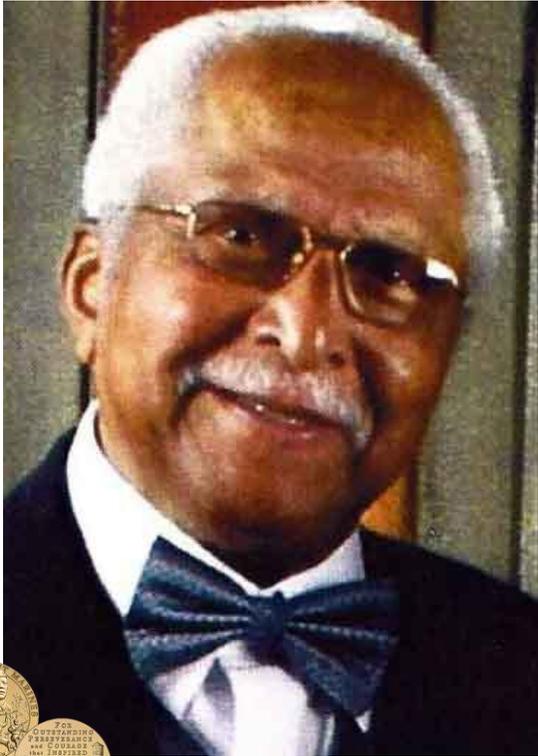


Obituary



The son and second of eight children born to the late William E. Lee and Henrietta Hackney Lee, Emanuel Gilbert was born on August 3, 1926 in Detroit, Michigan. He entered eternal rest on March 27, 2015-one day following his 65th wedding anniversary.

Emanuel moved with his family to Washington, DC at an early age and graduated from Armstrong Technical High School. After high school, he served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II in the Asiatic-Pacific Theatre. For his service, Emanuel was among the group awarded a Congressional Gold Medal in June 2012 for being the first American Blacks to serve in the Marine Corps and train at the Montford Point Camp in North Carolina.

In 1946 on the first Sunday after his discharge from the military, Emanuel met his future bride, Katy Mae Eldridge at Simms Memorial Church. They wed on March 26, 1950. From this union were born five daughters and two sons.

An ardent patriot, Emanuel continued to serve his country after the military. He worked as an offset pressman for the U.S. Department of the Air Force at the Pentagon and retired in 1981 after 36 years of service. For many years, Emanuel was an active member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He served as the Commander of Anacostia Post 4332 and is a VFW Legacy Life Member of Federal City Post 1085.

During his lifetime, Emanuel enjoyed many things. He loved studying the Bible and listening to gospel music. He fellowshipped at two churches: Christian Praise Church and the Independent Church of God, both in Washington, DC. Emanuel had a passion for trains and model railroading, fishing, coin collecting, gardening-especially growing roses, and admiring the splendor of eagles. Full of wisdom and sage advice, Emanuel was always eager to teach and share life lessons with anyone. He had a giving heart and loved talking to people.

Blessed with longevity, Emanuel was predeceased by daughter Karen Sabrina; grandson Brian Johnson; three sisters Florence, Jean, and Plantista; and two brothers Justice and Jerome. Emanuel leaves to honor his life and legacy his devoted wife of 65 years Katy; children Cynthia Johnson, Brenda Evelyn (Glen), Emanuel, Jr. (Portia), Reginald (Sandi), Patricia McClaine (Harlen), Sheila Kenner (Calvin); a special niece Diane Lee; sisters Mae Lee and Markeeta Lee; nine grandchildren; n great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

