Atchison Police Say Goodbye To Beloved K9

(KAIR)--Members of the Atchison Police Department are in mourning after losing the canine member of their K-9 team to a terminal medical condition Wednesday.

Atchison Police Chief Mike Wilson says that Bear came to the department in January 2008 after completing six weeks of training in Lawrence, followed by another six weeks of training with his partner, Corporal John Ross. Since that time, he served in three areas of specialized training; patrol, narcotics detection, and tracking.

Bear had more than a few accomplishments during his time with the APD, with Wilson saying that he played a part in many big cases. Such as assisting in the biggest methamphetamine and high grade marijuana seizure in department history and helping to track down and apprehend a dangerous felon from Kansas City.

Bear was also unique among police dogs in that he was very gentle and patient with school kids. He would sit and let them pet him on the belly not long after assisting in the apprehension of a dangerous suspect.

Bear was surrounded by members of the department in his final moments. A private memorial service is planned for next week.

Many Signals Communications