

Former CCPD K9 officer Ares passes

July 25, 2020



Crescent City Police Chief Richard Griffin announced July 22 the passing of retired K9 officer Ares.

“K9 Ares served this community well for several years and was able to enjoy retirement as much as he could, but in the end there were too many medical issues with Ares that ultimately brought us to today,” Griffin wrote on Facebook.

Ares was officer Gene Votruba’s first K9 partner on the Crescent City police force. But after a few years together, Ares had to retire due to health issues.

Ares remained with Votruba and his wife Teresa. When Votruba and his last K9 partner Django both retired together in January, they all moved to Coeur d’Alene, Idaho.

“K9 Ares became so much more than just my partner on the job. He was my best friend,” Votruba wrote on the CCPD Facebook page. “The loss of K9 Ares today is so hard to take in. The bond between a handler and a K9 is unlike any other. K9 Ares served the City of Crescent City well. This is not only a loss to my family and I, but a loss to all those that K9 Ares came in contact with in the community. K9 Django is doing great in

retirement. I'm sure he will miss seeing K9 Ares around the house. Thank you for all of the love and support."

Votruba and Ares received an outpouring of support, with more than 80 comments from friends and colleagues.

"My thoughts are with the Votruba family today and the future as they deal with this loss," Griffin added. "I know how heavy this weighs on them as they treated Ares as one of their own family members."

Griffin said he is working on a proper memorial and recognition for K9 Ares to showcase his service to the community.

"Rest in peace Ares, your service to the community, and dedication to this department and your handler will not be forgotten."