

**MARY GAYLE HILL  
BOWDEN**

Mrs. Mary Gayle Hill Bowden, age 45, passed away Friday, December 2, 2005 at the Medical Center Hospital in Odessa. Mrs. Bowden was born January 15, 1960 to Guy E. Jr., and Betty Hill in Houston. Mrs. Bowden was raised in Kerrville and received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Texas A&M University in May 1982, in English with a minor in journalism. In September 1981, she received a minor in Spanish from Santiago de Compestelia in Spain.

Mrs. Bowden was a member of the Radio and Television News Director Association Foundation/Rias Berlin Commission Management Development program and consulted with three International Networks in 1997. Mrs. Bowden was a motivational speaker at the Radio and Television News Director Association National Conferences from 1995 to the present. Mrs. Bowden was a founding member from 1994 to the present of the Minorities in Broadcasting (RTNDF) and involved with Leadership Texas as a media/community and state leader trained as a total quality manager from 1993 to present.

Mrs. Bowden received the following awards and accommodations: the N.E.A.-Award for the Advancement of Learning Through Broadcasting, the National Academy of Television Journalist Golden Viddy Award for Best Spot News, Anchors, Sports, Photography, Business and Children's Programming (including Kidzone) (10), School Bell Awards (seven) from the Texas State Teachers Association, the State Bar of Texas Gavel Awards (three), the Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities, Barbara Jordan Award (two), from Texas A.P. (more than 45 awards in all categories), Volunteer of

the Year for Texas War on Drugs, and the Permian Basin Women of Distinction media volunteer / community Specialist of the Year and received the Community Statesmen Award for Media in 1999.

Mrs. Bowden received the following special appreciation awards from the Permian Basin Businessmen's Association, Meals on Wheels (for elderly nutrition), Make a Wish Foundation, Special Olympics, Prevent Blindness, Midland Hispanic Chamber, Odessa Hispanic Chamber (M.A.N.O.) and the Midland Black Chamber of Entrepreneurs.

Mrs. Bowden received the following awards and special recognition for community service from Business Development Speaker Texas Tech and University of Texas of the Permian Basin, Junior League Odessa Community Advisory Board, the Texas Alliance for Education and the Arts, Trustee Museum of the Southwest, Las Manos Community Advisory Board (Hispanic Education), Leadership Texas Alumni, and from the Media Advisor to numerous non-profit organizations.

Mrs. Bowden was the executive director of News and Corporate Development for Drewry Group for KWES-TV, in Midland-Odessa from 1999 to 2002. Mrs. Bowden was the News Director for KWES-TV from 1991 to 1999.

Mrs. Bowden along with her friend and co-worker, John Foster, and the rest of the News West 9 team, was most proud of, taking KWES-TV from 3<sup>rd</sup> place to 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Odessa-Midland market.

From 1986 to 1991, she worked as an assignment editor, anchor and senior reporter for KMID-TV in Midland-Odessa. Mrs. Bowden was an anchor, reporter, photographer, and producer for KOSA-TV in Midland-Odessa from 1982-1986, and for KAMU-TV in Bryan-College Station from 1978 to 1982.

Mrs. Bowden married Bill Bowden in the Cayman Islands on January 19, 1989. Mrs. Bowden was involved with the Presidential Museum and Ellen Noel Museum, and also been involved with the UTPB Media Curriculum Board and has received 50+ letters of accommodation from numerous civic groups and officials such as President Clinton, Governor George W. Bush, and former President George Bush. Survivors include her husband Bill Bowden, of Odessa, parents Guy E. Jr. and Betty

., of Houston; sister Susan ay Hill Welch and husband Jeffery, Ash-ey, and Taylor Welch, all of Cypress.

Preceded in death by her grandparents Guy Sr., and Stella Hill and Dick W. and Mary L. Taylor.

Graveside services for Mrs. Mary Gayle Hill Bowden were held Tuesday, December 6, at 1:00 p.m. at New Energy Cemetery in Belott.

Memorial services will be held Friday, December 9, at 2:00 p.m. at Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home Chapel in Odessa with the Rev. Jimmy Braswell officiating.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Presidential Museum in Odessa, or to the National Kidney Foundation of West Texas in Midland.

**Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home**