

Jack Weaver, 1928-2009

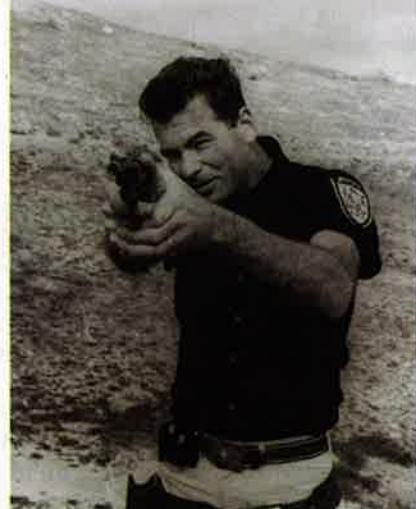
Former Los Angeles County Deputy Sheriff Jack Weaver of "Weaver Stance" fame, died on April 7 in Carson City, Nev. John "Jack" Harold Weaver was born on Nov. 1, 1928, in South Gate, Calif. His lifelong love affair with firearms began at an early age and encompassed a variety of makes and models. Weaver quickly developed a particular fondness for the revolver due to the intricacies of its mechanism.

Weaver attended Glendale Community College, but his studies were cut short in 1950 when he was drafted into the U.S. Army and stationed at Fort Carson, Colo.

Weaver began shooting in competitions in the mid-1950s in the Big Bear (Calif.) annual Leatherslap quick-draw matches. At the time, the vast majority of participants used traditional one-handed

shooting stances, such as hip and point shooting, using either single-action revolvers or semi-automatic pistols. Weaver dared to be different by competing with a S&W K-38 revolver, which he shot strictly double-action. He developed his own shooting stance—now known as the Weaver Stance—that incorporated the use of both hands to grip the revolver, the application of isometric tension to dampen recoil and the slight lowering of one's head to allow for a flash-sight picture.

Weaver's effort paid off when he took home the Leatherslap trophy in 1959. As a result, other shooters took notice of his shooting style. Weaver achieved consecutive victories in the years that followed, prompting gunwriter and fellow Leatherslap competitor Col. Jeff Cooper to declare the Weaver



Stance "decisively superior" to any other shooting method. Further credence came in 1982 when Weaver received a letter from the assistant director of the FBI informing him the bureau had accepted the Weaver Stance as its official shooting style.

Weaver is survived by his spouse of 56 years, Joy; sons Alan, Mark and Gary; and five grandchildren. Cards and notes of remembrance can be sent to Joy Weaver, 920 Ruby Court, Carson City, NV 89705.

—BOB BOYD, ASSISTANT EDITOR,
SHOOTING ILLUSTRATED

PRODUCT PREVIEWS

Editor's Choice

SKD BALS Shooting Support

Precision rifle shooting from a bench or the prone position is steadiest with three points of support under the gun. Best of all is a rear support that is finely adjustable, allowing for precise and instantaneous changes in the rifle's position. The patent pending SKD MK-2 bag is just such a support. Manufactured domestically by Eagle Industries of 1000 Denier DuPont Cordura, the BALS MK-2 support section is filled with lightweight, waterproof poly-fill beads. After installing it on the buttstock with Velcro straps, one can simply unhook an elastic cord to swing the bag down from its stowed position to its deployed position, either horizontally or vertically, under the stock's centerline. The shooter simply squeezes the bag to effect minute adjustments to the rifle's elevation angle. Contact: SKD Tactical, LLC (Dept. AR), P.O. Box 25, Pacific, MO 63069-0002; www.skdtac.com.

—BRIAN C. SHEETZ, SENIOR EXECUTIVE EDITOR

