

*Celebrating the Life and Legacy of
Cloys R. Cecil, Sr.*

September 2, 2021

12:00 p.m.

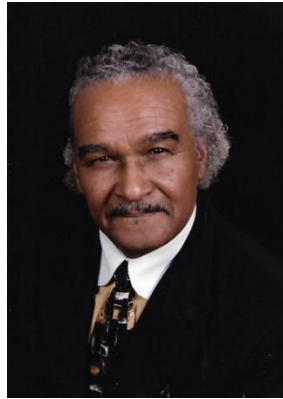
Carver Road Church of Christ

4399 Carver School Road

Winston Salem, North Carolina

Officiating: Dr. Eugene Lawton

Celebrating the Life and Legacy of Cloys R. Cecil, Sr.



Order of Service

Congregational Song

Bro. Adolphus Coplin

Invocation

Bro. Robert Norris

Congregational Song

Bro. Tauric Rice

The Holy Scripture

Old Testament

Bro. Barry Robinson

New Testament

Bro. Simon Johnson

Resolution

Samuel Richardson

Remarks (2 minute limit, please)

Obituary (Read silently)

Congregational Song

Bro. Adolphus Coplin

Eulogy

Bro. Eugene Lawton

Minister of Newark Church of Christ, Newark, New Jersey

Congregational Song

Bro. Tauric Rice

Closing Prayer

Bro. Julius Greene

Internment

Piedmont Memorial Gardens

OBITUARY

Cloys Roy Cecil, Sr. was born to Roy and Lucile Cecil in Guthrie (Logan County) Oklahoma on February 25, 1931. His early years were filled with riding horses, racing horses, and breaking horses in.

In 1946 at the age of 16, he was baptized into the Church of Christ in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

He became active in the Church; leading songs and working the communion table. Additionally, he converted many of his classmates at Favor High School where he played football and basketball.

In 1949, Bro. J.S. Winston came to Guthrie, whom Cloys knew well because he established the work in Guthrie with R.N. Hogan. Winston took Cloys to the Southern Bible Institute in Fort Worth, Texas. He did not stay with Grover Washington and the school; instead he finished his high school years at Favor High School in Guthrie Oklahoma.

Winston returned to Guthrie and took Cloys to Terrell, Texas where a building had been purchased. Along with A.C. Christman, Alvertis Bowdre, and Spencer Neely, they went to work to restore the old military school for the beginning of the school year in September. Girls were there working along with Sis. Cotton, Nora, Jessie, Candie and Gloria. Later in 1950, the school was named by the 21 attending students. That name was Southwestern Christian College (SWCC). It was on that campus in August 1950 Cloys preached his first sermon.

In 1951 Cloys served as Assistant Minister to Bro. J.S. Winston in Fort Worth, Texas for one year and in 1952 he took the work in Sulphur Springs, Texas. He stayed with them until 1954 while completing his studies at Southwestern Christian College. He then moved to the 21 st and Elm Street Church of Christ, Terre Haute, Indiana where he ministered for 4 ½ years. During this time he attended Indiana State studying Speech and Psychology. He represented Indiana State in original oratorial and extemporaneous speaking; placing 4 th in the country during an oratorial contest.

While in Indiana, Cloys met and married Mary Lee Shepherd and their first child, Cloys Jr. was born. His first work in Indiana after graduating from SWCC grew and did well. In 1958, he took on the work in Evansville, Indiana which he regards as one of the highlights of his life. The work grew from 12 active members to 125 in two years and continued to grow. In 1961 due to the climate, the family moved to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Again the work grew and the Church became the largest predominantly black Church of Christ there. He remained with this work until 1965. The call to move again led him to a work in Minneapolis, Minnesota where the membership was 15.

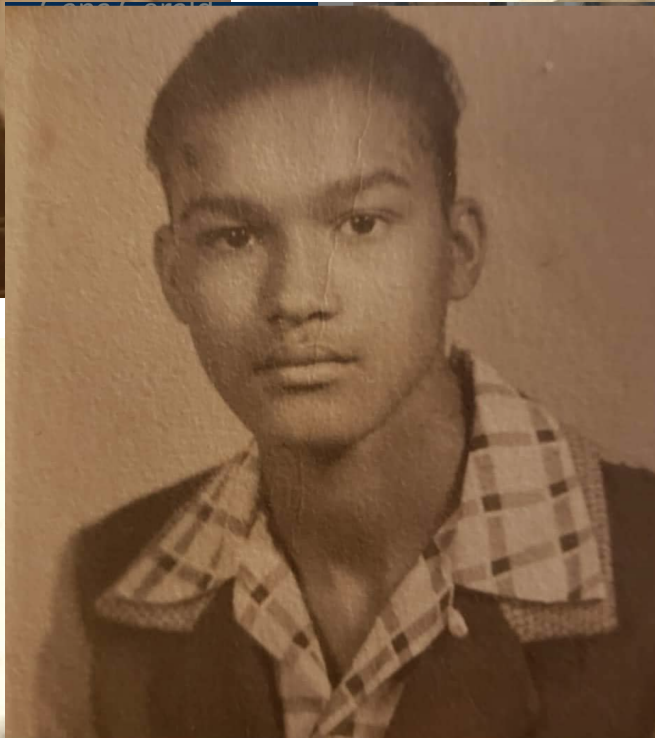
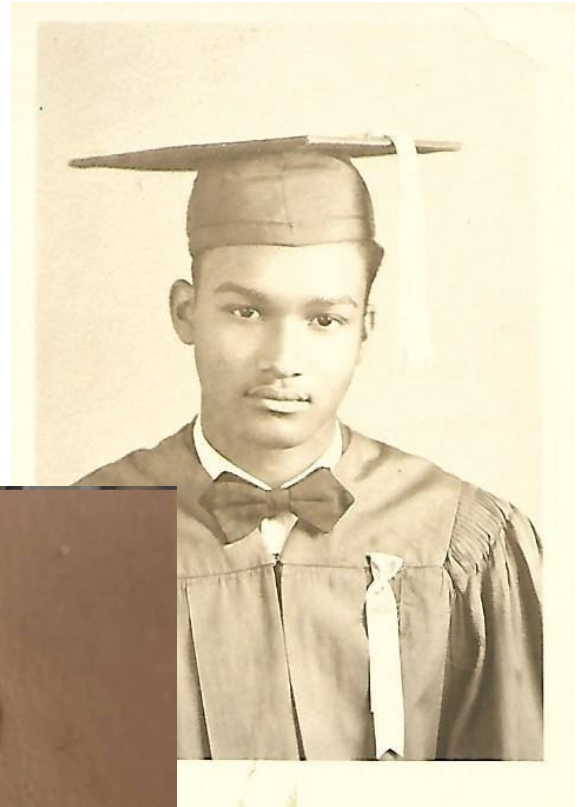
Within one year this work was self-supporting. He remained there until 1973 and then took on the work in Columbus, Ohio. Brother Cecil's effort and works allowed this church to also prosper and become self-supporting. In 1978, Brother Cecil took on the work at Castle Heights Church of Christ, Winston-Salem, NC. In 1983 due to his undaunting zeal for the cause of Christ, the congregation was no longer able to fit into the building at Castle Heights. A new edifice was erected under Brother Cecil's direction, on Carver School Road and he remained the minister there for 23 years.

During Brother Cecil's years at Carver Road, the congregation continued to grow. Many souls came to Christ through his dynamic and forceful teaching. Elders and deacons were ordained. One of his proudest accomplishments were the numerous brothers that were influenced by him to become preachers. He also envisioned a school to educate the children of the community and a senior living facility for our elders. This vision was brought to fruition by Quality Education Institute, Quality Education Academy and Quality Independent Living. He served as a member of the Executive Board for the schools. Upon retirement from Carver Road, the Church was left in good standing in all areas. The incoming minister did not have to be concerned about anything but continuing the mission of the church, TO SAVE SOULS.

There is no end to the many lives Bro. Cecil has touched and continues to touch through the spreading of the gospel. He preached during meetings in Indiana, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Alabama, Georgia, California, Texas, Iowa, North and South Carolinas, Illinois, New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Florida. He authored two books (*The Preacher is Right* and *A Call to Holiness*). Many of us will remember after Bro. Cecil had preached a soul stirring message, he would conclude his sermons with a message to us that sounded a little like this... "I am going to close as I have for many years. I don't know, I just don't know how all of you might feel about me, but I'll tell you something I love each and every one of you and if it is the will of God may my God richly bless every last one of you, now you may not love me and that's all right, you may never love me and that's still all right, you can be as mean, ornery and contrary as you want to be and that's still all right, I am not going to love you because of who you are, I am going to love you because of who I am, because you see I'm a child of God and I have to love you even if you never love me so it's all right and if I am your enemy it is just because I DARE TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH!!"

He is survived by his wife, Mary Cecil, 4 children, Cloys Jr. (Sandra), Cynthia, Colin and Colina; 8 grandchildren: Dr. Carresse Gerald (Lennie), Jared Cecil, Candie Rumph, Leland Stewart (Erika), Jamille Cecil, Constance Rumph, LeAngela Stewart and Jamari Cecil; 4 great-grandchildren: Cana, Amaria, Carter, and Cheyenne; 1 special cousin, Bert.

CLOYS IN THE EARLY YEARS



FAMILY MAN



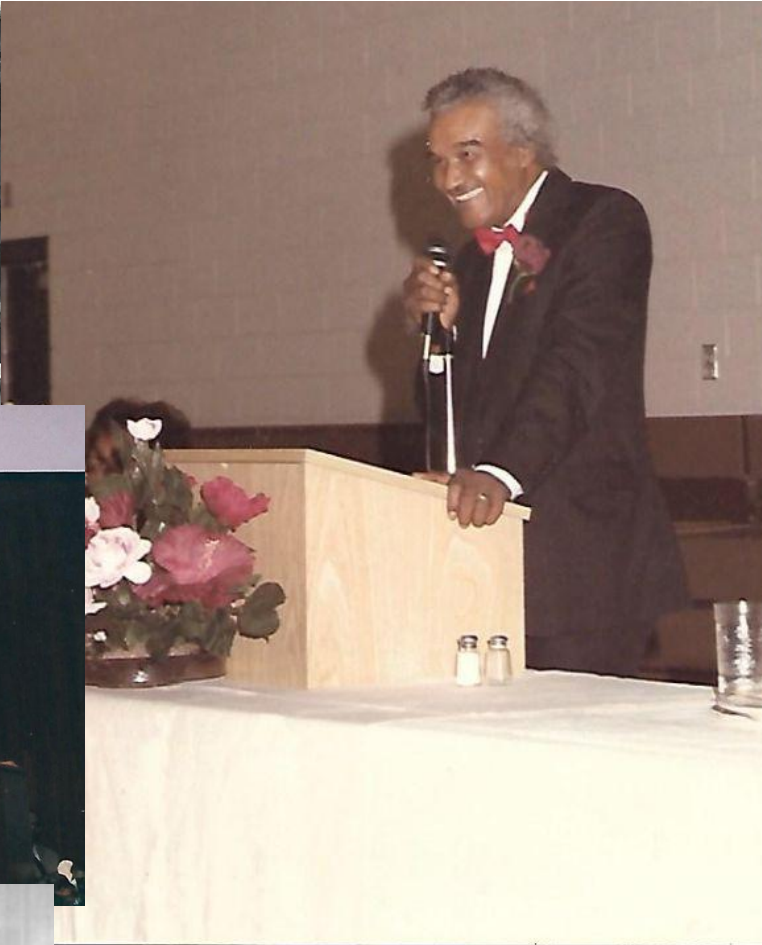
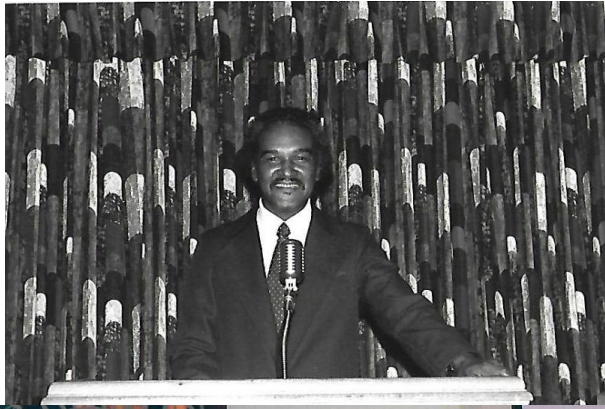
AN AMAZING BUILDER



LOVER OF HORSES



A DYNAMIC PREACHER



OUR HERO



Pall Bearers

Jared Cecil	Leland Stewart
Hank Wall	Andrew Jackson
Perry Studevant	Timothy Murrell

Flower Bearers

Linda Studevant	Veronica Black
Mary Williams	Geraldine Jackson
Patricia Norris	Patricia Smith

Acknowledgements and Thanks

Words cannot express how grateful our family is for your generous support, encouraging words, and thoughts and prayers. Thank you for thinking of us in our time of need.

The Family



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