UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 FORM 5 ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP () Check box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instructions 1(b). () Form 3 Holdings Reported) Form 4 Transactions Reported 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person Sheets, Thomas R. 5241 Spring Mountain Road Las Vegas, NV 89102 USA 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Southwest Gas Corporation SWX 3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary) 4. Statement for Month/Year December 1997

5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)

6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) () Director () 10% Owner (X) Officer (give title below) () Other (specify below)

Vice President/General Counsel
7. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (Check Applicable Line)
(X) Form filed by One Reporting Person

() Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I -- Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security	2. Trans Date	3. sactio Coo	on İ	Securities Acq or Disposed of					nt of rities ficially	6.Di ect (D)o	r 7.Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownershi r	
		l	Ì	Amount		A/ D	Price		d at of Year	Indi ect(1	
Common Stock	I	Ι	I		Ι	Ι		2,354	(3)	D	I	
Common Stock								2,230	(4)	I	401(k) Plan	

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Table II -- Derivative Securitites Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

2.Con	3.	4.	5.Number o	f De	6.Dat	e Exer	7.Title	and /	Amount	8.Price	9.Number	10.	11.Nature of
version	Trans	actio	on rivative	Secu	cisab	le and	of Un	derly	ing	of Deri	of Deriva	Dir	Indirect
or Exer	Date	Code	e rities Ac	qui	Expir	ation	Secur	ities		vative	tive	ect	Beneficial
cise Pr	1	1	red(A) or	Dis	Date(Month/				Secu	Securities	(D)	Ownership
ice of	1	1	posed of(D)		,				rity	Benefi	or	
Deriva												Ind	
tive				A/	/ Exer-	ation						ire	
Secu				D		Date	of S	hares			End of		
rity			Amount		ble						Year	(I)	
		() .			1(4)	17/44/		0.4.4.4	140.000				1
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\$15 		/ A 	10,000 	A 	(1) 		Common 	Stock	10,000 	 	 	 	
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Explanation of Responses: (1) The option vests in three annual installments of 4,000 shares in 1997, 3,000 shares in 1998, and 3,000 shares in 1999, beginning on July 15, 1997. (2) The option vests in three annual installments of 1,000 shares in 1998, 750 shares in 1999, and 750 shares in 2000, beginning on July 15, 1998. (3) Includes 75 shares acquired June through December 1997 pursuant to the dividend reinvestment feature of SWX restricted stock plan (4) Includes 68 shares acquired June through December 1997 pursuant to the dividend reinvestment feature of the SWX 401(k) plan. SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON /s/Thomas R. Sheets by Faye J. Ringler, Attorney in fact DATE 1/30/98