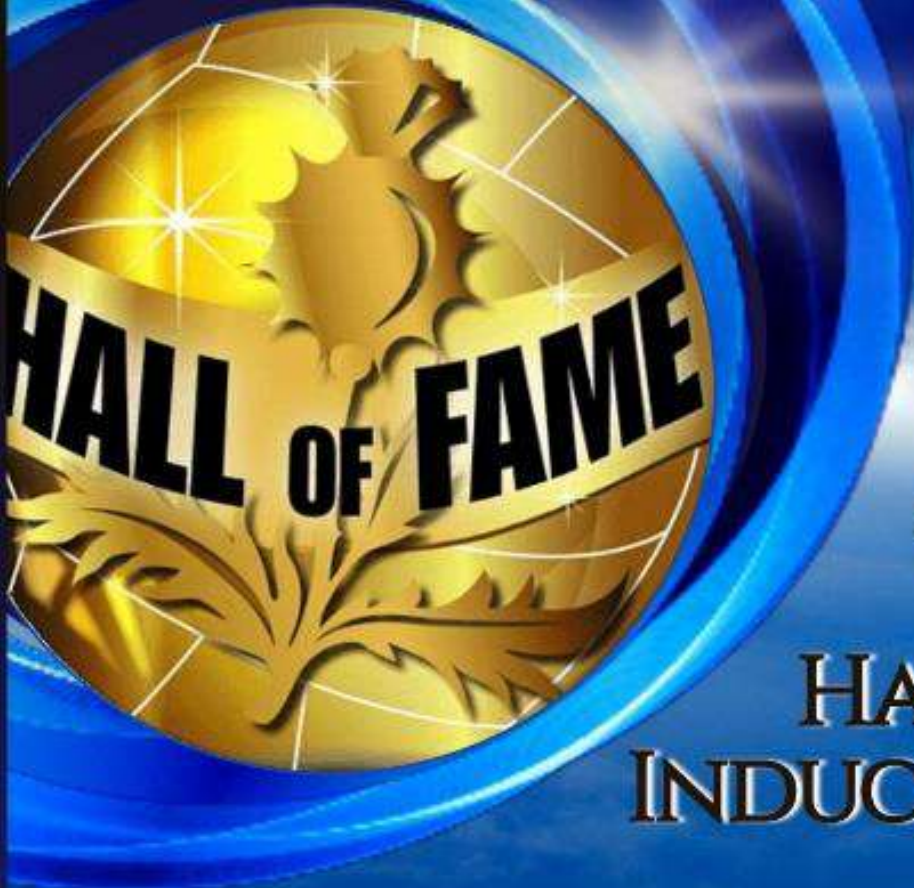


JOIN US AS WE
CELEBRATE



8TH
ANNUAL
VIAHA
HALL OF FAME
INDUCTION BANQUET

VIAHA HALL OF FAME

JUNE 23RD

TWO THOUSAND
TWENTY-THREE

Guest Speaker:

DR. LATORIAL FAISON



Sponsored by:

*Virginia Interscholastic
Association Heritage Association*

PROGRAM

Mistress of Ceremony.....Ms. Andrea Copeland
Welcome.....Mr. Donald A. Byers
Invocation.....Rev. Norman Vick

~ DINNER ~

Keynote Speaker..... Dr. Latorial Faison

~ HALL OF FAME INDUCTION ~

Hall of Fame Acceptance.....Mr. Douglas M. Smith
Membership.....Ms. Thelma Jefferson
Closing Remarks.....Mr. James “Jimmy” Hollins
Group Photo.....Hall of Famers





Dinner Menu

Salad

**Garden Salad with
Ranch or Italian Dressing**

Main Course

**Chicken Breast with Dijon
Sliced London Broil with Mushroom Sauce
Vegetable Medley
Roasted Red Bliss Potatoes**

Dessert

Double Chocolate Cake



KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Dr. Latorial Faison is a twenty-eight-year military spouse married to COL (Retired US Army) Carl J. Faison. They have three sons. Dr. Faison is a poet, author, educator, and independent scholar who currently serves as Assistant Professor on the teaching faculty at Virginia State University, one of the nation's premier Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Faison, a Southampton County, Virginia native, completed a BA in English Literature & Religious Studies at the University of Virginia and a Master's in English Literature at VA TECH. She completed doctoral studies in Education at Virginia State University. Dr. Faison is a 2023 recipient of the

VA Humanities Fellowship for research.

Dr. Faison is a published author whose writing and research explore the African American experience, and the intersections of race, culture, and identity intersect. She is an award-winning poet, a James Madison University Furious Flower Poetry Center Fellow, and a Pushcart nominee whose poetry and creative nonfiction works have been published and anthologized widely in literary magazines, journals, school curriculums, and news outlets including the Department of Defense, STARS & STRIPES, Artemis Journal, PRAIRIE SCHOONER, Penumbra, West Trestle Review, Deep South Magazine, Obsidian: Literature & Art in the African Diaspora, Southern Women's Review, Virginia's Best Emerging Poets, and Southern Poetry Anthology. Dr. Faison is a National Military Family Association Scholar, Tom Howard Poetry Prize winner, and a semi-finalist for the CAVE CANEM, HUDSON, WHEELER & STEVENSON Poetry prizes.

She is the author and/or editor of 15 books, including the Amazon Kindle best-selling trilogy, *28 Days of Poetry Celebrating Black History*, *LOVE POEMS*, *I Am Woman, flesh*, *Secrets of My Soul*, *Immaculate Perceptions*, *Kendall's Golf Lesson*, and *100 Poems You Can Write*. Most recently, Faison published *The Missed Education of the Negro: An Examination of the Black Segregated Experience in Southampton County, VA 1950-1970*. Dr. Faison is a member of the Wintergreen Women Writers Collectives, the Blue Ridge Writers Collective, and a Life Member of the Poetry Society of Virginia.

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VIA STORY

The Virginia Interscholastic Association (VIA) was an organization of African American high schools created in 1954 through the efforts of African American secondary school principals and administrators with operational funds from the Virginia General Assembly. The organization provided enriching opportunities and activities to African American high schools that were otherwise inaccessible due to racial, social and economic barriers. The VIA provided a wide range of exceptional activities such as athletics, arts, academic competitions and student associations during a time of segregation. Virginia State University acted as the host institution and provided staff for operations through the Field Service Division. They also served as the main location of athletic activities. In this role, Virginia State University provided the training and development for the directors and coaches who ran the extracurricular programs. Academic activities such as Science and Math competitions alternated between Virginia State University, Virginia Union University, Hampton University and St. Paul's College. The collaboration between the VIA, Virginia State University as well as other Virginia African American universities, provided students with opportunities for higher education through enrollment and grant aid programs.

The VIA is also a story about a vision for a society where African American high school students were acknowledged for their intelligence, creative skills and athletic abilities. Virginia State University was not only the institutional body that held the VIA together, but also the epicenter of African American culture at this time. The VIA was very beneficial for students, but also helped the relationship between African American institutions of higher education, parents and community members. The organization lasted until 1969 when it was dissolved due to integration. Upon being defunded the program was merged with the VHSL (Virginia High School League).

The website aims to present and document the archived materials of the VIA. The site also serves to capture an educational moment in African American history. Ultimately, we hope the website is able to present the many aspects that have been encapsulated by the VIA as an educational and cultural project.
<https://viastory.org/>

VIAHA 2023



2023 CLASS OF INDUCTEES

ATHLETES

Carl B. Jackson
Eric R. "Duke" McCaskill
Alvin N. Puryear
Douglas M. Smith

COACHES

Coach Walter "Rock" Greene
Coach Thomas Hooker
Coach Louis Johnson

CONTRIBUTORS

Mary Winston Jackson
Frank J. Smith

VIAHA HALL OF FAME INAUGURAL CLASS OF INDUCTEES

2022 Class of Inductees

Athletes: Dr. Claudis “CB” Claiborne and Jacob “Jake” Wyche, Jr.

Coaches: Dr. Paulette Walker Johnson

Contributors: Carlton Earl “Carl” Anderson, James “Jimmy” Hollins, Thelma M. Jefferson and Dr. Gladys B. West

2021 Class of Inductees

Athletes: Warren C. Dance, J. Maurice Hawkins and Walter “Fuzzy” Ward

Contributors: Germaine S. Fautleroy, Wesley L. Harris, William M. Harris, Ronald E. Mickens, Maxie “Max” Robinson, Jr. and Randall Robinson

2020 Class of Inductees

Athletes: Arthur Ashe, Jr., Donald Culpepper, Wheeler Hughes and Willie Lanier

Coaches: Harold Deane, Sr., Robert W. Johnson and Carnis Poindexter

Contributors: Afemo Omilami (Kenneth Lee), Carolyn Rudd, Melvin Stith and Andrew “Jack” White

2019 Class of Inductees

Athletes: Charles Bonaparte, Benjamin “Benny” Brown, Warren Canada, Robert “Bobby” Dandridge, Louis Richard Harris and Fred Harold “Doc” Sawyer

Coaches: Willard Bailey, James “Blue” Earley and Carl Peal

Contributors: William Albert “W. A.” Brown, Cheryl Anthony Epps and Roger L. Gregory

VIAHA HALL OF FAME INAUGURAL CLASS OF INDUCTEES

2018 Class of Inductees

Athletes: Ronald Bolton, Joseph Bradley, Earl Faison, Jim Lewis and Jerry Venable

Coaches: Alphonso Hamilton, Eugene Thompson, Arnold Thurmond and William Travis

Contributors: William Bailey, Julian Manley Earl and Marguerita Ragsdale

2017 Class of Inductees

Athletes: Mattie Parham Bell, Leroy Keyes, Milbert Archer Megginson, Marty Miller and Charles Price

Coaches: Howard Allen, Walter Lovett and Harry Waters

Contributors: Garwin DeBerry, Clarence Oliver and Knox W. Tull, Jr.

2016 Class of Inductees

Athletes: Roosevelt Brown, Walter A. Bowser, Joseph Buggs, Jesse H. Jefferson, Raymond Pollard, Donald L. Ross, Jr., Bryant L. Stith and Charles E. Stukes

Coaches: Frederick T. Cooper, Arthur "Stretch" Gardner, Robinette Hayes, George Lancaster, William W. Lawson, Jr., Thad Madden, Carl Pinn, George W. Quarles, Maxie Robinson, Sr., and Robert W. Smith

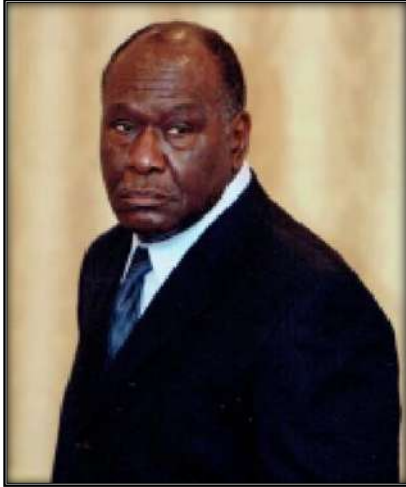
Contributors: James Hayes, Calvin Moses Jacox, Clarence Jones, George Peterson, Jr., Elmer F. Sampson and Ernest Shaw

Special Recognition: Armstrong-Walker Football Classic

ATHLETE

Carl B. Jackson

Jackson P. Burley High School – Charlottesville, VA



Carl B. Jackson is a Charlottesville native and a 1956 graduate of Jackson P. Burley High School. Carl began playing with the Burley Bears football team his freshmen year of high school and played through his senior year. He became an exceptional football player and the recipient of many honors and accolades.

Carl believes to be successful, you need discipline. It has carried over from high school through his adult life. As a football player, he played on both sides of the ball. He played “Center” for the offense team and as a “Linebacker” for the defense team. With only 30 players on the team, the players rotated between playing offense and defense. He served as captain of the team for the 1954 and 1955 seasons. As a player Carl had much success.

- **1954** – Member of the VIAL State Football Championship Team
- **1955** – Member of the Northern District Football Championship Team
- **1956** – Member of the Northern District Co-Football Championship Team

Carl was tenacious on the field and in the classroom. His tenacity showed as he helped lead the Bears, under the famed coaching of Robert “Bob” Smith to several award winning seasons. His personal accolades included selection as a two time member of the Virginia High School All-State Football Team and an outstanding football player for the Burley High School team. His efforts also helped the team to experience great success. During his tenure, the team’s record was 39-3-1. The team also won titles at the district and state level. Players and coaches alike noted Carl’s discipline as a player contributed to his success and attitude, which influenced the rest of the team.

Carl’s success at Jackson P. Burley High School earned him a scholarship to play football at Maryland State University. There he continued to excel on the field. Carl married his high school sweetheart and raised a beautiful family. He retired as a U.S. postal worker in December 1995 and is now a faithful member of the Zion Union Baptist Church in Charlottesville, serving as the Chairman of the Deacon Board.

Carl will always be known as a person of integrity and dedication. He earned the title as one of the true pillars of the Charlottesville community. Many say, “You cannot tell the story of the Burley Bears, without mentioning Carl B”.

ATHLETE

Eric R. "Duke" McCaskill, Sr.

Huntington High School, Newport News, Virginia



Eric R. "Duke" McCaskill is a native of the East End of Newport News, Virginia. He attended the all black Huntington High School. While at Huntington, he made track and field history under the legendary and VIA Hall of Fame Coach, Thaddeus Madden. Eric participated in football and earned honors as an all-district defensive back. But, track was his signature sport. From the 1961–1962 school year, as a freshman, he won the state title for both the 120 yard high hurdles and the 180 low hurdles. Eric would then go on to win the title for the next three years. He held records in outdoor high hurdles and low hurdles each year of his high school career. He was also a member of two Championship of America mile relay teams at the Penn Relays in 1963 and 1964. He established a national high school

indoor record for the 50 yard high hurdles and another for the indoor 70 yard high hurdles.

Eric was the first Virginian, black or white, to set national records in track and field. He earned a four year scholarship to Purdue University in Lafayette, Indiana. While at Purdue, not only did he continue to excel in athletics, he became a pioneer for the equal treatment of African American students at predominantly white institutions.

Mr. McCaskill helped found the Black Culture Center, which was a result from Mr. McCaskill's 9-point proposal to establish measures for integrative studies on campus. When he arrived at Purdue University, there were only 120 Black students in attendance out of nearly 20,000 students. Even at the risk of losing his scholarship he and others led to the creation of the center. Over the years, the Black Culture Center has grown tremendously. Mr. McCaskill was honored and recognized for his leadership as the founding director.

Today, Rev. Dr. Eric McCaskill is the leader of a nonprofit religious organization, "Alpha and Omega Ministry", serving youth in the northern area of Newport News. Along with his wife Duchess, they counsel and mentor countless middle and high school students. His story is one of grit, determination, and breaking down barriers.

Beyond Rev. Dr. Eric McCaskill's impressive and well documented athletic career, his courage to lead in difficult situations and desire to serve and uplift others will always be his defining characteristics and contribution to the community.

ATHLETE

Alvin N. Puryear

George P. Phenix High School – Hampton, Virginia



Alvin N. Puryear, PhD. was a University educator, church, civic and community leader, and a distinguished alumni leader at Yale University, as well as a management and governance expert. Above all, he was a devoted husband, proud father and grandfather to his three daughters and two granddaughters.

Alvin Puryear was born in Fayetteville, North Carolina in 1937. His family moved to Hampton, Virginia where he graduated from George P. Phenix High School. At Phenix, he was an outstanding student athlete. He was the starting offensive and defensive tackle for the football team and was named to the All-State Team. As captain of the basketball team, Alvin helped lead the team to a 21-1 record. As a distinguished member of the track and field team, Phenix won titles in the shot put and discus throw. Alvin earned nine varsity letters and remained ranked #1 academically in his class. He graduated as Class Valedictorian in 1955.

After graduation, Alvin accepted a scholarship to Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. Prior to attending Yale, he decided to enroll at Hampton Institute to enhance his preparation. He would go on to graduate from Yale with All-Ivy honors as a football player and earned his bachelor's degree as an honor graduate in sociology. Alvin was offered a contract by the New York Titans (now New York Jets) to play professionally, but would decide to pursue his education rather than a career playing football.

Alvin attended the Graduate School of Business at Columbia University in New York City, where he earned MBA and PhD degrees in Finance and was a Samuel Bronfman Fellow and a John Hay Whitney Fellow. While in school, Dr. Puryear was an assistant coach for Riverdale Country School with legendary Head Coach Frank Bertino. The team had an undefeated streak of 51 games during Dr. Puryear's five years with the team.

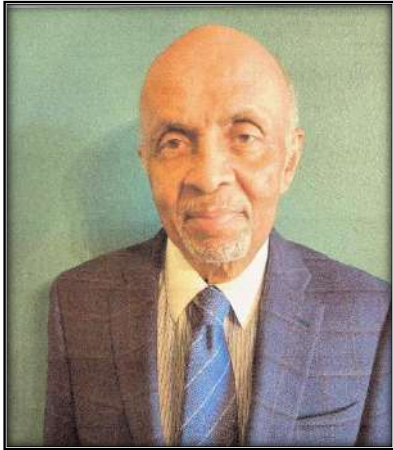
After completing his education, Dr. Puryear worked for Exxon Mobile and Allied Chemical Corporation. He soon transitioned to academia as faculty at the Graduate Business School at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey, later moving to the Business School of Bernard Baruch College of the City University of New York (CUNY). Dr. Puryear became a full tenured professor at age 35, one of the youngest to accomplish the feat at CUNY. He held several significant positions at the University during his time there. He was equally as committed to his community and church as he was to his profession and family. He held several positions in the Presbyterian Church to include Chairman of the Program Agency Board; Chairman of the Central Treasury Corporation and Chairman of the Investment and Loan Corporation. Dr. Puryear further maintained a life-long relationship with Yale University, as he served as a Board Member, trustee, and chaired the Association of Yale Alumni.

Dr. Puryear will be remembered as a well-respected academic, coach, athlete and family centered man.

ATHLETE

Douglas M. Smith

George P. Phenix High School – Hampton, Virginia



Douglas Smith is a native of Hampton, Virginia. He attended George P. Phenix High School from 1957 – 1960. At Phenix, he was known for his athletic skills in tennis and basketball. He was a starting point guard and the captain of the basketball team and a state champion on the tennis team. In 1960, he was named the Tidewater Sports Club 'Most Valuable Player' and a first time All-Star. That same year, he reached the finals of the Boys' Tennis Singles State Championship, losing only to Arthur Ashe.

After graduating from Phenix High School, Douglas attended Hampton Institute, majoring in mathematics. While attending Hampton, he was a member of the University's CIAA Championship Tennis Teams in 1962 and 1964. Upon graduation, Douglas entered the U.S. Army as a commissioned officer. He served as a Battery Commander at a nuclear missile site in Fairbanks, Alaska and commanded troops under combat conditions in Vietnam. He was well decorated, earning the Bronze Star with the "V" device for heroism in action, the Purple Heart, and the Army Commendation Medal. Douglas left the army with the rank of Captain.

Returning to civilian life, he pursued a career in journalism, where he would achieve incredible success. Mr. Smith covered super star athletes to include: Julius Erving, Earl Monroe, Walt Frazier and Willis Reed. He also edited and updated Arthur Ashe's three volume book, published in 1988. In 2001, in collaboration with Tennis Pro Zina Garrison, wrote her autobiography. Mr. Smith would also serve as a distinguished Professor of Journalism at Hampton University, where he taught basic journalism and sports writing.

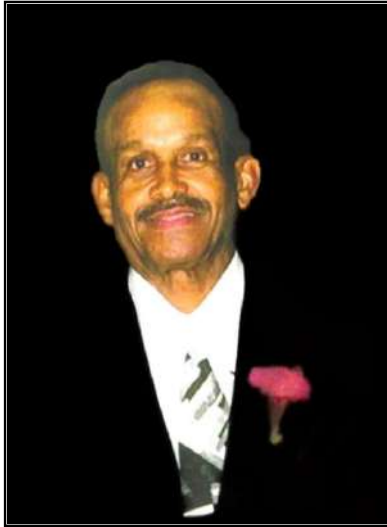
His career would cover multiple decades, where he was writer and editor for very influential newspapers such as, Newsday, the New York Post, and USA Today. Mr. Smith broke several significant stories in the sports world such as, Arthur Ashe having contracted AIDS, the death of Len Bias, and copious cover stories of tennis greats to include, Andre Agassi, Jennifer Capriati, Pete Sampras and Venus and Serena Williams. His work earned him several awards, including the U.S. Tennis Association Life Achievement Award, the Women's Tennis Association Media Person of the Year, and Tennis Week Great American Writing Award. Mr. Smith is also an acclaimed nonfiction writer.

Those who know Mr. Smith best say, he lived each day of his life so that his life would be an example of caring, kindness, compassion, and quality for those who came in contact with him. He believed, "our lives should do the singing" and that he was to be a role model to those in his community, on the job, in the classroom and on the basketball and tennis courts. Mr. Smith was a steadfast, focused, reliable, honest and courteous man.

COACH

Walter "Rock" Greene

Jackson P. Burley High School – Charlottesville, Virginia



Walter "Rock" Greene was an incredible coach, mentor, and teacher at Jackson P. Burley High School in Charlottesville, Virginia. Coach Greene also worked at several schools in the District of Columbia Public School System (DCPS). He began his coaching career at Jackson P. Burley High School in 1957 as an assistant basketball and football coach. He also taught Physical Education and became the Head Baseball Coach from 1960 – 1963.

Coach Greene's teams achieved success as champions at the district and state level. Possibly even greater than his coaching and mentoring contributions at Burley High, were his being known for his great character and presence. He was a stern disciplinarian, yet his students saw him as always being a gentleman who was well loved, respectful, compassionate, nurturing, patient, encouraging

and willing to listen.

In 1963, at the request of Lemuel A. Penn, Assistant Superintendent of Adult Vocational Education for DCPS, Coach Greene left Burley High to return to his alma mater and teach Physical Education and coach basketball. At Phelps Vocational High School and later at the Washington Math and Science Technology Public Charter High School, Coach Greene continued to make an indelible impact on the students, athletes, staff, and families he worked with.

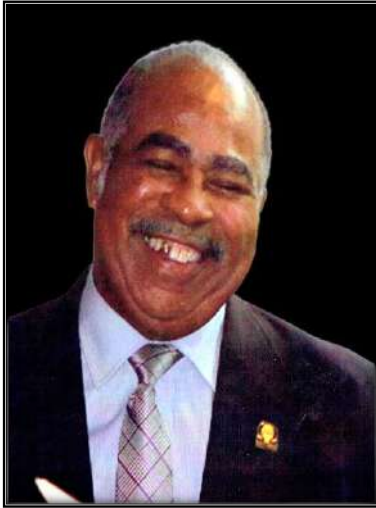
Coach Greene was recognized by several communities in Delaware, Washington DC, and Charlottesville, Virginia for his sports contributions. In 1986, the Delaware State Hall of Fame inducted him into their ranks for his success as a four year letterman in basketball, football, baseball, and track and field. He earned all-conference honors in football and baseball while at Delaware State University. In 2000, he was inducted into the District of Columbia Coaches Association Sports Hall of Fame. In 2007, he was inducted into the Phelps Vocational High School Athletic Hall of Fame. In 2010, he was honored alongside three other Burley High School coaches for outstanding performance. A Historical Marker was unveiled for the Walter "Rock" Greene and Albert "AP" Moore Gymnasium in 2010 on the campus of historical Jackson P. Burley High School (now Burley Middle School). In 2020 Coach Greene was inducted into the Black College Football Hall of Fame.

Coach Greene will be remembered as a soft spoken man of God, who always got his point across without screaming or yelling. He was a one of a kind leader and a successful high school coach who was blessed with the ability to nurture, listen, encourage and lead without intimidation.

COACH

Thomas Hooker

Southside High School – Dinwiddie, Virginia



Thomas Hooker was born in Raleigh, North Carolina as the youngest of seven children to Nathaniel Hooker Sr., and Della Hooker. Thomas is a beloved father, grandfather and husband. He has dedicated his life to service and education. He is a 1958 graduate of Berry O’Kelly High School, where he was known as an exceptional athlete. He is a 1962 graduate of Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Health and Physical Education and a minor in Biology. Thomas played baseball and basketball while at Shaw University.

Mr. Hooker began his career teaching Health and Physical Education and coaching baseball and basketball at L.P. Jackson High School in Surry County. In 1965, he moved to Southside High School in Dinwiddie County. Southside High School was the only high school for African American students at the time in Dinwiddie County. At Southside, his teams posted exceptional records, winning multiple state championships. It was proclaimed that the road to the title went through Southside. When the schools integrated in 1970, he stayed at the school which was renamed, Dinwiddie County Junior High School.

In 1972, Mr. Hooker earned a Masters of Education in Supervision and Administration from Virginia State University. He accepted the position of assistant principal at Dinwiddie County Junior High School in 1972. Mr. Hooker was an educator in Dinwiddie County for 20 years, and during this time, he touched the lives and made an impact on countless students of all races and ethnic backgrounds, as well as their families.

In 1985, Mr. Hooker transitioned to Prince George County Public Schools as an assistant principal, and was eventually promoted to the assistant superintendent. He would retire from the school district in 1999. He worked part time as the Business Development Officer for the Bank of McKenney. He is a dedicated citizen in the community of Dinwiddie County where he serves on numerous Boards and Commissions to include: Dinwiddie County Youth Commission, Dinwiddie County Airport Authority, Dinwiddie County Strategic Planning Committee, Historic Southside High School Task Force Committee, and the Dinwiddie County Industrial Development Authority. He is also a member of the St. Stephens Lodge #247, 32nd Degree, where he serves as treasurer, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated and serves on the Board of Trustees Ministry at Olive Branch Baptist Church.

Mr. Hooker will always be remembered as a gentleman, educator and a coach that inspired everyone that he encountered.

COACH

Louis Johnson

Parker-Gray High School – Alexandria, Virginia



Louis Johnson was born in Lynchburg, Virginia and grew up in Charlottesville, Virginia, where he attended Jefferson High School. After graduation, he attended Hampton Institute for two years and transferred to West Virginia State College. Louis was a tri-sport athlete playing football, tennis, and was on the gymnastics team. He graduated in 1936, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education. After graduating, he taught at the Institute High School in West Virginia and also coached football at West Virginia State College.

For over two decades, Coach Johnson coached football, basketball, baseball, and track and field at Parker-Gray High School in Alexandria, Virginia, until the school closed in 1965. During his tenure at Parker-Gray, Coach Johnson produced some of the finest athletes and sports teams in Virginia. His teams regularly, competed and won state titles, as well as competitions with teams from Maryland, West Virginia, and Washington D.C. Notably, his 1946 “Dream Team” produced three future Black College All-Americans. Despite the lack of quality facilities, poor funding, and small enrollment he created an environment where student athletes excelled and prospered.

Coach Johnson developed future professional athletes who would compete in the National Football League, Canadian Football League, and the National Basketball Association. He was known as a miracle worker for creating an atmosphere of excellence and accountability.

Coach Johnson was a committed husband, dedicated father, and a highly respected person in his community. Known for his high character, he was affectionately called “Rubber Dog” by his peers.

He was inducted into the West Virginia State College Hall of Fame in 1984 and the Alexandria African American Hall of Fame Class of 2013.

CONTRIBUTOR

Mary Winston Jackson

George P. Phenix High School – Hampton, Virginia



Mary Winston Jackson was born on April 21, 1921 in Hampton, Virginia. She grew up in Hampton where she was an honor graduate of George P. Phenix High School. In 1942, Mary earned her Bachelors of Science Degree from Hampton Institute, majoring in Mathematics and Physical Science. At Hampton Institute she became a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. Immediately following Mary's graduation she took her first job as a teacher at a black school in Calvert County, Maryland. After only a year of teaching math, Mary returned home to Hampton where she worked as a bookkeeper for the Hampton Institute Health Department and as a secretary at Fort Monroe Army installation. It was in 1951, when Mary began her pioneering career in Engineering and employment in the segregated Laboratory Computing section

(West Area Computing) at Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory.

Mary worked in the computing pool for two years until she received an offer to work with the engineers on the 4-foot by 4-foot Supersonic Pressure Tunnel, a 60,000 horsepower wind tunnel capable of blasting models with winds approaching twice the speed of sound. As part of this training program, Mary had to take evening graduate courses. The courses were managed by the University of Virginia at the local white only Hampton High School. She received special permission to take the courses, which she completed, earning her a promotion to be NASA's first Black female engineer in 1958.

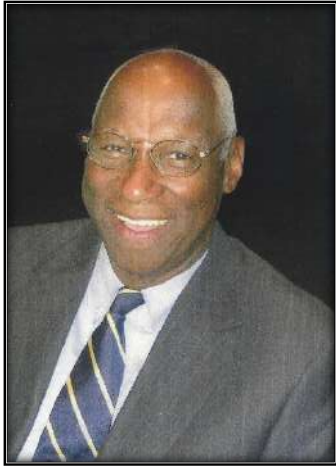
As a mathematician and aerospace engineer, Mary went on to lead programs influencing the hiring and promotion of women in NASA's science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics careers. She not only broke down racial barriers for herself, but was a trailblazer for many other Black women to be able to have careers in STEM. Mary's 34 year career is well decorated to include, Apollo Group Achievement Award, Langley's Volunteer of the Year, and the Congressional Gold Medal. Mary's name is honored in several buildings such as Mary W. Jackson Elementary School in Hampton, Virginia and Salt Lake City, Utah. NASA honored her legacy by naming their new Washington Headquarters after her and the newly erected community center in Hampton was named the Mary W. Jackson Neighborhood Center. In 2020, NASA launched a satellite, "Mary", into space.

Mary's legacy to the field of engineering despite significant racial barriers is well documented and popularized by the film *Hidden Figures*. To those who knew her well, she will also be remembered as the loving and passionate pillar of the community who used her spare time to lead a Girl Scouts troop for 30 plus years and tutor the local youth in math and science.

CONTRIBUTOR

Frank J. Smith

Armstrong High School – Richmond, Virginia



Frank J. Smith grew up in Richmond, Virginia where he attended Armstrong High School. At Armstrong, he played four years of football and baseball for the Wildcats and was the starting center for four years. He was well regarded not only for his athletic ability, but also his enthusiastic leadership and commitment to building up fellow teammates. Frank's skills earned him a full scholarship to Hampton Institute where he had continued success on the football field as a two way starter for 3.5 years.

Frank was honored as the Most Valuable Player and was the recipient of the Willard Saxby Townsend Trophy, the most distinguished award offered to a Hampton athlete at the time. His dedication to others also continued as he was known to tutor his teammates and ensure they were excelling on the field and in the classroom. Frank credits his upbringing in Richmond and the valuable lessons he gained at Hampton to his success in the very competitive business world.

Immediately after graduating from Hampton Institute, Frank landed his first job at Melpar Incorporated, an engineering firm that worked on a government contract that manufactured the printing of circuit boards for the Minute Man Intercontinental Ballistic Missile System. He finished at the top of his training class, which was composed of some of the brightest graduates from Cal Tech, MIT, Georgia Tech, Virginia Tech, and Hampton Institute. His work earned him membership to the prestigious American Institute of Industrial Engineers and prompted him to pursue his MBA at American University. He would complete his MBA degree while working at Vitro Research Laboratory, which oversaw the systems that launched the Polaris Nuclear Submarine 616 Class Fleet. Frank was also the first African American to be named president of a local chapter of the American Institute of Industrial Engineering.

Frank's success would lead him to East Hartford, Connecticut where he was recruited by United Technologies' Pratt and Whitney Division. There he worked on the TF30 jet engine for F111 fighter planes and JT9D engine for the Boeing 747 jumbo jet. He yet again excelled in this role while maintaining deep ties to his roots as a member of the Hampton Alumni Association Hartford Chapter, where he helped recruit over 100 students to eventually attend Hampton. In 1974, Frank joined Travelers Insurance Company and was soon promoted to the Director of Agency Administration and Agency Management Consulting Division, and eventually, as the first African American Vice President.

Frank is currently the President and CEO for Sphinx, located in Williamsburg, Virginia and is internationally acclaimed by leaders in his field. He has been appointed by two different governors to advisory boards, been the senior advisor on several business firm boards, and has served on many community organizations. Frank's career is marked by significant professional accomplishments, trailblazing efforts, and an overall passion for helping others.



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VIA Heritage Association, Inc.

www.viaheritage.com

Membership Application

January 1 – December 31

We are asking you to become a member and be committed to help build a Hall of Fame and Museum for the Virginia Interscholastic Association (VIA).

Membership Fee & Level: \$50.00 -- Individual

\$150.00 -- Alumni Association

NAME: _____

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

TELEPHONE #: Home: _____ Cell: _____

E-MAIL: _____

HIGH SCHOOL: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE: _____

DATE PAID: _____ AMOUNT PAID: _____

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL: _____

Acceptable forms of payment: Check, Money Order, Cashier's Check or Cash
Payable to: The VIA Heritage Association, Inc.

Questions – Please contact: THELMA JEFFERSON -- 804-862-1192 or thelma2033@comcast.net

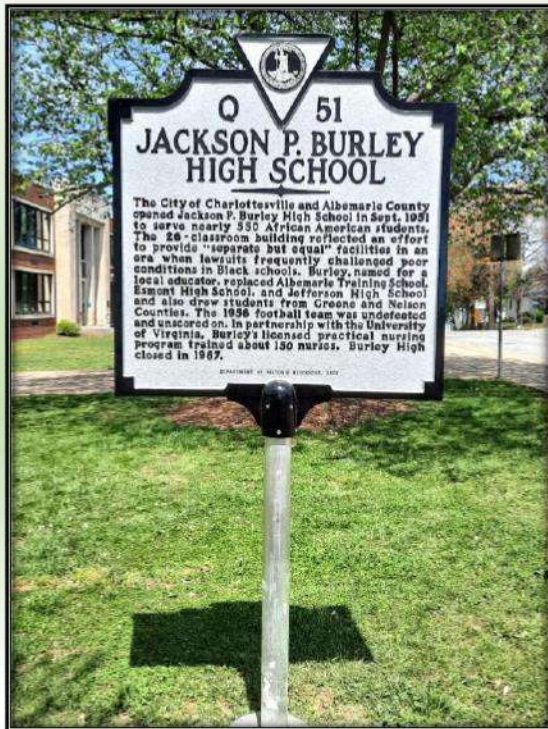
Return completed application and appropriate payment to:
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VIA Heritage Association, Inc.
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CONGRATULATIONS 2023 VIAHA HALL OF FAMERS



JACKSON P. BURLEY HIGH SCHOOL MONUMENT WALL AND HISTORICAL MARKER

The *Monument Wall* was unveiled on the campus of Jackson P. Burley Middle School on September 29, 2018. The *Historical Marker* was unveiled on April 16, 2022. Burley High School served African American students from opening in September 1951 until desegregation closed the school in May 1967. The marker provides a permanent history and preserves the school legacy.

Burley Varsity Club (BVC)

Special Thanks



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL WHO MADE TONIGHT'S CELEBRATION A SUCCESS. CONGRATULATIONS HALL OF FAMERS!



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VIAHA 2023 HALL OF FAME BANQUET CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA, JUNE 23, 2023

Jackson and Tull is pleased to support Virginia Interscholastic Association Heritage Association's (VIAHA) mission of preserving its history and honoring this year's Inductees into the 2023 Hall of Fame.

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. The chain reaction of evil --- hate begetting hate, wars producing more wars- must be broken or we shall be plunged into the abyss of annihilation."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "Strength to Love" - 1963

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Founded and headquartered in Washington, DC, Jackson and Tull (J&T) has employees who provide a broad range of engineering and technical services to customers in the civilian, military, and commercial space industries. Our staff consists of dedicated engineers, scientists, mathematicians, and technicians. Superior service and corporate integrity are J&T trademarks.

J&T has branch offices in the Washington, DC region, the Albuquerque, NM region, and the Los Angeles, CA region. Among J&T's customers are NASA, the U.S. Air Force and Hampton University.

Representative J&T projects include: a major subcontractor on the launch, early orbit operations, ground support systems, and continuing service missions for the Hubble Space Telescope (HST); technical and programmatic support of the Air Force Balloon Operations Program; construction inspection services for the rehabilitation of the Manhattan Bridge; structural design services of the Washington, DC Convention Center. Jackson and Tull provided integration and testing for the U.S. Air Force's TacSat-2 Satellite which was launched from Wallops Island, VA on December 16, 2006. For more information on Jackson and Tull, please visit our website: www.int.com.





Billie Jean King and Ilana Kloss

**Fund the Digitization of the Virginia Interscholastic
Association Archives at Virginia State University**

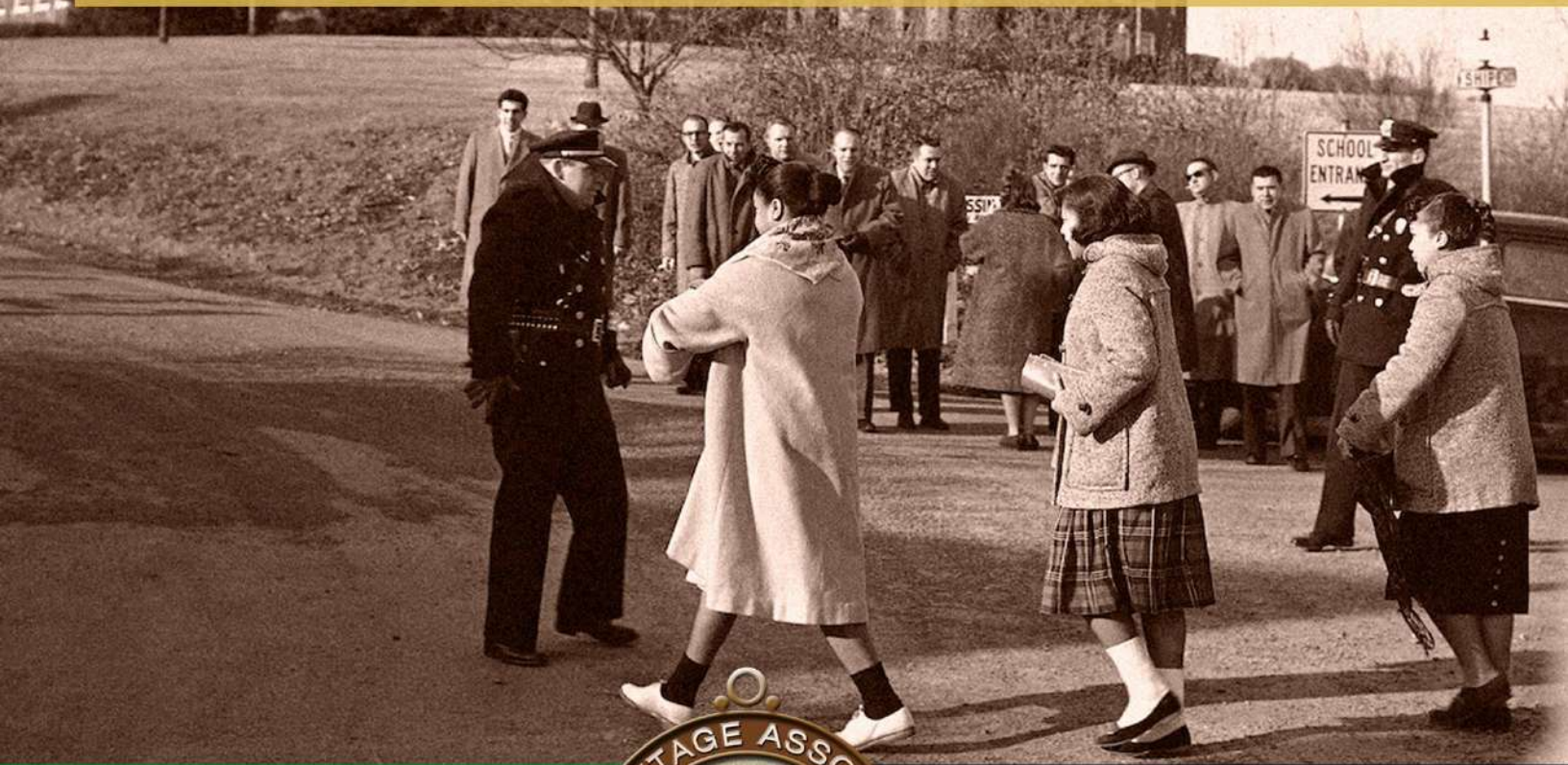
The VIA Heritage Association, Inc., wishes to commend the generosity of Billie Jean King and Ilana Kloss, for making it possible to process, digitize, and catalog the VIA archives, which are housed on the campus of Virginia State University. This effort will preserve the remarkable achievements made by Virginia African Americans during the Jim Crow era.

By law, southern states functioned as two societies, one Black, the other white. Elementary, junior high, and high schools were decidedly separate, but the distribution of state funds made them woefully unequal. From 1954 through 1970, the VIA provided high school students with interscholastic athletic competitions and other extracurricular activities including band, music, science, and math competitions.

Arthur Ashe (tennis), Bennie McRae (NFL), and Robert (Bobby) Dandridge (NBA) are among scores of VIA-trained athletes who won college scholarships and became pro standouts, despite the barriers. Ninety athletes, coaches and contributors have been inducted into the VIA Hall of Fame since it was established in 2016. Doug Smith, an award-winning tennis journalist with *USA Today* (1986-2001) along with eight other VIA graduates, will be inducted on June 23, 2023, in Charlottesville, Virginia.

The digitization process will be coordinated by the non-profit organization, Teaching for Change. Deborah Menkart, the organization's executive director, said, "When an increasing number of state laws are suppressing history instruction, it is heartening to be involved in an effort that is doing just the opposite. Young people today benefit from hearing the stories of African American administrators, teachers, and students who collectively 'made a way out of no way'."

Preserving African American High School Achievements in the State of Virginia



VIA HERITAGE
ASSOCIATION



1954 - 1969



Blue **Eagle** Publishing, LLC

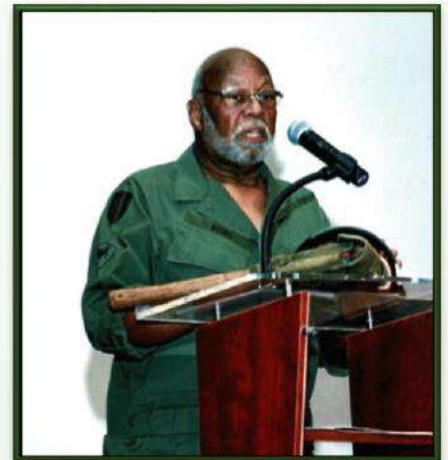
Blue Eagle Publishing is proud to celebrate VIA Heritage Association's commitment to recognizing black athletes, coaches, students & administrators during the "Jim Crow" era.

- Doug Smith, President

VETERANS COMMITTEE OF CENTRAL VIRGINIA



In Memoriam



William Walker Byers

February 1, 1946 - September 6, 2020

Mr. Byers helped to establish the Veterans Committee of Central Virginia. He was an Army Veteran. We honor his contributions and will continue to speak his name.

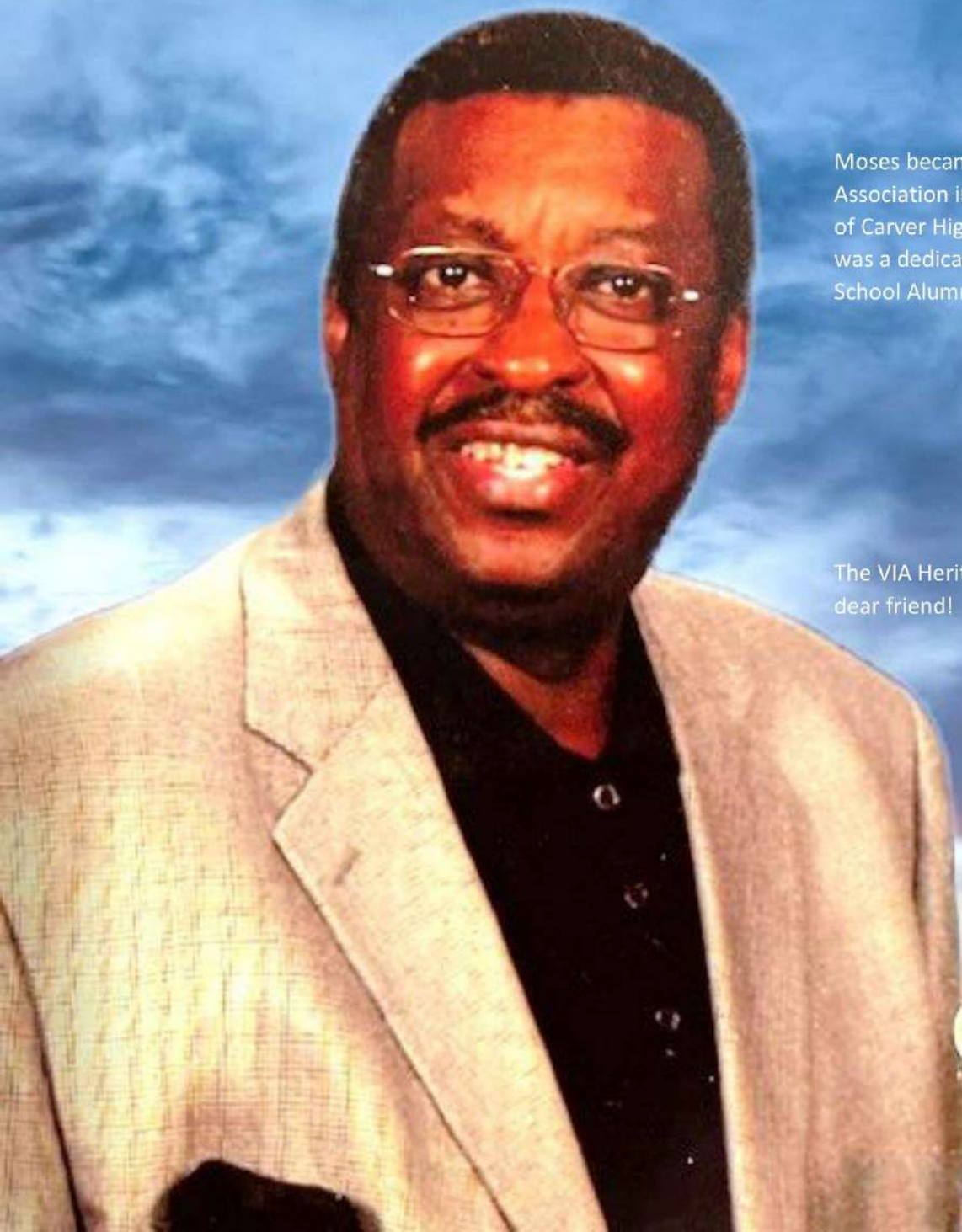


Commemorating the African American Military Experience
Vetcommcva.com
Save the Date: November 11, 2023

IN MEMORIAM

Moses E. Evans

December 6, 1946 – April 29, 2022

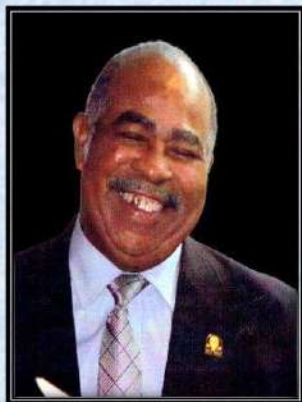


Moses became a member of the VIA Heritage Association in 2014. He was a 1965 graduate of Carver High School in Chesterfield, VA. He was a dedicated member of the Carver High School Alumni Association.



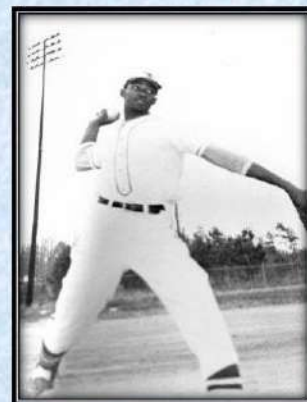
The VIA Heritage Association will miss our dear friend!

CONGRATULATIONS 2023 VIAHA HALL OF FAMERS



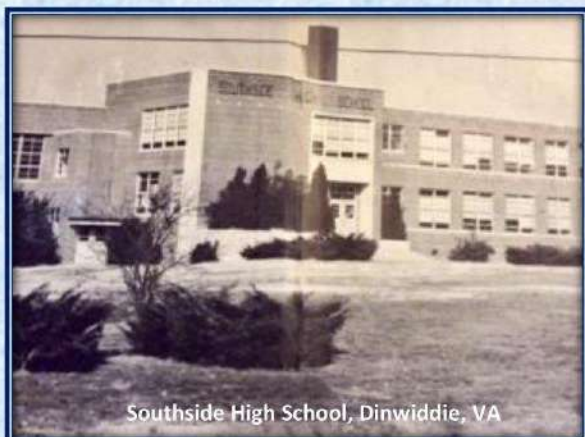
Coach Thomas Hooker

From 1965 – 1969, Coach Thomas Hooker was the Head Basketball and Baseball Coach and the Assistant Football Coach at Southside High School in Dinwiddie, Virginia.

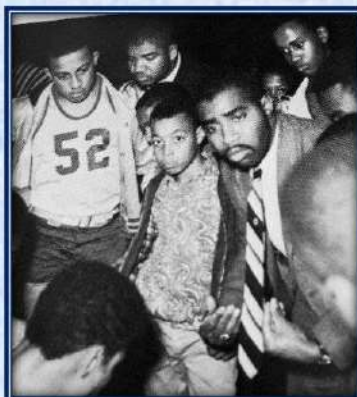


William Robinson

Robinson attended Delaware State University and was drafted by the Texas Rangers.

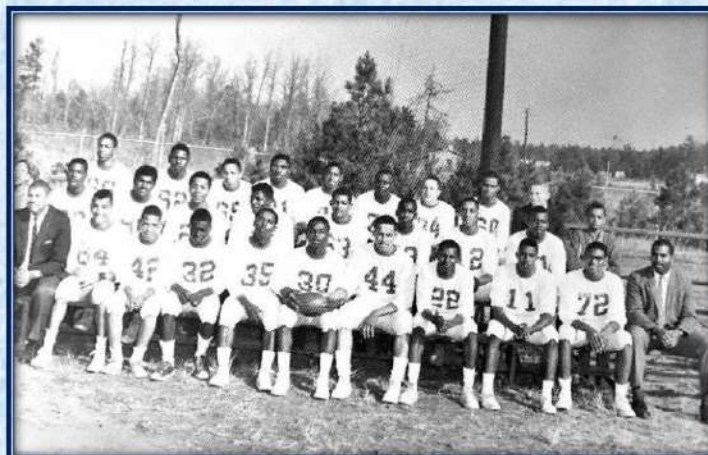


Southside High School, Dinwiddie, VA



Forever grateful to the wonderful administrators, faculty and staff of Southside High School. The school where the dreams of student came true and their memories have never faded.

Coach Thomas Hooker



DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS
Office of the Director of Athletics
(757) 727-5641

Dear Mr. Doug Smith,

I am delighted to congratulate you on your induction into the Virginia Interscholastic Association Hall of Fame. Your incredible achievements in basketball, tennis, journalism, teaching, and writing are truly remarkable. This recognition is a clear testament to your exceptional leadership and influence.

As a fellow Hampton Pirate and university graduate, I understand that "The Standard of Excellence and Education for Life" is more than just a motto. It is a powerful way of life that you have embraced with unwavering commitment, determination, and values. Your tremendous success has undoubtedly paved the way for this momentous achievement.

Your outstanding accomplishments continue to inspire current and future Hampton athletes and alumni alike. They prove that with unrelenting hard work and perseverance, anything is possible.

Once again, congratulations on this well-deserved honor.

Go, Pirates!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony D. Henderson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Anthony D. Henderson
Director of Athletics

The George P. Phenix High School

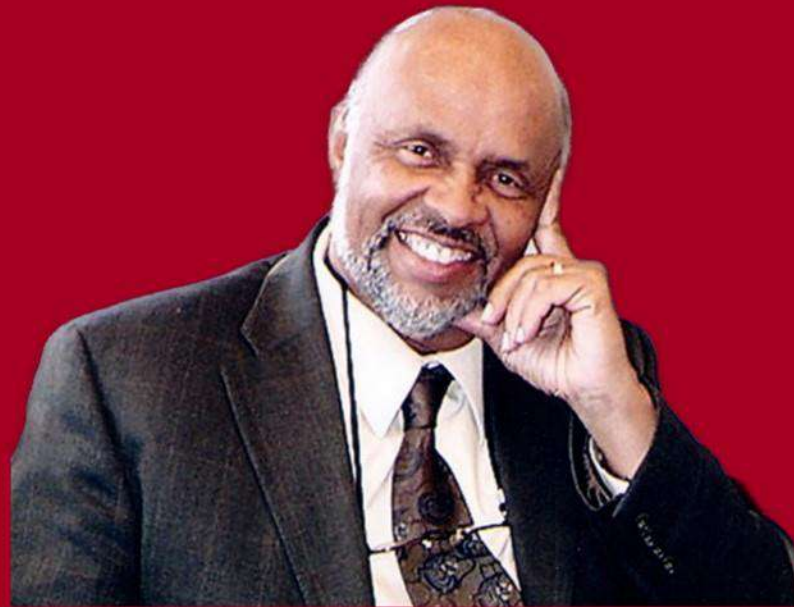
Alumni Association

CONGRATULATES

Doug Smith, Phenix Class of 1960

on induction into the

VIA Heritage Association 2023 Hall of Fame



Award-winning journalist with more than 30 years of successful achievement as an editor and writer with three of the most influential newspapers in the United States – Newsday, The New York Post and USA Today. He wrote numerous cover stories and introspective features on the superstars of tennis - Andre Agassi, Jennifer Capriati, Pete Sampras and the Williams sisters, Venus and Serena. In recognition of his sustained excellence in tennis reporting and writing, Smith is the recipient of numerous awards, including the U. S. Tennis Association Lifetime Achievement Award (1988), the Women’s Tennis Association Media Person of the Year (1989, 1995). Smith also made important contributions to the world of book publishing as an editor and writer. In 1992, he edited and updated Ashe’s three-volume book, *Hard Road To Glory: A History of the Black Athlete in America*.

The George P. Phenix High School

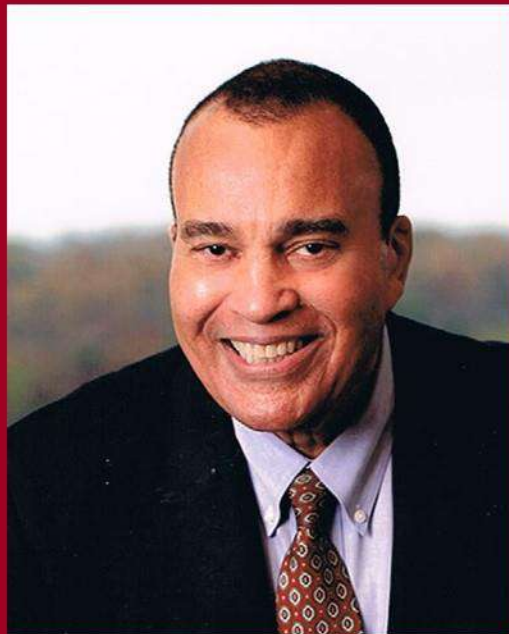
Alumni Association

CONGRATULATES

Dr. Alvin Puryear, Phenix Class of 1955

on induction into the

VIA Heritage Association 2023 Hall of Fame



Dr. Alvin N. Puryear, posthumously, was Professor Emeritus of Management and Entrepreneurship at Baruch College of the City University of New York, where he was the initial recipient of the Lawrence N. Field Professorship in Entrepreneurship. He also served as a College Dean, Department Chair, and Founder and Director of the Baruch-Cornell MS in Industrial Relations Program and the Field Center for Entrepreneurship. Previously he held executive positions in finance with the Mobil Corp. and information technology with Allied Chemical Corp, and served as a Vice President at the Ford Foundation and First Deputy Comptroller for the City of New York. After Phenix, Dr. Puryear received a BA degree from Yale University where he was an All-Ivy League lineman on the football team and a Ranking Scholar in Sociology. Later he received MBA and PhD degrees in finance from Columbia University. While at Columbia, he coached football at the Riverdale Country School for five years where the team was undefeated in 51 consecutive games.

HAMPTON UNIVERSITY
HAMPTON, VIRGINIA 23668

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS
Office of the Director of Athletics
(757) 727-5641

Dear Mr. Frank J. Smith

Congratulations on your induction into the Virginia Interscholastic Association Hall of Fame! Your impressive accomplishments during your time at Hampton University are truly admirable. This recognition is undoubtedly well-deserved.

As a fellow Hampton Pirate, you know firsthand the dedication and hard work it takes to become a successful athlete. Being named MVP of the esteemed Hampton Pirates Football team is a significant achievement that you should feel proud of.

Once again, congratulations on this well-deserved honor.

Go, Pirates!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anthony D. Henderson', is written over a large, faint watermark of the Hampton Pirates logo. The logo features two stylized pirate heads facing each other, with the word 'HAMPTON' in a large, blocky font above a banner that says 'PIRATES'.

Anthony D. Henderson
Director of Athletics

The George P. Phenix High School

Alumni Association

CONGRATULATES

Mary W. Jackson, Phenix Class of 1937

on induction into the

VIA Heritage Association 2023 Hall of Fame



Known as a human computer, Mary began her engineering career in an era in which female engineers of any background were a rarity; in the 1950s, she very well may have been the only black female aeronautical engineer in the field. For nearly two decades she enjoyed a productive engineering career, authoring or co-authoring a dozen or so research reports, most focused on the behavior of the boundary layer of air around airplanes. As the years progressed, the promotions slowed, and she became frustrated at her inability to break into management-level grades. In 1979, seeing that the glass ceiling was the rule rather than the exception for the center's female professionals, she made a final, dramatic career change, leaving engineering and taking a demotion to fill the open position of Langley's Federal Women's Program Manager. There, she worked hard to impact the hiring and promotion of the next generation of all of NASA's female mathematicians, engineers and scientists.



***Zion Union Baptist Church congratulates
Brother Carl B. Jackson for his exemplary contributions
to high school athletics and the community.
May God continue to shower
you with blessings as you stay deeply rooted
in His love, grace, and mercy.***

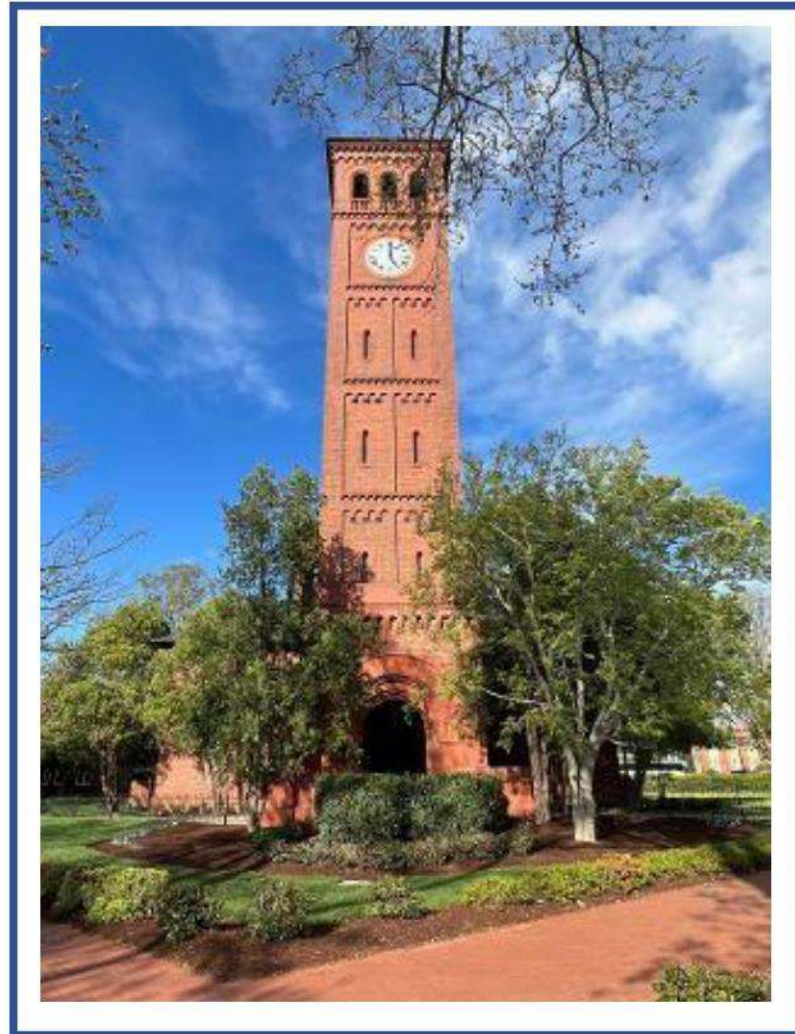


***As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him:
Rooted and built up in him, and established in the faith,
as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.
Colossians 2:6-7 (KJV)***

CONGRATULATIONS DOUGLAS SMITH VIA HALL OF FAME (TENNIS)

From:

**LTC (R) & Mrs.
Edward Gilchrist, PhD**



We honor and salute you with this original poem, written by Hubert L. Gilchrist

THOUGHTSCAPES

Meter and Rhyme came together and lost
Their time and spaced to yet another Dimension
Truth shuts the mouths that are open
And opens the Mouths that are closed
No greater Love than Respect
Let your Lines make Books



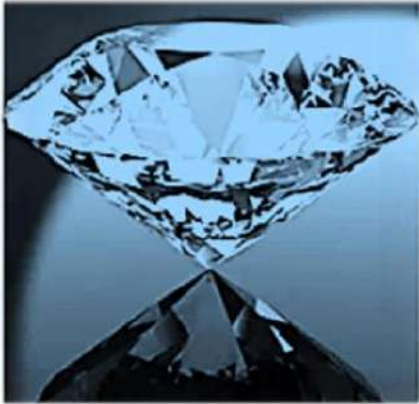
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Mike Ridd, Owner

I first became a believer in reverse mortgages almost 20 years ago...



(before I was in the industry) when my parents first considered doing a reverse mortgage themselves. My Mom asked me to help her do some research and that's what started me on my path of wanting to eventually be the expert on the subject.

It's amazing to me today that I still hear the same false rumors from people sometimes that I heard two decades ago. The mortgage company does not take title to your home and yes the heirs still inherit the home upon the borrower's passing. Those are the two most misunderstood topics. And yes the money you receive is not income so it is not taxed as some people think. Also, Medicare and Social Security are not affected by the proceeds that you receive from a reverse mortgage. And yes it's true that you are not required to ever make a payment for as long as you live in the home.

I am very patient when I speak to clients and take my time explaining everything face to face with absolutely no pressure to move forward because I remember how much my parents appreciated it when the person that they worked with showed them the same respect.

I have never experienced the Sunday night blues of knowing that you are going back to work the next day as some people talk about. My job is a career that I never plan on retiring from because I genuinely enjoy working with my clients and seeing how their lives are benefitting from eliminating debt and by opening up a line of credit that can be used to help them for the rest of their lives. Every client's story is a little bit different but they are all hoping to achieve a better life and I enjoy being a small part in that story.

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