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Recognizes Bill Tatum as a Lifetime Achievement Award recipient





BillTatum with Earline Parmon and Michael Clements

Justice Seeker

As the head of the Winston-Salem Chapter of the NAACP, William "Bill" Tatum's work was never done. He took calls on a daily basis from local minority residents in need of assistance. He investigated a countless number of complaints and often formulated remedies to help settle disputes. He did all of this while holding a full-time job.

Tatum gave up the long hours of work as NAACP president late last year. After 10 years as president and with a long list of accomplishments under his belt, Tatum passed the baton.

The High Point native's involvement with the civil rights organization goes back for years. Before becoming president in 1992, Tatum, a Life and Golden Heritage member of the NAACP, served as vice president of the chapter for 14 years.

Working for justice and equity on behalf of others will always be synonymous with Tatum. During his reign as NAACP president, he tackled police brutality accusations, equality issues in the school system and job discrimination.

Tatum, who has seven adult children, is a longtime city employee. He currently works as a code enforcement officer for the Neighborhood Services Division. A devoted member of Phillips Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, where he serves as chairman of the Finance and Budget Committee, Tatum serves on the Downtown Health Plaza Advisory Board and the East Winston Community Development Corp. board.

He is a former member of the Winston-Salem Employees Review Board of Commission and the Enterprise Community Zone Board. Tatum's commitment to civil rights has earned him numerous honors, including a 1999 Leadership Award from the N.C. Legislative Black Caucus. Tatum retired from the U.S. Army Reserves. He earned distinguished military awards and certificates for his leadership and performance.



Bill Tatam swears in Stephen Hairston, the new president of the NAACP, last December.