Former Texas Wing Chief of Staff, Max W. Hays, 68, of Rosenberg, Texas passed away on March 27, 2013 in Richmond, Texas following a short illness.

Max Hays was born in Vernon, Texas to Lillie May and Weldon Edgar Hays of Crowell, Texas on September 29, 1944. In 1954 the family moved to Wichita Falls, Texas. Max was among the First Graduating Class of the S H Rider High School in Wichita Falls. He attended Midwestern State University. In 1968, he voluntarily joined the U S Army. He graduated from Engineer Officer Candidate School and was commissioned as a 2nd Lt in May, 1969. He served in Viet Nam in 1971 and earned a Bronze Star for his service. After leaving the service in 1974, Max and his family settled in the Houston area. He retired from the Harris County Tax Office in 2000.

Max was a very dedicated longtime member of the Texas Wing Civil Air Patrol; he would have celebrated his 24th anniversary as a member on April 3rd. In addition to his time as Chief of Staff to former Texas Wing Commanders Cols Frank Eldridge (2005-2007) and Joe Smith (2007-2011), he earned numerous Commander’s Commendations, several Meritorious Service Awards and an Exceptional Service Award. He also previously commanded Sugar Land Composite Squadron and was previously the Houston-area Group Commander. At the time of his death, Max was a Deputy Inspector General for Texas Wing and a Special Assistant to the current Chief of Staff.

Max Hays was preceded in death by his father, Weldon Edgar Hays, his mother, Lillie May Huskey Hays, and his brother, Larry Weldon Hays. He is survived by his lovely wife, Janette (Jan) Hays and his son, Michael Hays of Rosenberg, Texas, both also CAP Lt. Cols. and both Texas Wing Staff Members.

A Memorial Service for Lt Col Max Hays will be held on Tuesday, April 2, 2013 in the Chapel at Forest Park Westheimer, 12800 Westheimer (at Dairy Ashford Road), Houston, TX. 77077. (Map)

Visitation will be from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM, with the Memorial Service beginning at 2:00 PM. Members wishing to wear a uniform (not required) should wear Class A or Class B uniform; otherwise appropriate civilian attire.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you please make a donation in Memory of Lt Col Max W Hays to:

Texas Wing Building Fund
Texas Wing Headquarters
Civil Air Patrol
553 Terry Crawford Drive
Nacogdoches, TX. 75964-2468

or to your favorite Veterans’ Charity such as Wounded Warrior Fund or USO.