

OBITUARY

On Friday July 10, 2009, at 4:45 a.m. Leroy Bullock gently went to sleep in the arms of angels.

Leroy was born in Vance County, North Carolina on December 19, 1914. He was the oldest of eleven children born to the late James and Leah Hargrove Bullock. He graduated from Hawkins High School, Warrenton, North Carolina in 1932. He later moved to Boston, Massachusetts where he enlisted in the Marine Corps - as part of the first group of African Americans ever allowed to become Marines - on March 4, 1943 and reported to Montford Point, North Carolina for Basic Training. Upon completion, Leroy was transferred to the US Naval Ammunition Depot in McAllister, Oklahoma. He stayed in Oklahoma until reenlisting in 1946 when he was then transferred to the Marine Corps Supply Depot in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Leroy was later transferred to the 2nd Marine Division at Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, North Carolina and served there until 1948, when he was transferred to Headquarters at 5th Service Depot, FMF, Guam. In January 1949, Leroy was transferred to Camp Catlett in Hawaii, and then on to Marine Barracks at Earl, New Jersey. In 1950 Leroy was transferred back to the 2nd Marine Division at Camp Lejeune, and then to the 1st Marine Division at Camp Pendleton, California. This Marine Division would soon deploy to participate in the Korean Conflict, specifically in the Chosen Reservoir, where Leroy was part of the Marine Battalion that later became known as the "Frozen Chosen." In 1951 Leroy transferred back to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina and finally retired as a GySgt on May 2, 1962 at Quantico, Virginia. After his military retirement Leroy worked at the Marine Corps Exchange in Quantico, Virginia until he retired on June 1, 1983; as well as the Prince William County Public School system from which he retired in October, 1983. Leroy received numerous awards and citations for his devoted services, He was especially proud to have been honored as one of the original Montfort Point Marines.

Leroy joined Mount Zion Baptist Church in Triangle, Virginia in 1957 and was ordained as a Deacon in 1962. For several decades Deacon Bullock served faithfully as the Assistant Superintendent of the Church Sunday School, Adult Sunday School Teacher, member of the Heavenly Light Choir Ministry, member of the Male Chorus Ministry, Spiritual Advisor to the Missionary Auxiliary and Pastors Aide Club President. Deacon Bullock exhibited a deep and abiding faith in the promises of God and worked tirelessly, always willing to give and serve.

Leroy's favorite hobbies were fishing and gardening. He always looked forward to the fishing trips he was able to take with his friends. Leroy also enjoyed not just raising his garden to feed his family, he also enjoyed being able to give fresh vegetables to family and friends.

Leroy was united in Holy Matrimony to Ezzie Mae Gavin on October 15, 1949. This sacred union gave them both great joy and many blessings for over 54 years. He leaves to cherish his memory three devoted daughters: Myra Bridges (Alfred) of Lorton, Virginia, Loryc White (Marvin) of Martinsburg, West Virginia, Doreen Fawkes (Alan) of Plant City, Florida grandchildren: Porsha, Antoine, Latshia, Marvin 11, Monique, Denise, Victoria, Jordan, Joshua and five Great Grandchildren. Leroy is also survived by three brothers: James Bullock (Doris), Theodore Bullock (Lula), Emmanuel Bullock (Bonita) all of North Carolina; two sisters: Theresa Jones and Lillie Hardy, also of North Carolina; three sister-in-laws: Thelma Fredrick, Minnie Powell, Mildred Gavin, and one brother-in-law, Sampson Gavin as well as a host of nieces, nephews and friends. Leroy was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Ezzie Mac Gavin and his grandson, James Bullock.