

Hall of Fame

James Arther Horton



James was born in Curtis, Arkansas in 1951. At a very young age, his family moved to Arkadelphia, Arkansas where he attended Mrs. Fairy Taylor's Kindergarten, Peake Elementary School and Peake High School. He attended and was baptized at Greater Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church. He graduated from Peake High School in 1969 which was the last graduating class from Peake. He entered Henderson State Teachers College (presently Henderson State University) in the Fall of 1969 and graduated with a Bachelor of Music Education (BME) Degree in Instrumental Music in 1974. He later received his certification in Social Studies and Career Orientation at Southern Arkansas University in Magnolia, Arkansas. He served as Band Director, Social Studies Teacher, Elementary Public School Music Teacher, Choir Director and Career Orientation Instructor in the Walker School District (1 year) and Stephens School District for 18 years. He received his Masters' Degree in Secondary Guidance Counseling in 1996 from Southern Arkansas University before moving to Pine Bluff, Arkansas as a Guidance Counselor at Pine Bluff High School. He also has served as an Adjunct Professor of Music and Assistant to the Band Director at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB) M4 Marching Band.

After serving 37 years in the Education field, he retired in 2014. He recently came out of retirement for the 2018 - 2019 school year to work as a Counselor for the RF Morehead Middle School of the Dollarway School District in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. He is a member of Baroque Street Missionary Baptist Church, Pine Bluff, AR where he serves as a Deacon, Assistant Superintendent of Sunday School and a musician. He is also very active in the Pine Bluff Community and believes that it takes a village to raise a child, as was the case for children growing up in the Arkadelphia community.

He was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Xi Beta Chapter, in the Fall of 1971 at Henderson State University. He is also a member of the following: Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, Kappa Kappa Psi and Phi Beta Sigma Music Fraternities, Phi Delta Kappa, Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Jefferson County Single Parent Scholarship Fund Board, Jefferson County Retired Teachers Association, Arkansas Retired Teachers Association, Peake Alumni Foundation and the Buffaloes' Foundation. He also serves on the District Talent Hunt Committee for the 9th District of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. serving the states of Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas. Additionally, he has served as the Basileus of the Tau Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. at Pine Bluff and Sire Archon of Pi Boule (Pine Bluff and Little Rock) Chapter of the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity.

Some honors and awards received over the years: Best Brass Soloist Award at the NLR Jazz Festival 1972, 2008 Omega Man of the Year - Tau Phi Chapter-Pine Bluff; 2018 Renaissance Award for Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Chairman of the Ebony Fashion Fair Fashion Show hosted by the Tau Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Chairman for Quette Activities for the 2006 International Conclave (Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.) held in Little Rock, Arkansas.

James currently resides in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. He is married to Alice F. Horton and they have two children, Damon and Dana, and one granddaughter, Autumn.

James is a strong believer that we should all strive to serve and make our communities better using the abilities, tools and talents that we have been blessed with. That opportunity is what we should all be thankful for. God has smiled upon all of us and we should be mindful to give him all the praise for His Blessings.

The Buffaloes' Foundation, Inc. 2019 Inductee

