UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): April 18, 2006

Kirby Corporation

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Nevada

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

1-7615 (Commission File Number) **74-1884980** (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

55 Waugh Drive, Suite 1000 Houston, Texas

(Address of principal executive offices)

77007 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (713) 435-1000

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 5.02 Departure of Director or Principal Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Principal Officers.

Mr. Robert G. Stone, Jr., a director and Chairman Emeritus of Kirby Corporation ("Kirby"), passed away on Tuesday, April 18, 2006. Mr. Stone served on Kirby's Compensation Committee and Governance Committee.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

KIRBY CORPORATION (Registrant)

By: /s/ G. STEPHEN HOLCOMB

G. Stephen Holcomb

Vice President, Investor Relations

Dated: April 21, 2006