Craig literally wrote the book for police

Former Peel Regional Police Detective Sergeant James Craig, who helped his force win a prestigious international police award last year, died suddenly Friday.

Craig, 55, was taken to Credit Valley Hospital after having trouble breathing in the middle of the night.

Peel Police said Craig had an exemplary career as a police officer in 31 years of service as a criminal investigator.

Before retiring just last March, he was the sexual assault and child abuse offences co-ordinator for the force. He designed the sexual assault course for investigators which is used throughout the province.

In 1995, his efforts helped the Peel force win the coveted Webber Seavey award.

During his career, Craig was a frequent speaker to community groups on fraud, forgery, counterfeit money, personal safety and child abuse prevention.

Craig is survived by his wife Roberta, children Teri, Darren and Jackie and step-children Jennifer and Michael.

Visitation will take place Saturday from 7-9 p.m. and Sunday from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. at the Turner and Porter Funeral Home, 2180 Hurontario St.

Funeral services will be held Monday at 11 a.m. at the Mississauga Gospel Temple.

The family encourages donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.