

Remembering Reverend Ben Elton Cox, Sr.
One of the Original Freedom Riders

A memorial service honoring Reverend Ben Elton Cox, Sr., one of the thirteen original Freedom Riders, whose efforts led to the integration of the intrastate bus transportation in the South, will be held at Salem Baptist Church, 500 East Park St., Champaign, Saturday, July 23, 2011 at 1:00 P.M.

This ardent civil rights leader will be remembered by a number of local pastors, organization leaders, and other officials as well as out of town guests. Reverend Cox contributed outstanding services for many years while residing and working in this community.

The Reverend Ben Elton Cox was born in Whiteville, Tennessee, June 19, 1931 and he moved to Kankakee, Illinois at the age of five. He attended Livingston College in North Carolina and received his M. Div, from Howard University School of Religion and was ordained to the gospel ministry in 1958. His funeral service was held in Jackson, Tennessee on Saturday, June 18, a day before his 80th birthday at the New St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church in Jackson, Tennessee.

Please come join in remembering and celebrating his service and achievements to the Champaign-Urbana and surrounding communities.

**** If you are interested in singing in the Community Choir that day, please arrive at Salem by 11:30am wearing all black attire for rehearsal.**