

# Adrian Lee Harding Jr. Obituary

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice is grieving the loss of an employee that is related to the COVID-19 virus.

67-year-old Adrian Harding, Equipment Operator I at the Wynne Freight Terminal in Huntsville, tested positive for COVID-19 on December 23, 2021, and was admitted to St. Luke's Methodist Hospital in Houston. His condition deteriorated while hospitalized and he died on Monday, January 10, 2022.

Mr. Harding began working for the agency in March 2020.

"TDCJ continues to grieve over the loss of so many employees from this deadly virus," said Executive Director Bryan Collier. "Although Mr. Harding had only worked for the department for less than 2 years, he was a valuable asset to the agency and we extend our deepest condolences to his family, friends, and co-workers."

Wynne Freight Terminal Manager Michelle Mesecke said, "Mr. Harding grew up in the trucking industry at his father's side when he was barely old enough to see over the steering wheel. He made it his career for over 50 years." She added that "he loved telling truck driving stories from his past experiences and was always willing to share his knowledge with the other drivers. He was a hard-working and extremely dependable person. He enjoyed life and always seemed to find laughter in every day. He will truly be missed by all of us."

He was predeceased by : his parents, Beatrice Harding and Alan Harding. He is survived by : his wife Patricia Hanak Harding; and his brothers, Carl Harding (Rhonda) and Don Harding (Darby). He is also survived by 14 grand children and 8 great grand children.