Police Veteran Passes Away

S. H. Veater Was Member Of Department Here 25 Years Ago.

Funeral services for S. H. Veater, who acquired the reputation of bearing a charmed life a quarter century ago when he patrolled South El Paso as a mounted policeman, will be held at Peak-Hagedon Chapel at 2 p. m. Monday with Bishop A. L. Pearce officiating.

Mr. Veater died at Hot Springs, N. M. Friday after a heart attack. He was 62.

He was born in Utah, but was taken to Mexico in his childhood and lived in the Mormon colony in Chihuahua. When revolutionary troubles forced Mormons out of Mexico in 1912 Mr. Veater came to El Paso with his family. He joined the police force in September, 1913, and took up the duties of a mounted patrolman in the section of South El Paso that was known as "Little Chihuahua" in those days.

Had Charmed Life.

It was a tough sector and Mr. Veater had frequent occasions that demanded use of the two six-shooters that swung at his belt and the rifle attached to his saddle. One New Year's eve a gang of his enemies set out to "get" the officer. They surrounded the small police sub-station at Seventh and Stanton Streets which Mr. Veater used as his headquarters and fired more than 50 shots into it. Their quarry was concealed outside, however, and instead of losing his own life he killed two of the gangsters.

On another occasion a heavy watch chain saved his life. He was fired at from ambush, but the bullet struck the chain and lodged between two links, inflicting only a severe bruise. He wore the chain regularly for the remainer of his life.

Became Builder.

Mr. Veater was appointed a captain of police in September, 1917, and served as chief for a white. He resigned from the Police Department in May, 1919, and entered the contracting risiness. Several years ago he moved to New Mexico and founded the town of Arrey. He owned a store and a farm there, but also, maintained a home at 2616 San Diego Street in El Paso.

Survivors are the widow, Mrs. Alameda Veater; three sons, J. V. and Glenn Veater of Conchas Dam, N. M., and Carl Veater of Silver City. N. M.; a brother, James Veater, in Montana and two sisters at Panguitch, Utah. The body will be sent to Circleville, Utah, for burial.