



IN MEMORIAM



Solomon "Sol" Starks

December 11, 2007 – July 12, 2007



Solomon "Mike" Starks Jr., went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, July 12, 2007 in Dumfries, Virginia. "Sol" was born December 11, 1936 in Clarksdale, Mississippi to the union of Solomon Starks Sr. and Lucille Brown. He later grew up in St. Louis, Missouri. He married O'Letha Maria Roberts on December 22, 1966.

"Sol" enlisted the United States Air Force in 1954 and served in Arizona, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, Greece, Illinois and New Mexico. He retired as a MSgt in 1980 having served 26 years. During his military career he was awarded the NCO Professional Military Education Ribbon, the Good Conduct Medal Army with one Oak Leaf Cluster, AF Longevity Service Award with five Oak Leaf Clusters, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, AF Outstanding Unit Award with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Republic Camp Medal, AF Good Conduct Medal with five Oak Leaf Clusters, Bronze Star Medal, and the AF Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters.

He began his second career with Federal Civil Service in 1984 as a Management Program Analysts with Holloman AFB, NM. In April 2006 he was promoted to EEO Action Officer and was based at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. As an EEO Professional "Sol" personally helped train more than 500 EEO Counselors, 250 Air Force Mediators, and 140,000 Airman throughout his career. He was handpicked by the senior leadership of the Air Force to help lead the change management efforts needed to implement a nationally recognized and award winning ADR Program. As a direct result of his efforts, the Air Force won two national awards for excellence and is widely regarded as having the best ADF program in the Federal Government. "Sol" was also the lead participant in the biggest transformation of the Equal Employment Opportunity and Military Equal Opportunity Programs in the history of the Air Force. He once was again able to enjoy traveling in this career, returning to Japan, and also to the Azores, Alabama, Florida, California, and Ohio.

"Sol" was a graduate of the Community College of the Air Force, AAS; New Mexico State University, AA; earned his BA in Business Administration and Management from Park College, and his Masters from Golden State University.

He was past President of the Alamogordo Breakfast Lions Club, Charter member of the NAACP, served on the Board of Directors of Otero Federal Credit Union and Otero County ARC. In addition, he was a member of Kiwanis, Toastmasters, and the Masonic Lodge Prince Hall #11.