



Clarence Leon Harris, Sr.

September 24, 1928 - October 29, 2016

CLARENCE L. HARRIS, SR. Clarence L. Harris, Sr. passed into the arms of the Lord on October 28th, 2016. He was born on September 24th, 1928 in Swenson, Texas to Robert and Mary Harris. Clarence lived in Clark County for 74 years, making his family one of the first African-American families to settle in the county. He graduated 3rd in his class from Ogden Meadows High School in 1948. He continued his education at Clark College where he excelled in his studies, football and track. After graduating from Clark in 1950, he worked for the Swift Company and D. and H. Hides until his retirement in 1984. Clarence realized his love for the Lord at the early age of 4 years old. Every step of his life was directed through prayer and he became a strong and steadfast soldier for God. He was a founding member of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church. Throughout his years at New Hope, he was chairman of the Deacon Board, a senior choir member, treasurer of the finance committee, a Sunday School teacher, a Christian Growth Class teacher and treasurer of the State Brotherhood. Clarence was blessed with the gift of teaching the Bible, especially the book of Revelations. It is estimated that he taught over 1000 eager learners. He was president of Babe Ruth Little League from 1965-1969. Clarence and his wife Thelma traveled throughout the country for church conventions, family reunions, and made numerous visits to Lincoln City and Seaside. Clarence is survived by his wife, Thelma, married 69 years. He was blessed with 7 children: Robert {deceased} {Kathy}, Marilyn {Don}, Genie, Clarence Jr. {Karen}, Terry {Georgina}, Anthony

{Tanya}, Arnetta. He also leaves a legacy of 17 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren, and a large extended family. Viewing will be at Evergreen Memorial Gardens, Sunday, Nov. 6th, Noon-9:00 p.m. Family viewing only will be 5:00-7:00 p.m. Celebration of Life is on Monday, Nov. 7th, 11:00 a.m. at Bethesda Baptist Church, 1730 S.E. 117th, Ave., Portland, Oregon. Please sign his Guest Book at www.columbian.com/obits.

Tribute Wall



“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

Evergreen Memorial Gardens - July 03, 2025 at 08:34 PM

RK

“ Praying for the family.

Rev Samuel and Corliss King - November 06, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RE

“ Our prayers are with you and your family. Be blessed... LucyEllen Edwards

Rev. Raymon H. Edwards, - November 04, 2016 at 12:00 AM

NB

“ We miss you dearly cousin Clarence. Our bible lessons were so rich with your great wisdom. All of us must continue to share the Lord with our children as there is no greater gift to share than the unconditional love of Christ Jesus. Thank you for helping the Lewis Family know the Lord and to seek Him first- like Grandpa and Grandma taught us. Thank you for your Legacy. Offering up Prayers of Comfort to the Harris Family.

Nichole Brown - November 04, 2016 at 12:00 AM