion of ex-Rangers in 1897.

Capt. M. M. McKinney chaired a meeting of some of the surviving members of the old Texas Ranger Force in Austin in March of 1897. A resolution was passed to form an Ex-Texas Rangers Association, membership to include Ex-Rangers who had been honorably discharged from the service. The purpose of the organization would be for social and benevolent purposes, and to preserve and collect the history of the Texas Rangers.

Those honorably discharged Ex-Rangers were invited to attend another meeting in October of that year, again in Austin, for permanent organization and enrollment.

Members began meeting in various locations around the state every year to reminisce about their glory days as Texas Rangers. They moved to preserve the history and memory of a gallant body of men who had contributed much in the establishment of the most storied state in the republic.

As part of the Texas Centennial in 1936, Memorial Hall opened. Adjacent to the Witte Museum in San Antonio, it was intended to be a memorial to Pioneers, Old Trail Drivers and Texas Rangers.

By 1949 the association formed a non-profit corporation called The Texas Association of Ex-Rangers. In 1965, the charter was amended, returning to the original name, and, six years later the corporation was re-chartered as the Former Texas Rangers Association.

In 1973 the FTRA opened a Ranger museum downstairs at Memorial Hall.

### ***Mission of the Former Texas Rangers Association***

The FTRA exists to preserve the true history of the Texas Rangers, to maintain and operate a museum dedicated to the Texas Rangers, to establish landmarks related to Ranger history, to administer a scholarship program, and to bring Former Rangers, Rangers and Ranger families together for fellowship, support and mutual purpose.

Memberships in the association include Regular Members (former Texas Rangers and lineal descendants of Rangers), and Associate Members (active Texas Rangers and Special Rangers). Members receive a membership certificate, ID card, decal, and the newsletter, **Straight Talk**. Each May the FTRA holds its annual Membership Meeting and reunion at Memorial Hall in San Antonio.

### ***Former Texas Rangers Foundation***

The FTRF was organized to support and assist the fulfillment of the FTRA mission, and to expand membership opportunities. As members of the foundation, individuals and corporations who believe in the mission of the FTRA can now stand with us in our effort to preserve Ranger heritage. All contributions to the foundation, including membership fees, are tax deductible according to IRS regulations for 501(C)(3) organizations.

As a foundation member, you receive an official silver or gold badge designating your personal rank in this elite group and a 16" X 20" framed certificate confirming your commission in the Former Texas Rangers Foundation.

The FTRA and FTRF are both non-profit organizations run solely by former Texas Rangers and descendants of Texas Rangers.