## Mr. Harry Mason

Harry Mason's fire service career started on August 15, 1960, when he joined the Hopkinsville Fire Department after serving our country for 2 years in the army. Harry immediately began climbing the ranks with promotions to engineer, lieutenant and captain. After serving in as Captain for 14 years, Harry was promoted to Assistant Chief on March 3, 1980. Through the next 24 years, he served in supervisory roles. Currently holding the rank of



Deputy Chief, Harry also served a time as acting fire chief.

While Chief Mason was a firm believer in training, he attended various schools throughout the state and country including the National Fire Academy. In state, Harry attended 39 consecutive state fire schools and every Green River Officers School since its beginning. Harry was also a frequent attendee at State Fire Commission meetings.

Harry's fire service participation was not limited to his department and training issues. He believed in the rights of every firefighter in the state, regardless of paid status or volunteer. He saw the need for regional and state association involvement to assist departments and its members and Harry became Hopkinsville's main advocate in this mission.

He served his local fire department union as President for 15 years and he became extremely active in the KFA. Harry attended every state conference since 1973 until last year and served as a delegate for 20 years. He was appointed to various KFA committee's over the years including Advisory, Constitution and By-Laws, Membership, and Firefighter Memorial. Harry still serves in the Directors position to the KFA, one he's held for 20 years.

Harry helped organize the Western Kentucky Firefighters Association in 1963 as well as the Christian County Rescue Squad and the Pennyrile Firefighters Association. Harry was actively involved in assisting James Moore in hosting two state KFA conference's in Hopkinsville in 1973 and 1983.

Some of us know Chief Mason as "Harry from Hopkinsville" but all of us know Harry as our friend. Harry will be retiring next month from active duty but we know that he will continue to assist us in our mission of assisting each and every firefighter and department throughout the state and this is what Harry Mason take's the most pride in, helping others.

Tonight, it is our pleasure to honor and induct Deputy Chief Harry Mason of the Hopkinsville Fire Department into the Kentucky Firefighters Association Hall of Fame. We want to especially recognize Harry's daughter and grand and great grandchildren who are present tonight.

Presenting this award is current KFA President Bill Robbin.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Mr. Harry Mason