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OBITUARIES

Gateway Cities Governance Council Member Larry R. Nelson Sr.

- A vigil is scheduled for tonight, May 5, from 5 to 8 p.m., at [Forest Lawn - Cypress](#), 4471 Lincoln Ave., in Cypress.
- Services begin Thursday, May 6, at Holy Family Church in Artesia, starting at 10 a.m. Holy Family Church is located at 18708 Clarkdale Avenue. A funeral procession will leave Holy Family Church to his grave at Artesia Cemetery. A reception will be held at 1 p.m. at the Albert O'Little Community Center, 18750 Clarkdale Ave, in Artesia.

(May 5, 2009) Gateway Cities Governance Council Member Larry R. Nelson passed away May 1 after fighting a battle with cancer.

Mr. Nelson served on Artesia's City Council since March 1999, and was elected mayor twice. An active civic leader, Mr. Nelson was an original member of the Gateway Cities Governance Council that formed in 2003 and served as its chairman and vice-chairman.

"He was a dedicated Governance Council Member who focused on the needs of Metro customers," said Alex Clifford, High-Speed Rail Executive Officer and former Gateway Cities General Manager. "He was not shy about riding the buses in the late night and early morning hours with Gateway Cities Service Sector staff.

"During his tenure, Mr. Nelson made a great contribution towards improving bus service in the southeast parts of Los Angeles County. Mr. Nelson took great pride in personally observing the service and speaking with customers before voting for service changes over the years," said Clifford.

Mr. Nelson was born in Superior, Wisconsin, in 1948. He joined the Navy Seabees in 1967. After completing his tour of duty he married his wife, Pat, and moved to California in 1972. They settled in Artesia in 1977. Larry had a passion for draft horses that prompted him to start his own business called Larry's Ponies/Memory Makers Carriage Co. He specialized in horse drawn carriages.

He is survived by wife Pat, their son Chip (Larry Jr.), daughter-in-law Dawn and grandchildren Austin Gray, Dakota Nelson and Trace (Larry Nelson III). He is also survived by his brother David.



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