

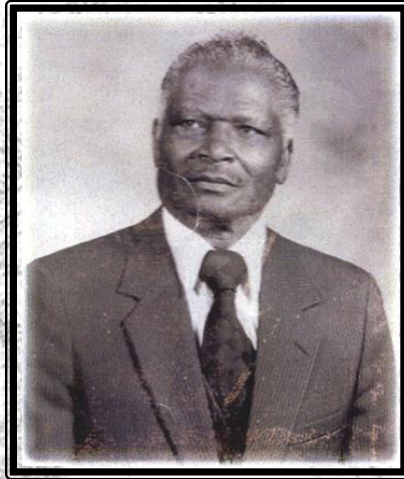


IN MEMORIAM



Columbus Lewis

July 4, 1913 - February 2, 2009



Lion Columbus Lewis was born July 4, 1913 to Josh and Beulah (Wooten) Lewis in Idabel, OK. Columbus was raised and educated there. A search for work brought him to New Mexico in 1940, and he made Carlsbad his home for life. Like many young men, when his country called in 1941, Columbus was inducted in the US Army. This took him to many parts of the world, but he was mainly in the South Pacific. After his discharge in August 1945, Lion Columbus received a higher calling, and he began his life in Gospel Ministry. This calling lasted 61 years. In 2006, at the time of his retirement from the ministry, he was at the Pentecostal Temple in Hobbs. He also served as Superintendent of the East District in NM of the COGIC as well as the Secretary of the State of NM COGIC.

In the early 1950's, Lion Columbus was taken with a beautiful lady named Clementine White, and he made her his bride on January 21, 1951. He was employed by Eddy County in the custodial department at the Eddy County Courthouse for 10 years, and was a member of the Martin Luther King Jr. Foundation, the Carlsbad Downtown Lions Club (over 25 years), American Legion, and VFW.

Lion Columbus is preceded in death by his parents, three brothers and one sister. He is survived by his wife Clementine of the family home, daughters Celestine Lewis Perry of Ft. Worth, TX, Beatrice Lewis Kelly of Cincinnati, OH, and sons Larry White of Lovington and Rodney Lewis of Norwich, Connecticut, a brother Butler Cole of Carlsbad, 12 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren, 1 great-great grandchild and a host of extended family members.