

Theodore L. Lewis**Date of Death:** 7/11/2020

The Rev. Theodore L. "Ted" Lewis, who helped build up the Anglican Church in Congo while working as a foreign service officer, died July 11, aged 93. A native of Long Island, Father Lewis served in the army during World War II, and then graduated from Haverford College and Harvard University. As a foreign service officer, he was first posted to French Indochina, where he became a lay reader in the Anglican congregation in Saigon and began to discern a call to ordained ministry. He was later posted to Karachi, Pakistan, where he assisted the local bishop in visitations to rural villages. He prepared for the ministry at Virginia Theological Seminary, and following his ordination in 1964, served as curate of St. Columba's in Washington D.C. He returned to Saigon in 1965, working to coordinate food importation for South Vietnam as the Vietnam War raged. Father Lewis was then assigned to Kinshasa, Zaire, where he started a small Anglican congregation, and helped to encourage the creation of the first Anglican diocese there, in Boga. He remained an advocate for the Congolese church for the rest of his life, coordinating sponsorship for advanced education for clergy and serving in more recent years as the church's American commissar. This was followed by additional postings in South Korea and Laos. Returning to Washington, he assisted in several parishes, and was theologian-in-residence at All Saints', Chevy Chase, in recent years. He focused on scholarly work in retirement, traveling regularly to Duke and Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, where he made many friends. Father Lewis was the author of two books, *To Restore the Church and Faith and the Foreign Service*, as well as many articles on Anglican Communion matters for several publications, including *The Living Church*. He is survived by his son.