



## Clifford Lee Morton

December 29, 1923 - May 4, 2017

Cliff Morton, 93, passed away peacefully early on May 4th at his home in Enid. Cliff, the youngest of six children, was born December 29, 1923 to Joseph Clifton Morton and Mary Beekler Morton in Blackwell, Oklahoma where he was raised.

He graduated from Blackwell High School in 1942 (one year later than his classmates), since during his senior year (1940-1941) he got special permission to play in the 45th Infantry Division 189th Field Artillery Band. Cliff volunteered, as an opportunity to serve his country in the mission to enlist more servicemen for WWII, and also to play his coronet under the direction of Dr. Milburn Carey, who had taken a sabbatical from directing the Phillips University Band to lead this effort.

Cliff officially enlisted in the Army Air Corp in February 1943 and was assigned to the training facility in Alabama. However, due to military war time needs, his class was transferred into the Army's 65th Infantry Division at Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

He married Myra Dean Rodgers, his high school sweetheart, on August 5, 1944. He deployed to the European theatre via military transatlantic ship to France in late 1944. He served in the 365th Medical Battalion's 65th Division in Patton's Third Army. They marched through France to Germany and finally to Austria while fighting in the Rhineland and Central European Campaigns until V-D Day. Cliff was then transferred to the 180th Battalion's 45th Infantry to participate in the European reconstruction effort until his tour finished the

end of 1945. After the war, Cliff and Myra made their home in Stillwater while Cliff attended Oklahoma A&M. They moved to Enid in 1948 to establish Cliff's Camera Shop. Cliff owned and operated his business for 61 years through December 2009. He truly enjoyed serving his customers and was well known and appreciated for providing excellent customer service.

He was a loving, faithful husband and father. He loved playing tennis, golf and bridge. He had quite a dry sense of humor and a sweet demeanor. Cliff was also a beloved member of the Enid community and his church fellowships. He was a member of First Baptist Church until August 1961. At that time, he became a charter member of Emmanuel Baptist Church where he actively served throughout the years in various roles including deacon, choir member, greeter, moderator and church trustee. He was a faithful servant of his Lord, quietly leading by example and never hesitating to lend a helping hand when needed. In 2015, he participated in the Oklahoma Veterans Honor Flight to Washington D.C to visit the WWII Memorial and other Washington landmarks. He was also honored as one of six local 2015 Legacy Veterans and his name is inscribed on the Woodring Wall of Honor.

He is survived by his daughter, Cara Morton, by his sister-in-law, Joan Boyd of Mesa, Arizona as well as many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by Myra, his wife of 70 years, his parents, his two brothers, Howard and Joe Morton and his three sisters, Myra Johnston, Ida Farmer, and Alice Loper. A Celebration of Life Service will be held at Emmanuel Baptist Church a week from Monday, on May 15th at 1:00 pm, with arrangements by Anderson-Burriss Funeral Home & Crematory. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Emmanuel Baptist Church, Hospice Circle of Love and Forgotten Ministries, all in Enid.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAY 15. 1:00 PM (CT)

Emmanuel Baptist Church  
2505 W. Owen K. Garriott  
Enid, OK 73703  
(580) 237-0602

# Tribute Wall

LH

“ *Cara Sue,  
Your dad was one of the finest gentlemen I ever have known.  
He was a husband and father role model, someone I proudly count  
as friend; a father-like influence, encourager, and counselor during  
my times at Emmanuel. His singular, consistent advice still rings in  
my memory:  
"Whenever possible, in all situations, and when under your control  
remember....ALWAYS do the RIGHT thing and ALWAYS do the BIG  
thing."  
Cliff, thank you for being there when I needed.*

*Losco Hunter  
Stillwater, OK*

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**Losco Hunter** - May 14, 2017 at 08:51 PM

JT

“ *Clifford, I have thoroughly enjoyed our special  
friendship over the past thirty years that we've  
been friends. It's been sharing stories in  
knowledge in the camera store and it has  
been meaningful sharing our many memories  
of playing the cornet for the 45 Infantry Division Band. You've been  
my veteran brother in so many ways including military service,  
church worship services, and community activities. Cliff, I'll always  
treasure and cherish our friendship. Dear Morton Family: "May the  
warmth of God's love embrace you, May the compassion of those  
who care surround you, and May the joy you once shared brighted  
your days with the assurance that love lives forever."*



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**Jerry Tucker** - May 13, 2017 at 10:02 PM

RR

“ *What a life! A true patriot of The Greatest Generation. A true Christian who served others, and loved life and family. To a favorite Uncle, may you rest in peace. And, to Cara, friends and family - may Cliff's memories remind us all of life's treasures.*

*Ron & Georgia Rodgers  
Lees Summit, MO*

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**Ron Rodgers** - May 10, 2017 at 09:08 AM

CM

“ *I was honored and privileged to have known Cliff not only thru the camera shop but also thru Emanuel, I got to sing with him in the choir, he was never absent from choir practice. always there and on time. just a sweet sweet man who will be sorely missed by all who knew him.....*

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**carol mcneese** - May 08, 2017 at 08:37 AM

AA

“ *Our thoughts and prayers to your families at the loss of Mr. Morton. Always enjoyed his expertise, professionalism, knowledge, products, his staff. A unique merchant, successful.*

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**AK Armstrong** - May 07, 2017 at 12:40 PM