In Memoriam

Richard H. "Rich" Davies
Resident of Scotts Valley
1947 - 2012

Rich Davies passed away in his Scotts Valley home of 33 years, surrounded by his beloved pets, on March 26, 2012. Rich was born on August 14, 1947 in Orange, New Jersey, to Harold and Elizabeth Davies.

Rich graduated from Northrop Institute of Technology in 1968 with a Bachelors Degree, and the California Institute of Technology with a Masters Degree in 1972. He was an aeronautical engineer and real-life rocket scientist. He also owned and operated a small pet shop called Critters in Soquel, CA with his wife Patricia for several years in the 1980's, and always kept many pets at home.

Rich achieved a notable record of volunteerism in the public interest. In 1999, he founded the Western Disaster Center (WDC), a nonprofit, applied research center which centered on saving lives and reducing economic loss from all types of disasters. Through his work at WDC, he interacted with the FBI, SF Bay InfraGard, FBI Citizens Academy, HAZUS, the Earthquake Clearing House, 1st Special Response Group (1SRA), and countless other disaster-relief groups. In 2000, he was invited to attend the introductory meeting of the InfraGard program, held at Chevron in San Ramon, CA. This meeting was organized by San Francisco FBI and FBI HQ and was part of the national roll-out of the InfraGard program. At this event, Rich submitted his InfraGard application and volunteered to sit on the Organizing Committee for what was to become the SF Bay InfraGard chapter. He was InfraGard Member #109.

In August 2000, WDC, on behalf of the SF Bay InfraGard chapter, established the web site (sfbay-infragard.org) and email list serve for the chapter. Rich has been the web master and managed communications for the chapter from its inception and maintained the website at no cost to the chapter. Prior to chapter incorporation, Rich was elected to the Executive Committee and following incorporation, Rich was repeatedly elected to the Board of Directors. During this period, Rich served as the chapter's Membership Coordinator and also as the chapter's meeting coordinator for several years. He was instrumental in establishing a tradition of quarterly InfraGard meetings that have touched thousands and continued for more than a decade.

In 2002, working with the Chapter's FBI coordinator, he reached out to the White House / Cyber Czar Richard Clarke's office to offer the chapter's resources to assist the White House in the Roll Out of the first National Cyber Strategy. This event has held at Stanford University in September 2002. Rich and
the FBI chapter coordinator worked closely with the White House and Richard Clark's office leading up to this event. During the event, members of the SF Bay InfraGard chapter provided logistical support to the Roll-Out and related breakout sessions. Rich also arranged for Mr. Clark to brief a special meeting of the SF Bay InfraGard chapter.

Rich was a consistent, vocal, and valued contributor on the SF Bay InfraGard Board of Directors. Recently, he had been working closely with the regional DHS Fusion Center and the Northern California Regional Intelligence Center (NCRIC) to leverage and develop areas of mutual cooperation and interest between the SF Bay InfraGard chapter and the NCRIC. On behalf of the SF Bay InfraGard chapter, Rich developed a successful proposal for a SF Bay InfraGard chapter's project under the 2010 DHS Grant Program and then led the initiative.

He is survived by his sister-in-law Tracy Davies of Upland, California, nephews Ryan and Scott Davies of South Carolina, and his ex-wife and lifelong friend Patricia Davies of Felton.

A private Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Memorial donations may be made in Rich's name to:
Santa Cruz Animal Shelter, 2200 7th Ave., Santa Cruz 95062.