



John C. Lewis

July 9, 1930 - October 12, 2016

John C. Lewis of Willcox died October 12, 2016 at the age of 86. He was born in Coolidge, Arizona on July 9, 1930 to John Clarence Lewis and Lillian Duvall Whitlock. John was a retired Livestock/Brand Inspector for the State of Arizona, was an avid cow man/cattleman, hunter and turquoise jewelry maker. Before living in Willcox he operated a Mobile Home Park in Coolidge. On August 5, 2014 in Willcox he married Chelly Diaz Romero who survives him. Also surviving is his daughter Marie Shih, step children Norma Durazo, Armando Durazo, Jonathan Durazo, Jennifer Durazo and Janitza Durazo. His brothers Dudley (Myra) Lewis of Apache Junction, Thomas "Tom" Lewis of Willcox and Phillip Lewis of Grand Junction, Colorado and his sisters Dorothy Broking of Casa Grande and Frances (Len) Ricci of Tucson also survive him along with 5 grandchildren. Preceding him in death was his 1st wife Josephine, 2 sons, 1 sister and 1 brother. Memorial Services will be 10:00 AM on Saturday, October 22, 2016 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Coolidge Chapel, Coolidge, Arizona. Arrangements entrusted to Westlawn Chapel, Mortuary and Crematory of Willcox, Arizona. You may express condolences at www.westlawnchapelmortuary.com

Previous Events

Memorial

OCT **22**. 10:00 AM (MT)

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
580 N. 9th Street
Coolidge, AZ 85128

Tribute Wall



“ *John C. Lewis*

January 30, 2023 at 12:50 AM



“ *A long time Friend, you have come to your rest, it is well earned.*

*You have met many people, helped so many more, and your
friendship has been appreciated.*

L. P. Brannon - October 22, 2016 at 10:08 AM

“ *John C. Lewis story by nephew John Tiffany*

My uncle John C. Lewis was a Livestock Inspector for the State of Arizona. A big part of his job was catching cattle rustlers.

When rustlers steal cattle that is on the hoof (live cattle), the ownership can often be determined by the brand on the animals. Uncle John once told me about a time the brand was of no help to him. They were having a series of cases where the rustlers would slaughter the cattle in the field and just steal the meat, leaving the head, entrails, and skin (with the brand) behind.

Patrolling the area at night, John spotted a car that looked suspicious; the car was sagging to the rear as if under a heavy load. John turned on the lights of his patrol car and pulled the car over. There were two men in the car. John

questioned them, and having further suspicions, he asked them if they would open their car's trunk, to which they agreed. The trunk was completely full of freshly slaughtered beef, which looked to John to be about one animal's worth, perhaps a calf.

John asked them how they came to have this amount of fresh beef in their car.

"This is our meat, and you can't prove any different!", they said smugly, sure that there was no evidence against them.

"Maybe not," replied John, "but do you boys want to explain to me why I don't see any USDA stamps on this meat?"

(properly slaughtered beef is always stamped using an edible blue ink by a US Department of Agriculture inspector at the processing plant).

They clearly hadn't thought of that, and they had no explanation for the lack of USDA stamps on the beef.

Having outsmarted them, John arrested them both for possessing unstamped meat; the next day the kill site was discovered and they confessed to the crime.

John Tiffany - October 21, 2016 at 12:01 AM