



## Retired TCSO Sgt Willie Lewis Has Passed Away

It is with a heavy heart that the Tulsa County Sheriff's Office announces that retired Public Information Officer, Sgt. Willie Lewis passed away over the weekend from natural causes.

66 year-old Lewis worked for the Tulsa County Sheriff's Office from 1993 until his retirement in 2012. Lewis was known for his warm personality and positive outlook.

"Every time I saw Willie Lewis, he had a smile on his face", says Undersheriff George Brown. "He was such a positive person that it made you feel great to be around him."

Tulsa County residents may remember Lewis from the years he spent speaking to the media as the Public Information Officer for TCSO. Lewis was a man of faith. He was the founding pastor of Redeemed by Grace Church. He was also a Chaplain for the TCSO.



"Willie Lewis was my spiritual father, my mentor, and my friend. He lived what he believed, he practiced what he preached, and he loved people with all his heart", said TCSO Public Service Officer Jason Carter, who is a member of Lewis' congregation. "He was and is a role model for me as far as being a husband and a father, and I am forever thankful for his teaching, both spiritually and naturally".

For anyone who lucky enough to hear Willie sing, it would come as no surprise to learn that he was a member of the R&B group, The Platters.

"Integrity has always been a pre-requisite as a Christian and as a law enforcement officer", says Dep. Bobby Harris. "Be it as Sgt. Lewis or Pastor Lewis, [what I learned from him is] wherever we are and whatever we might be doing, do it with integrity".

The Tulsa County Sheriff's Office offers our condolences to Willie's wife, Cheryl as well as their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. His passing is a great loss to our agency, his family, his church family, as well as this community.