



## Warren V. Lee WOJC #1225 1915-2022

Warren Lee was born to Jennie Hazel Baker Lee and Earl Benjamin Lee at home on Brewer Road in Amber in 1915. This was a successful farm owned by the Wells and Baker Families and it had a grist and a saw mill on Van Benthuisen Brook. This farm produced a specialized Cigar Tobacco, along with the usual crops. In subsequent years, the Lee family moved to different locations in Marcellus as the family grew. Warren clearly remembers the World War One soldiers marching through the streets of Marcellus and the Spanish Flu. Warren started attending school in Marcellus, then as he grew; the Five Corners School on Fox Road, the Onondaga Valley Academy and Vocational High School. Warren worked for Hitchings Apple Orchards, then Beak and Skiff Apple Orchards, where he learned the horticultural techniques of budding and grafting. He then was promoted to oversee the Cold Storage equipment and finally took charge of the orchard equipment maintenance and repair operation. In 1939, he met some of the men who were driving Admiral Byrd's Snow Cruiser when they briefly stopped at Hayden's Tydol gas station on the corner of Rts. 80 and 20. In 1940, he met and married Arloween Lanning of Borodino. In 1941, he bought a small house, disassembled it, moved the major sections on a large wagon, and re-assembled it on the lot at 4316 U.S. Route 20. There, it gradually expanded over the years to its present configuration. Warren eventually aspired to grow beyond his responsibilities at the orchard, building small, then large, garages and began his independent automotive repair business. As intense with his successful business as he was, he always took two weeks off in the summer to take the family on auto trips to such places as Colonial Williamsburg, VA, The Henry Ford Museum, to the summit of Mt Washington, etc. During the early years of operating his business, he taught Welding to Otis trainees when the company converted from bolted to welded assembly. He also earned his University of the State of New York Adult Education Teaching Certificate in February, 1954 and taught Welding night

school classes for Onondaga Central School in his garage. During the time of Cold War international tensions, he trained and became a Civil Defense Police Officer. After retirement from the garage business, he purchased a 1949 Jeepster from Beaks and a 1950, and restored both to pristine condition. In the process, he successfully advised many others, with Arloween at his side handling original-quality interior and upholstery work. Warren held the positions of Honorary Director and Tech Advisor in the Willys Overland Jeepster Club, now with 300 Members. Warren was a Water Diviner, successfully locating good wells for many homeowners with any proceeds to the Church. Asked about the possible reasons for his longevity, Warren advises; hard work, a good wife, staying slim and active, country living, deep well water, fresh vegetables, and a positive outlook with good humor. Dad made it all possible.

Warren is survived by a Son, Thomas W. Lee of Scottsdale, AZ; two Grandsons, Jason Matthew Lee of Chandler, AZ and Nathaniel Benjamin Lee of Scottsdale, AZ; two Grandchildren; Sophia Ann Lee and Preston McLeod Lee, both of Chandler, AZ; a Double Cousin Ralph Austin Lee of Bonita Springs, FL.; and a Cousin Rosamond Reed, along with several Nieces and Nephews.