

Charles Benjamin Blevens



Mr. Charles Benjamin (C.B.) Blevens was born in Dalark, Arkansas, the seventh of thirteen children born to Nathan and Patsy Blevens. Mr. Blevens was inducted in the United States Navy and served as a submarine sailor on the USS Gabilan, USS PETO and the USS Tuna Sub Division. After his stint in the military he returned to Arkadelphia and graduated from Peake High School. He developed a passion for education and went on to earn his Bachelor of Education degree in 1950 from Arkansas AM&N College (now UAPB).

His first teaching assignment was in September 1950 in Brinkley, Arkansas. He believed in the importance of being the best-prepared teacher and continued his education by earning a Master's degree in Science Education from Tuskegee Institute/University. He also did further studies at University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Henderson State University, Kansas State University, Texas Southern University and Howard University.

With a teaching career that spanned 39 years, Mr. Blevens taught in Sparkman, Arkadelphia (Peake High and Goza Junior High), and Little Rock (Horace Mann). He also taught in the Upward Bound Program at Ouachita Baptist University and the Arkadelphia Adult Education Program.

Mr. Blevens understood that the beginning of education is to know God, thus he dedicated his life to God and service at St. Ruth Missionary Baptist Church in Gum Springs, AR where he served as a deacon, Sunday School Superintendent, Sunday School teacher, and choir member.

Mr. Blevens also understood the importance of brotherhood within the community of men. He was a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., and Excelsior Lodge #13. In addition, he was a member of the Universal Evergreen Chapter 192 Order of Eastern Star. Some of Mr. Blevens local community service included past president of the Clark County NAACP and first Afro-American City Board Director of Arkadelphia.

Mr. Blevens was married to Dorothy Shepherd Blevens for 50 years and to this union two children were born. Mrs. Dorothy Blevens said of her late husband, "he was a Christian man of integrity whose legacy of teaching will continue in the lives of those he touched".