



Charles Verner Shelton Sr.

August 2, 1920 - November 18, 2016

Charles Verner Shelton Sr. passed away November 18, 2016. He was born on August 2, 1920, in Holt, Alabama to the late Willie and Edna Thomas Shelton. He was the third of four children born to Edna Thomas Shelton Leonard.

Charles Shelton's siblings were Willie Clifford Shelton, Edna Mae Collins-Golden, James W. Shelton, and Etheleen Robinson. All of Charles siblings, parents, and Thora Shelton, the mother to Charles Shelton Jr., preceded him in death.

Charles father, Willie, passed away when he was three years of age, thus he was mentored by his step father, Mr. Leonard, uncles and his maternal grandmother, Fannie Thomas. While in school, Charles participated in football and other sports in which he excelled.

During WWII, Charles was called to serve in the U.S. Army. He served with distinction in the combat infantry unit in Europe where he received several decorations. Following an honorable military discharge, Charles returned home and studied brick masonry and carpentry.

In 1958, Charles was the first Black individual to obtain a building permit to construct a residence in the village of Dixmoor, Illinois. Later, he became the first Black to build and own a six flat apartment building unit in Harvey, Illinois.

When Charles departed this life he left to treasure his memory his devoted, loyal wife and caregiver of 16 years, Wanda; sons, Charles V. Shelton Jr. (Vivian Cheryl) and Derrick Selman; daughters, Jacqueline Brown and Lakesha Selman; loving grandchildren, Charles Shelton III, Thora Johnise Shelton, Hykeem Brown, Aaron Aings, Ashton Aings, A'Rian Washington, ARaven Selman, Jariah Selman, Brittany Erby, Ashley Erby and Ryheem Brown; great grandchildren, Charles V. Shelton IV and Kyla Jai Shelton; a host of cousins, nieces and nephews; a number of friends; and special friends Brother Herbert Jones, Herbert and Gwendolyn Davis.

Services will be 9:00 A.M. Wednesday at Hot Springs Funeral Home, with burial to follow at the National Cemetery in Little Rock, AR.