



CLARA LUPER (1923-2011)

Mrs. Luper was a teacher who led by example. Before 1958, many businesses would not serve food to African Americans. In August of 1958, she and her students started a “sit-in” at a restaurant in Oklahoma City. The students just sat in seats knowing that they would not be served any food. Soon the business owners agreed to serve African American customers. It was the first time that African Americans could eat in downtown restaurants. She and her students would “sit-in” at many more businesses.