

Obituary Silas McFarland

Rev. Silas Alexander McFarland, 98 of Paris, Texas died Wednesday June 29, 2022 in Paris. The family will greet friends and relatives from 6 pm Tuesday July 5th at Chaney-Harkins Funeral Home, 528 S 3rd St., McAlester.

A funeral service will be held 1 pm Wednesday, July 6 at Chaney-Harkins Funeral Home Chapel, officiated by Rev. Kellos Walker. Burial will follow at the Choctaw Nation Veterans Cemetery, Tuskahoma with military honors provided by the Choctaw Nation Honor Guard.

Pallbearers will be Jeremy Scott, Wayne Scott, Troy Stengrem, Stuart Winlock, Randy Ott and James Bong.

Honorary pallbearers will be Michael Chapman, Kenny Graves, Rev Wayne Scott, Melvin Palmer and members of the Choctaw Nation Color Guard.

Silas Alexander was born to Samuel and Mattie (Graham) McFarland on May 24, 1924 in Nashoba. He attended St. Agnes Catholic Boarding School in Antler and then Chilocco Indian Agricultural School near Newkirk where he graduated high school. He served in the US Navy during World War II aboard the USS Honolulu and USS Nevada. He received the WWII Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with three bronze stars and the Philippine Liberation Campaign Ribbon with three stars. He was discharged as a Seaman First Class on April 26, 1946.

Silas then attended UCLA in Los Angeles where he studied psychology. He married Matilda Jane Lewis and she preceded him in death. They moved to Wichita, Kansas where he was employed at Boeing. He then served in the USAF during the Korean War as an apprentice baker with the 7th Food Service Squadron until being discharged on September 27, 1950.

Silas married Carmen Winlock and they resided in Ft. Smith. He was ordained by the Choctaw-Chickasaw Baptist Association on October 11, 1970 at the Green Hill Baptist Church in Talihina to pastor his first church at Pine Grove Baptist Church in Talihina. He pastored several churches in Southeastern Oklahoma, ministering for over 50 years. Rev. McFarland served in leadership positions with the Choctaw-Chickasaw Baptist Association over his time in the ministry.

He married Shirley Stephens in 1986 and they resided in Paris, Texas.

Silas enjoyed being outdoors and loved to fish. He was a member of the USS Honolulu Shipmates reunion group.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Samuel and Mattie McFarland; a brother, Lawrence McFarland, and first wife, Matilda Jane (Lewis) McFarland.

Silas is survived by his wife, Shirley of the home; son, Daniel McFarland and wife, Crysta of Hartshorne; daughter, Stacy Stengrem and husband, Troy of Midwest City; grandchildren, Stephen Bock, Lauren Brown, Sophia McFarland, Alexandria McFarland, Meghann O'Neil; stepsons, Michael Chapman, Kenny Graves and wife, Elaine; step-grandchildren; Autumn and David Rowton, Lanette and Shane Alverson, Jason and Tamara Chapman, Misty Rains, Lona Ellison and other family members and friends.