



## IN MEMORIAM

# Columbus Lewis

July 4, 1913 – February 2, 2009



Columbus Lewis was born July 4, 1913, to Josh and Beulah (Wooten) Lewis in Idabel, Okla., where he was raised and educated. 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 into the U.S. Army. This took him to many parts of the world, but he was mainly in the South Pacific. After his discharge in August 1945, 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 Church of God in Christ, COGIC, as well as the secretary of the state of NM COGIC. In the early 1950s, Columbus was taken with a beautiful lady named Clementine White, and he made her his bride on Jan. 21, 1951. Columbus 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 Downtown Lions Club, American Legion and VFW. He is preceded in death by his parents, three brothers and one sister. Columbus is survived by his wife, Clementine of the family home; daughters: Celestine Lewis Perry of Ft. Worth, Texas, and Beatrice Lewis Kelly and husband, Bob of Cincinnati, Ohio; sons: Larry White and wife, Lisa of Lovington, and Rodney Lewis and wife, Rhea of Norwich, Conn.; a brother, Butler Cole of Carlsbad; 12 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and a host of extended family members.