

(A few years ago, Dad decided he wanted to write his own obituary...this was the result)

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#### OLD EYESDRE REMOVED

Leon Coats: born a century late, hated telephones, hated modern living, loved to talk to mules and grandsons, country philosopher, eyesore in his own right, proud of his nose because it was hand-picked, loved his cookie-baby ( wife), loved his children, fiercely devoted to his family, beloved brother/son/husband/father, character of his own making, still had the first dime he ever earned and all the ones thereafter, raised poor and proud of it, always took the hardest route to any trip or task, signalman for the armed guard unit of the U.S. Navy during WWII; recognized as one of the 20th Century Columbia Kewpies football team members: loved to eat and brought new meaning to the word 'consumer' in regards to food and has been fondly referred to as "The human garbage disposal" and spent his life loving leftovers and always looking for the original meal, has gone on to meet his Maker and his beloved family who have gone on before. He will be missed and always loved and remembered for his enduring words of wisdom, fondly coined as 'Leonisms' ..... "I was up all night, until it finally dawned on me"; "It's not what you earn, it's how much you spend"; "If you don't watch your figure, nobody else will"; "Straighten up and fly right", "You can't save it if you don't earn it"; "Youth is wasted on the young"; "You can pick your friends, and you can pick your nose, but you can't pick your friend's nose"; re: growing up poor "The only toys we had to play with were words and most of them were dirty", re: enjoyment "I had more fun than when the hogs ate my little brother";

Obviously his life made a statement....that statement is yet to be determined.

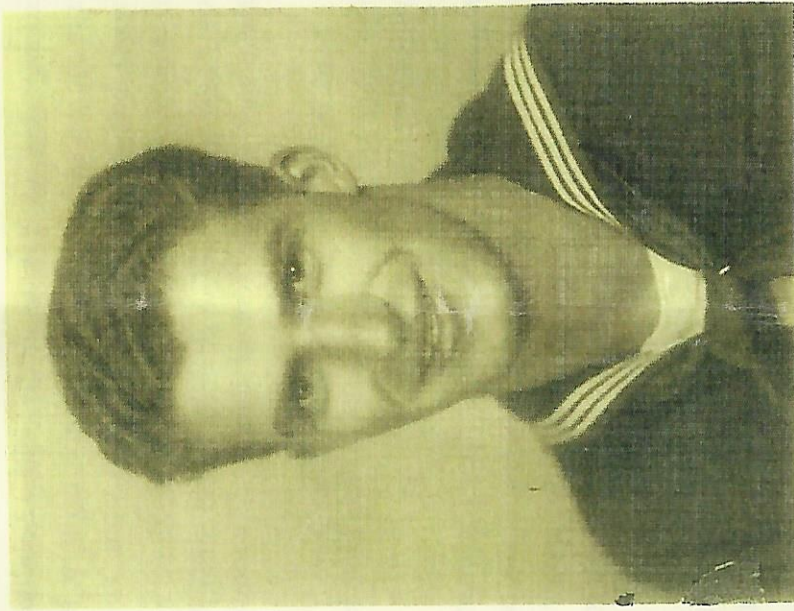
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(After reading this aloud, Mom reported, "You are not going to put that in the paper!", and we affirmed we would. Mom paused and retorted, "Then I just hope I go first.")

## FRANKLIN LEON COATS

Navy Nickname: Flags

Columbia, MO



July 17, 1924 - February 2, 2019

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Jim Peabody Officiating