

**Transition of Robert Odell Lewis and  
Prayer Vigil/Memorial Service for the Ascent of His Soul  
on Tuesday April 24<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm Montana Time**

On Sunday, April 22, 2007 at 7 pm Central Daylight Time Robert Odell Lewis (84), father of David Lewis, made his transition to heavenly realms of light, having balanced great karma in his last days while suffering from prostate, esophagus, stomach and liver cancer. He was surrounded by many of his ten children and their family members as he breathed his last breath and bid the earth goodbye. There will be a short memorial prayer vigil and service for him broadcast from Bozeman, Montana from 6-7 pm MDT at the home of Paul and Janice Haugen. Any and all who would like to visit with David at that time and hear about Robert's life are welcome to come and all are welcome to listen to the service on the internet broadcast. David will be departing Wednesday to be with his family and to attend a community memorial service on Wednesday afternoon in Lawrence, Kansas where Robert lived. He is survived by his bride, Verla Jean Schneider Lewis, ten children, twenty-four grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Bob, as he was known to many, attended two levels of Summit University—Jophiel, Christine, and Mighty Victory's quarter in 1977 and Cyclopea's quarter (where he studied the Montessori teachings with Madame Caspari) in 1980. He joined the Church Universal and Triumphant and volunteered many hours of service in the audio/visual department at Camelot in the Santa Monica Mountains near Calabasas, California.

Bob continued to serve as a volunteer in many capacities in Lawrence, Kansas where he was revered by many in the community whose lives he touched—doing hospice care, providing audio reader services, delivering meals-on-wheels, ushering at the Leid Center for Performing Arts and serving as a trustee on the board of the local Unity Church for many terms, to name a few. He married Verla Jean Schneider on August 6, 1944 and they lived primarily in the Chicago suburbs until 1973, attending Catholic Church services and raising their ten children. He graduated from Northwestern University with a Master's degree in Broadcast Journalism and he worked in radio and television for years, producing commercials for United Airlines, Standard Oil and other major accounts when he worked for the Leo Burnett Co.

Although David found the teachings of the Ascended Masters first in 1974, Verla and Robert were quick to follow and Verla attended her first conference at Mount Shasta in July, 1975 and then the Buddha quarter in January, 1976 in Colorado Springs. Bob and Verla moved to the Camelot area in Southern California and Verla volunteered in the Mail Processing filing department serving with Joyce Genis for many years.

Bob was born on April 4, 1923 in Hammond, Indiana, the only child of William (Johnny) and Mary Lewis, but he grew up in Oak Park, a large suburb of Chicago where there are still a plethora of Frank Lloyd Wright homes. He played the harmonica at the "I AM" Temple in Chicago at the age of 12, and thus also had a connection with Godfre and Lotus. One of his favorite poems by Robert Browning which he often quoted: "How do I love thee. Let me count the ways..." He was a yo yo champion as a child and loved to entertain children doing yo yo tricks. His license plate on his Honda Civic hybrid car read "YOYOMAN". He also loved to play the harmonica and the Jews' harp. One of his

greatest joys was keeping track of all of his children and their children and their children! He created a laminated card listing everyone's birthday and kept it up to date as each new baby was born. He never failed in sending birthday and Christmas greeting cards to us all, with a \$5 bill for every person included. He also sent Valentines to every child and grandchild each year.

David fondly remembers his dad attending nearly all of his home basketball, baseball and football games growing up. With a family of ten children and all the attendant responsibilities he wonders how in the world he did this! But this was Bob's joy. His dad also took David on a White Sox baseball fan tour to Baltimore/D.C. in about 1966 which he'll never forget. David learned his work ethic from his dad's shining example of arising early, catching the Burlington train from the suburb of Hinsdale to Chicago Monday through Friday and returning home to have dinner with his family most nights. Bob traveled widely doing TV commercials and took David on one shoot to the Wisconsin Dells that also brings back fond memories of riding the "ducks" through the famous waters surrounding the rocky cliffs with their Native pictographs on the walls of the rock formations.

Bob is survived by wife Verla and his children—Gregory, Stephan, James, Constance, Nancy, David, Timothy, Marsha, Andrew and Matthew; his grandchildren—Elizabeth, Emily, Molly, Elizabeth, Gabriel, Isaac, Roy, Julie, Ryan, Autumn, Gretchen, Bayard, Benard, Valerie, Jacob, Joshua, Matthew, Noah, Jason, Zach, Jalon, Aeron, Jules and Zoe; and his great-grandchildren-- Emma, Lorel, Jack, Ray and Rose.