

Chandler *from page 1*

for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice; District Attorney Joe Price; and Dr. Wayne Colwell.

Performing two songs during the service was Stubbs.

In his remarks, Price recalled Chandler's many years of service to the community. The district attorney said throughout his life, Chandler had three great passions -- his family, the Trinity Tiger football team and politics.

Price noted that Chandler was deeply concerned with those in need and became the unofficial employment agency for the community.

"If someone needed work, he would get on the telephone and twist arms until he found them a job," Price said.

Price noted that as mayor, it was Chandler who pulled Trinity "out of the dark ages," by obtaining millions of dollars of federal grants to expand the city's water and sewer systems into the poorest neighborhoods.

"Before he was elected mayor, the only paved roads in Trinity were the state highways and a few of the adjoining streets," Price said.

Colwell, a former Trinity physi-

cian and longtime friend, also recalled Chandler's passion for politics and noted he was a master of political strategy.

"He may not have lived for a 100 years, but he gave 100 years of service to Trinity," Colwell said.

Chandler was born Aug. 3, 1942, in Trinity, the son of the late Oscar and Dorothy Chandler. He was a 1960 graduate of Trinity High School and attended Sam Houston State University in Huntsville for a year.

He was the former owner/operator Chandler's Liquor Store located north of Trinity on Highway 19.

During his political career, Chandler was first elected to the Trinity city council in April 1969 and was named as the mayor on Feb. 10, 1972 when former Mayor Dr. Bob Jones moved from the city.

Chandler went on to win election to four two-year terms as the city's mayor, leaving office in April 1980 to make an unsuccessful run for the office of Trinity County judge.

It was during his tenure as mayor that the current city hall, police and fire station complex was built at the corner of Madison and Elm streets.

He also served on the Trinity Independent School District's board of trustees from 1981-1984 and was one of the local leaders who helped establish the Trinity Memorial Hospital District.

During his years as justice of the

peace, he helped create and worked diligently each year on Trinity's annual Christmas for the Elderly, Needy and Children program. This past December, the program provided over 900 meals and \$4,800 in toys to area residents.

Chandler also was a co-founder of the annual Trinity Crawfish Boil, which last year raised enough money to fund \$1,000 university scholarships to 10 graduating Trinity High School seniors.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two daughters, Gayle and Melissa Chandler.

Survivors include two daughters and sons-in-law, Kelly and Dennis Goodson of Lovelady and Kristina and Keith Phillips of Huntsville; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Lamar and Sue Chandler of Brenham and David and Bonita Chandler of Baytown; a sister and brother-in-law, Margaret (Tibby) and L.R. Gruss of Houston; four grandchildren, Justin Upshaw, Cody Upshaw, Chandler Phillips and Dawson Phillips; special friends, Michael Morgan and his son, Mason, both of Trinity; and a number of nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were Kelly Wilkison, Trinity County Sheriff Brent Phillips, Sgt. Steve Goodrow, Bubba Birch, Chief Deputy Sheriff Richard Steptoe, Police Chief Lynn Gentry, Robert Stephens and Mike Veal.

Waller-Thornton Funeral Home of Trinity directed the arrangements.

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