

Casket Bearers

Danny Wheat Osvaldo Orta Ryan Johnson
Eric Kelly Ricky Wheat
Willie Clark

The Bridge Builder

An old man going a lone highway,
Came, at the evening cold and gray,
To a chasm vast and deep and wide,
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,
The sullen stream had no fear for him;
But he turned when safe on the other side
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting your strength with building here;
Your journey will end with the ending day,
Yon never again will pass this way;
You've crossed the chasm, deep and wide,
Why build this bridge at evening tide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head;
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said,
"There followed after me to-day
A youth whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm that has been as naught to me
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be;
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building this bridge for him!"



Repast

Saint Luke's Fellowship Hall
Immediately Following Burial

Interment

Kilgore Memorial Gardens
With Military Honors

"Please Turn On Headlights and Obey ALL Traffic Laws During Procession"

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Professional Service By

Ainsworth & Young Funeral Home
822 Roosevelt St.
Wichita Falls, Texas 76301
940-766-1941



Celebration of Life



FREDDIE EUGENE

Rollie

April 15, 1934 - December 13, 2025



Together Again.....

Because We Love You So

Time will not dim the faces we love.
The voices we heard each day.
The many things you did for me
In your own special way.
All my life we will always miss you
As the years come and go.
But in my heart we'll keep you.
Because we love you so.



Order of Service

12 Noon Saturday, January 3rd, 2026
Saint Luke's Methodist Church - 401 E. Main St. - Kilgore, Texas
Pastor Robert Hicks, Officiant

Processional

Medley of Songs
Kenny Skinner

Comfort from God's Word
Old Testament New Testament
Rev. James Bell Rev. Dr. Eddie Ferguson

Prayer
Pastor Ella Mae Walker

Reflections
Mark Lollie, Son
J.T. Carraway, Son
Richelle Hampton Rathbun

Resolutions and Acknowledgments
Evangelist Debra Skinner

Expressions from Friends
"Limit 2 Minutes Please"

Selection
Lamont Wheat

Words of Comfort
Rev. Kelly Inman
Pastor, Saint Luke's Methodist Church

Parting Glimpse
Matthew Ainsworth & Staff

Recessional



The Obituary

Freddie E. Lollie gained eternal rest on December 13, 2025, at the age of 91. Freddie was born on April 15, 1934, in Overton, Rusk County, Texas, to the late Mamie Jones DeBose and Jake Lollie. He was one of four children raised with strong values of faith, hard work, and love for family. Freddie accepted Christ at an early age and began his spiritual journey through baptism and membership at Harmony Pirtle Baptist Church, where his faith became the foundation of his life. On May 29, 1974, Freddie married the love of his life, Lorene Whitmore, at the Jones Funeral Home Chapel in Kilgore, Texas. Their marriage was filled with love, commitment, and devotion and was blessed with five sons. Freddie took great pride in being a loving and dedicated husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend.

He graduated from Star Bailey Public Schools in 1952 in Overton, Texas, and continued his education at Prairie View A&M University. In 1955, Freddie was inducted into the United States Army, where he served until 1959 as a proud Korean War veteran.

In 1961, Freddie began a career that would become a lifelong passion when Dr. William Leon Hattaway, pastor of St. Luke Methodist Church in Kilgore, offered him the position of church custodian. Freddie loved his job and his church family, faithfully serving for an extraordinary 54 years. During his tenure, he witnessed many changes but remained a steady, trusted presence whose dedication never wavered.

Alongside his service to the church, Freddie also built a successful career as a Field Technician with GTE Telephone Company, now known as Verizon. He retired after 34 years of service from there, earning perfect attendance and numerous awards—a testament to his work ethic, reliability, and pride in doing things the right way. Freddie found joy in life's simple pleasures. He was an avid sports fan, especially devoted to the Kilgore Bulldogs, and he loved fishing, dancing, and supporting his children in every sport they pursued. His warm smile, kind heart, and gentle spirit made him a favorite among all generations. He had a way of making people feel welcome, valued, and loved.

Freddie was preceded in death by his beloved wife Lorene Lollie; his parents; his sons Luke Lollie and Lonnie Carraway; and his siblings Louis Jackson, Claude Lollie Sr., and Henry Lollie.

He leaves to cherish his loving memories his Sister in law Billie Lollie of Houston, Tx, sons Mark Lollie (Sherice) of Forney, Freddie Lollie Jr. of Kilgore, and JT Carraway Jr. (Trametria) of Houston; Quathan Latham of Kilgore: his cherished grandchildren Jerin Carraway, Jessica Carraway, Jaden Carraway, Jillian Carraway, Jazmine Carraway, Jordan Carraway, Jay T Carraway, Mar'shalia Lollie, Luke Lollie, and Ashton Lollie; his godchildren Donald Coleman and Mesha Coleman; a niece who was like a daughter, Wanda Allen; a dear friend Robert Besser; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends who will forever treasure his memory.



SUNDAY FEATURE

15 Minutes With

FREDDIE LOLLIE

Church custodian loves his job, family

By DEREK PRICE
knheddt@kilgorenews Herald.com

For the past 42 years, Freddie Lollie has scrubbed, swept, mopped, vacuumed, polished and dusted a downtown church. And he's loved every minute of it.

The custodian at St. Luke's United Methodist Church says he wakes up every day eager to go to work. He even walked to work one icy winter, a time when churchgoers were told to stay home because the weather was too nasty.

But there's only one thing Lollie loves more than his job: his family. He goes to his children's ballgames, brags about them every chance he gets, and continues to work at age 68 to put two kids through college.

That's dedication, and that's what Freddie Lollie is all about.

DEDICATED — Freddie Lollie has spent 42 years as custodian at St. Luke's United Methodist Church. He says he enjoys waking up every day to work at the church.

Photo by Derek Price

lie is all about.

How much do you enjoy your job?

I like it so much I've walked to work. I remember one night it snowed, and the whole town was frozen over. The next morning, I got up to come to work — I live on Hwy. 135 — and my car wouldn't crank. I walked to work and was there at 8 o'clock when the streets were iced over and no cars were out. There was only one person when I got there, and the preacher called us and told us to go home.

You must be awfully happy with your job. Why is it so great?

I like what I'm doing, and people are nice to me. They don't ever bother me 'cause I try to do my job. They ask me who the boss is, and I say, "All the people around here are my boss." I do what they tell me to do.

What changes have you seen since starting in 1961?

Oh, I think the biggest changes are all the preachers — lots of preachers and everything. I remember one preacher who was a pilot and had his own airplane, but he died a while back.

How have the church's buildings changed through the years?

Well, I've seen so much around here. I don't know what to say.

People at the church say you're more than a custodian. What else do you do at St. Luke's?

I do a little of everything. I do a little electrical work, a little plumbing — just minor work — but if I run into a bad problem I'll call a plumber or electrician.

Do you go to church at St. Luke's?

No, I belong to Harmony Baptist Church out on Hwy. 259. But I go to church at St. Luke's when I feel like it. If I feel like I want to go ahead and sit down, I'll sit down and enjoy it. I always feel welcome.

What's the most interesting thing you've seen in 42 years as custodian?

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What's your family like?

I've got a wife and four boys — no girls.

I know I've read the name "Lollie" in the sports pages. Are they your boys?

You bet. They're big into sports. They play baseball, football, soccer — everything.

Which son is the best athlete?

My youngest boy, 'cause his older brothers are teaching him. My older boys all played sports and they were good, but my youngest is learning from them.

Do you encourage them to play?

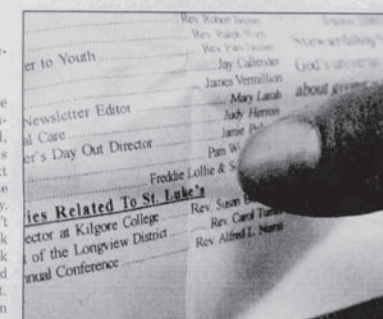
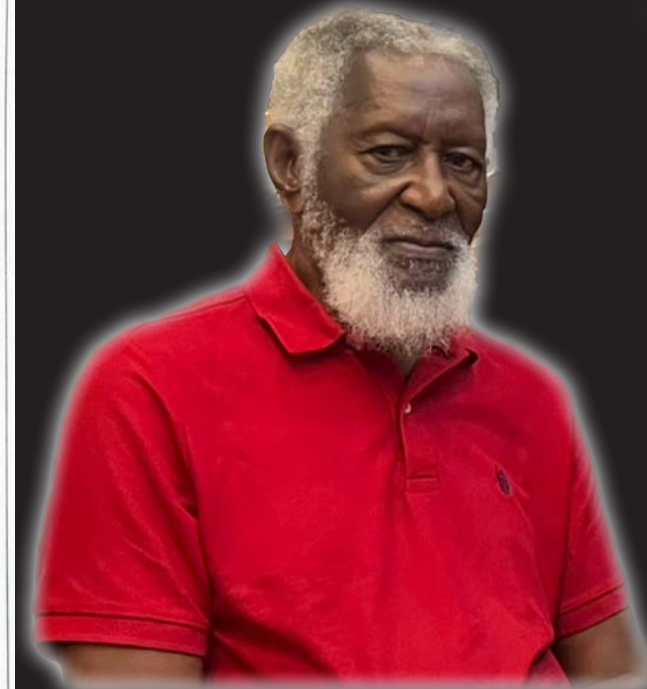
Yes, sir. I go to every game they have — I never miss one. In sports, they learn to mingle with people and get along with people. Associating with other people, that's what life's all about.

Do you have a life philosophy that keeps you happy and energetic?

Treat people like you want to be treated. Yes, sir, that's the way to live.

THE SUMMER SALE

Sale Prices



MY NAME — Freddie Lollie proudly points out his name on a bulletin for St. Luke's United Methodist Church. A custodian at the church for 42 years, Lollie has easily earned his place on the list of church workers.

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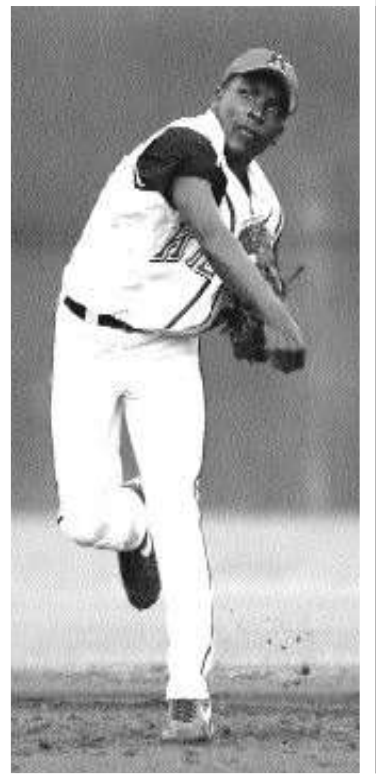
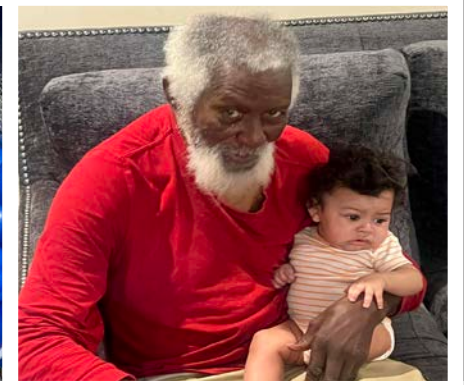
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Justin Baker/News-Journal Photo
Jeannine Smith, winner of an honorable mention award in the nature category of Texas Bank and Trust's annual photography contest, studies the Best of Show-winning photo, "Freddie Lollie," by Michael Cavazos at the downtown Longview bank Sunday.

Friend's portrait wins top photo prize