

Steve Pierson has served as Harris County sheriff, Mayor Pro Tem, president of the board for Katy YMCA, and even McGruff the Crime Dog

Photo by Country Park Portraits



A LIFETIME OF SERVICE

Katyite Steve Pierson takes pride in serving the community and finds reward in his years of volunteerism

Written by Gail Collins

Whether he was taking a bite out of crime as mascot McGruff, ceremonially cutting a ribbon, aiding the Red Cross, volunteering with a community choir, selling programs for the Booster Club, hosting a cable television program, chairing the YMCA, sitting on the City Council, or walking a little dog named Scoobie, Steve Pierson has dedicated his life to serving the Katy community. Over the last three decades, he has been deeply invested in bettering local life in every possible, active way. “My service in the

community has been very rewarding, and I look forward to continuing,” he says.

Sheriff Duty

Pierson became a sheriff for Harris County in 1977, the third-largest department in the U.S., ensuring the safety of over four million residents. He believes in developing his role and gained certifications as master peace officer, master jail proficient, and police instructor.



Pierson with Mayor Hughes and other officials at Cane Island's Party Under the Arches

Photo by Senior Pro Imaging

Appointed as the sole crime prevention practitioner for the entire county, he worked closely with the Katy Police Department. Still, Pierson likely had his biggest outreach to youngsters in his instrumental role bringing McGruff the Crime Dog to the area. He also hosted a crime prevention cable television program that aired for over three years.

City Council Positions

Pierson moved to the City of Katy in 1998 and became more involved outside of the Sheriff's Department, from which he retired as a sergeant in 2005. He ran for City Council and represented Ward B for six years, exhausting the term limit. He was then appointed to serve on the Board of Adjustment, Katy Development Authority, and Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone. He also represents the City of Katy on the Board of Governors with the Economic Development Council.

After serving in several capacities, including Mayor Pro Tem from 2007 to 2008, Pierson is a City of Katy council member. He has a passion for Katy. "When you can make an impact in the community, and you know that what you are doing is making a difference in peoples' lives, it is a blessing for both."

Pierson is a longtime resident and has watched the area blossom. "While on patrol in the West District, I remember when Fry and Mason Roads were dead ends and actually part of Cinco Ranch." He cites Katy ISD as a fine example of the quality, controlled growth to which Mayor Fabol Hughes and the City Council aspire.

Currently, Pierson is board chair of the Katy Family YMCA and sincerely engaged. He headed the annual campaign as well as ran in the last Turkey Dash - their biggest money-raising event. Members credit his dynamic leadership for its financial success. Pierson is also a member of the Capital Campaign and Board Development.

Supporting People

During his 38 years of public service, Pierson is most honored to have led as disaster action team captain for the Red Cross and the Special Olympics Torch Run. Supporting people is both his privilege and responsibility. Pierson's faith is also long-standing, previously serving as a deacon at First Baptist Church of Katy, and the joy has returned to him. "I married Cynthia, a wonderful, godly lady last year, and I have been highly blessed," he says. The couple volunteers at Kingsland Baptist Church and with the community choir as part of Bob Bryant's Katy Jazz Band, honoring the U.S. and the nation's military.

They attend Christian concerts and birdwatch in quiet moments. They love Katy for its positive growth, especially the master-planned community of Cane Island, which brings diversity. Pierson is devoted and says, "I am blessed to serve the citizens of Katy, and my service is in honor of God." KM

GAIL G. COLLINS writes internationally for magazines and has co-edited two books on expatriate life, creating charity revenue streams.



Pierson and his wife Cynthia are volunteers at Kingsland Baptist Church

Photo by Renaldo Medina

Steve's Awards & Recognitions

- Deputy of the Week
- Texas Crime Prevention Officer of the Year
- Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Lifetime Committee Member
- Houston 100 Club Officer of Year
- Honor Guard Member of the Year
- Lifetime Member of the Houston 100 Club