

Alderman Richard Davis

Chronicle Profile

Alderman Davis Dismayed Over Negative Gossip

"I say what needs to be said regardless. I'm nobody's man and no particular group can lay claim to me. I speak out against oppression, discrimination and the degradation of civic and human rights," a Winston-Salem Alderman said recently.

Richard Davis, in response to the question that some people feel he is a white man's negro, said "anybody making that statement is not well informed." An accountant by profession, Davis remarked that anybody who has followed local government and politics will get a different opinion.

When Davis ran for alderman in the North Ward for the second time, Larry Little of the Black Panther Party ran against him. The final outcome was that Little lost by eight votes.

According to Davis, since the election Little has filed suit to the local election board, Supreme Court, Circuit Court of Appeals and others with the last choice to be heard by the N.C. Supreme Court.

But Little's attempt to file suit does not bother Davis because he does not take it personally. He feels that if it had been somebody else the same thing would be happening. Of course Davis feels the election was valid even if he won by one vote.

The thing that does upset Davis though is that people say things about him that usually ends up to be based on hearsay. He believes that people voted for him because he has been effective in his office. "I'm the type of person who is quiet (not in sense of silent) speak in a soft voice, calm, rational and very effective." The alderman says he believes in taking a low profile. Moreover, the native Winston-Salemnite informed that he has been trained to measure the results and he cares nothing about the in-between.

"I do a lot for black people that they (and the public) will never know," the composed two-term alderman said. "I have been involved in labor disputes concerning blacks but the public doesn't know that."

Maybe, there is something to not blowing your own horn, the rationale Davis uses is that he can be more effective if he does not. "My effectiveness can be diluted when people know where the source is coming from; as long as that's not common knowledge I can work freely."

For being the good alderman, Davis says he is, the Jaycees recommended him for the Distinguished Service Award for being knowledgeable of his job, promoting the Finance Information System, special zoning to insure the land development utilization, helping to quell a disruption in 1970 at North Forsyth High School, and many other things.

Davis informed that he supported a bill recently passed by the house and senate to enable the city to remove the blighted commercial buildings under the same provisions as residential structures.

In addition, he says he is responsible for getting the swimming pool on Bloom Street, the Piney Grove Park, and eliminating the blighted living conditions on 10th Street, just to name a few things. He advises people to check the number of blacks in Supervisory and official city government jobs since he took office.

An Atkins High School graduate, Davis interjects that money is certainly not a factor in his being alderman. He claims his business is off by one-third and the yearly alderman's salary of \$5,100 is hardly enough to cover expenses incurred with the job.

Instead, he says, "I guaranteed myself that when I die and leave this world that I leave it better than I found it." That is his By Gwen Dixon goal.

Winston-Salem Chronicle

Loving 2 Women Is Unlikely

Dear Liz.

I think I'm in love with two women. Can this be? I enjoy being with both of them. I get a great deal of satisfaction from them. But, somewhere, someone said loving two people at the same time is impossible. What's your word, Liz?

Lover

Dear Lover.

You are merely infatuated with these two women. If you were really in love your mind, body, and soul would be satisfied by one woman.

Dear Liz. -

My woman deliberately tricked me. She was dating another man and pretended all the time to be loyal and faithful to me. When I became hipped to what was happening, she acted all innocent and hurt. She acted like she was so sorry. But, I feel she is moe sorry she got caught than that she was involved with this guy. I want to drop her but I'm not sure. Can you enlighten me?

Tricked

Dear Tricked, A friend that you can't trust is not a friend. If you are certain of your accusations concerning your woman, drop

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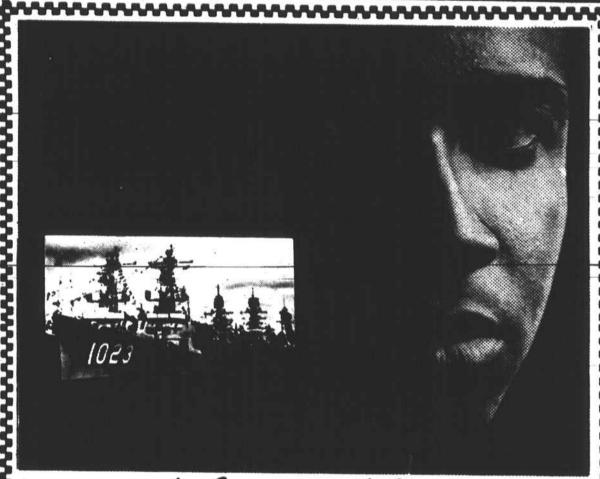
her before you give her a chance to be sorry again.

Having problems? Advice? Write or phone 'Dear Liz'. Write c/o Winston-Salem Chronicle, P.O. Box 3154, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27102 or phone 722-8624.

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