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Services Scheduled for Transit Security Officer Harold R. Wilson

- 18-year Metro veteran dies unexpectedly
- **UPDATE:** A viewing is scheduled for Monday, April 21, from 4 to 8 p.m. The memorial and interment will be held on Tuesday, April 22, at 10 a.m. Both services will be held at Draper Mortuary, 811 N. Mountain Ave, Ontario, Calif., 91762 Information: (909) 986-1131
- A Metro bus for Metro employees who wish to attend the funeral of Sr. Transit Security Officer Harold Wilson on Tuesday morning will leave from the bus turnaround at Gateway Plaza at 9 a.m. Information: Lt. James Cook 922-3631 or Security Control Room 922-7600.

By NED RACINE, Editor

(April 21, 2008) Services will be held on April 21 and 22 for Harold R. Wilson, senior transit security officer, an 18-year Metro employee and Marine veteran. Wilson was 62.

Wilson joined Metro in April 1990 after working 18 years in the banking industry as an industrial engineer conducting work improvement and efficiency studies. His last work day was Saturday, April 12.



Harold Wilson

Rick Nelson, a close friend of Wilson, and Nelson's partner, Henry Solis, both senior security officers, visited Wilson's Montclair home early Sunday morning when he failed to report to work. Nelson and Solis found Wilson lying on his kitchen floor.

"Harold was the epitome of professionalism and a real role model for Metro transit security officers," said Dan Cowden, director of security. "He'll really be missed by management in the department. He was just a rock solid guy."

Nelson, who had known Wilson for 17 years, recalled that Wilson's home was full of books. "He read everything," Nelson added, noting the wide range of Wilson's interests.

Wilson was a graduate of Montclair High School, Mount San Antonio College and the Rio Hondo College Police Reserve Academy. A decorated combat veteran, Wilson joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1963.

Nelson said he will most remember Wilson's dry sense of humor. "But even though it was dry, it was very funny." Nelson also described Wilson as a great friend. "A lot of people confided in him."

According to Nelson, Wilson was devoted to his dog Ty, and was an avid gun collector. In fact, Wilson served as range master for the Metro Transit

Security officers, servicing and repairing handguns, as well as serving as a firing range safety officer and firearms instructor.

When Wilson came to Metro, he became a member of the newly formed Revenue Protection Team. "His training, experience and natural leadership ability quickly singled him out, and he went on to become one of the key architects of today's Revenue Protection section and Red Line Sweep Team," Cowden said.

Nelson recalled that Wilson was one of the first supervisors conducting Red Line security sweeps—designed to check that no one is left in the system after service hours—and took a great deal of pride in that.

Wilson is survived by his brother William, a resident of Hesperia.

Funeral arrangements are pending.