

**Fairmont Heights High School Alumni Association
Memorial Service
“Remembering Alumni, Faculty, Family and Friends”**

Saturday, December 07, 2013 – 11:00 AM

The Faculty



- 1st Row Left to Right:** Mrs. S. M. Goss, Mrs. B. Fletcher, Mrs. E. P. Campbell, Miss G. M. Chappelle, Mrs. E. M. Jones, Miss T. E. Roane, Miss N. Lewis, Mrs. A. M. Edwards, Mr. L. W. Jackson, Vice Principal, Mr. G. J. Gholson, Principal, Mrs. A. W. Parker, Mrs. D. M. Edelin, Mrs. V. M. Ford, Miss M. A. Fentress, Mrs. E. Greaux, Miss M. Owens, Mrs. M. B. Jeffries.
- 2nd Row Left to Right:** Mrs. C. J. Brown, Mrs. L. H. Brown, Mrs. M. C. Greene, Mrs. T. D. Luck, Miss E. S. Shelton, Mrs. B. H. Crisp, Mrs. E. M. Spriggs, Mrs. G. H. Ginyard, Mrs. R. Tasco, Mrs. C. N. Denson, Mrs. E. P. Green, Miss V. L. Davis, Miss D. L. Smith, Miss I. Z. Spencer, Miss E. Gladden
- 3rd Row Left to Right:** Mr. J. L. Jeffries, Mr. J. E. Hairston, Mr. R. Buckner, Mr. F. M. Maxwell, Mr. W. K. Freeman, Jr., Mr. G. W. Jones, Mr. E. B. Wells, Mr. J. E. House, Mr. S. Peterson, Mr. E. G. Curry, Mr. G. T. Farmer, Mr. L. Gaskin, Mr. D. Washington, Mr. J. L. Burrell.

Memorial Service Location:

**New Mt. Nebo Baptist Church
7501 Walker Mill Drive
Capitol Heights, Maryland 20743**

Pastor:

Rev. Robert R. Johnson, Sr.

The Faculty



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**Fairmont Heights High School
Alumni Association
2013 Memorial Service**

**Presentation of The Colors Fairmont Heights High School Jr. ROTC
Commander: Col. John Hawkins**

Pledge of Allegiance Everyone
**Opening Hymn..... Messengers of Zion Youth Choir
New Mt. Nebo Baptist Church**

Introduction of the MC Daphne Bell, '81, President FHHSAA
Master of Ceremony Michael R. Black, '63

Scriptures - Old Testament Eugene Bridges, '53
New Testament Allen Grimes, '65

The Occasion Daphne Bell, '81, President FHHSAA

Introduction of Guest Minister Daphne Bell, '81, President FHHSAA

Solo Victoria Smith
**Message..... Rev. Handel Smith, '78
Church Of God**

**Candle Lighting Ceremony Faculty – Ann Crutchfield
Staff – Ann Crutchfield
Alumni – John Williams
Veterans – Michael R. Black '63**

**Selection Messengers of Zion Youth Choir
New Mt. Nebo Baptist Church**

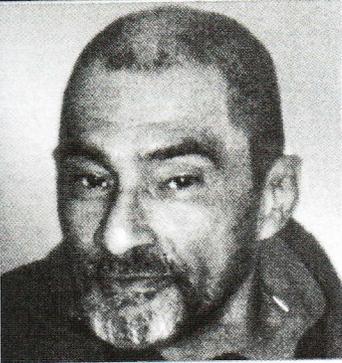
**Remarks Rev. Robert R. Johnson Sr., '57
New Mt. Nebo Baptist Church**

**Closing Remarks Daphne Bell, '81
President, FHHSAA**

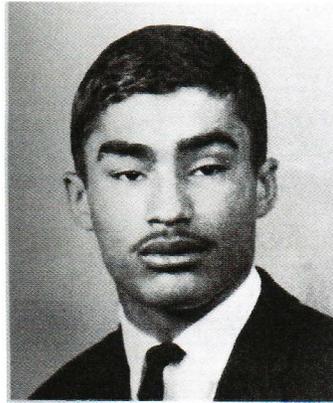
**Benediction Rev. Handel Smith, '78
Church of God**

Alma Mater Led by Michael R. Black, '63

WOODSON



MICHAEL H. WOODSON



Michael Woodson



Dr. DORIS G. POINTER
March 20, 1931 - December 26, 2012

Doris G. Pointer



HOLMES

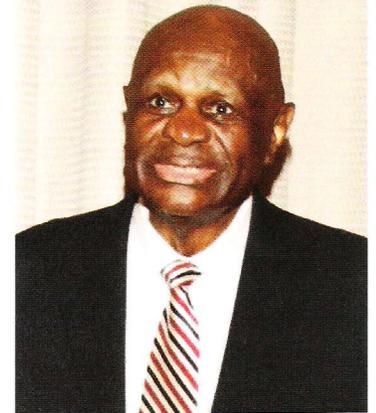


ANNA MAE QUEEN HOLMES

Lavata Wood



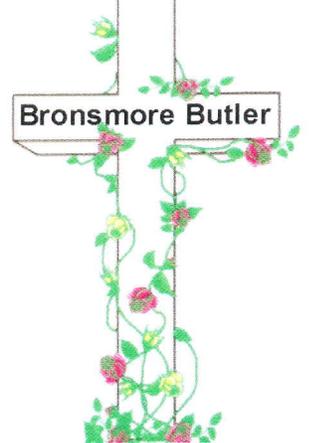
Walter R. Battle



Brian Benjamin



Bronsmore Butler



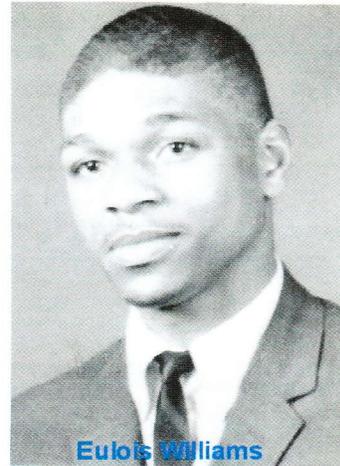
Iris E. Potts



THOMPSON



IRIS E. THOMPSON (Age 68)



Eulois Williams



George Ginwright Jr.

Lavata Wood



Cheryl Jenkins



Bertha Day Jones

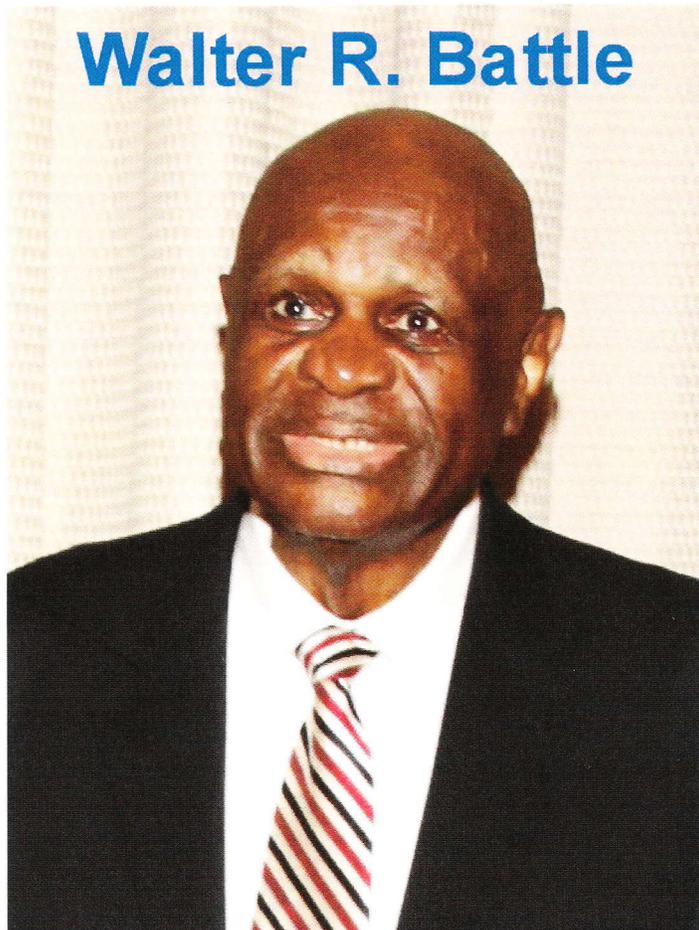


Melvin Contee

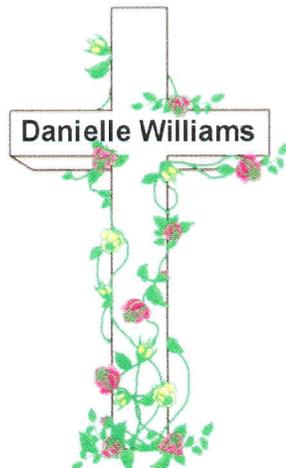
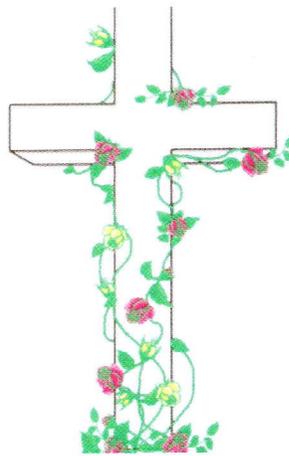
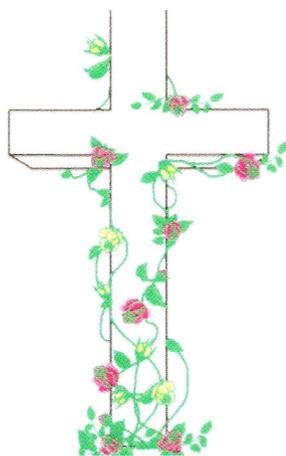
Donald S. Reynolds



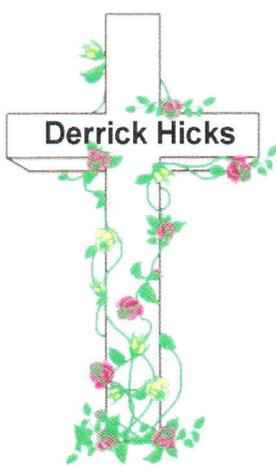
Walter R. Battle



Constance Bradshaw



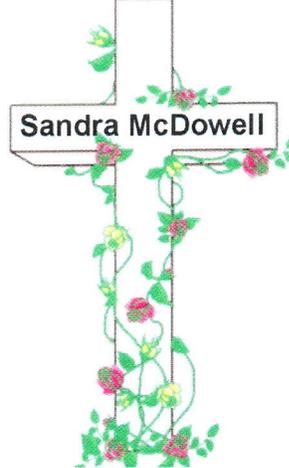
Danielle Williams



Derrick Hicks



Reginald Jackson Sr.



Sandra McDowell



Obituary

Walter Ruffin Battle, the second oldest of four children, was born to the late Helena and Roy Battle in Nashville, North Carolina on July 9, 1928. When he was three years of age, his family migrated to Washington, D.C. The family joined Friendship Baptist Church where he was baptized at an early age.

He completed his elementary and secondary education in the District Public Schools. Following his graduation from Armstrong High School, he attended Miner Teachers College from which he earned a B.S. degree. While attending Miner, he participated in football and the College Choir and joined Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. It was here that Walter met his wife to be Nona Elaine Jones.

After completing his studies at Miner, he served four years in the United States Air Force as photographer. One year was spent in worn torn Korea. Following his discharge from the Air Force, Walter began three year endeavors that would be his life focus: he entered the teaching profession, he became active in Kappa Alpha Psi, and in December of 1956 he married Nona, the love of his life.

Walter enjoyed his married life with Nona. They had two children – April Elaine and Terrance Ruffin, Sr. (deceased). Terrance married and had two children and a grandchild.

He began his thirty year career in the Prince George's County Maryland School System, first as an English and Social Studies teacher, later as an assistant principal at Francis Scott Key Junior High School and last as a principal at Suitland Senior High. Six months after retiring in 1986, he accepted an administrative position at the National Children's Center in NW. This undertaking lasted for six years.

While continuing his educational career, Walter earned a Master's Degree in Administration and Supervision from George Washington University where he was elected to Phi Delta Kappa. He completed further graduate study at the following universities: American, Bowie State, Rutgers, and the District of Columbia.

In the late 1950's Walter affiliated with the Washington Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc. He was pleased to be reunited with Dr. Paul Cook, a man he greatly admired. Walter's interest in education led him to become a member of the Scholarship Committee. In time, he became its chairman. Later the committee became the Kappa Scholarship Endowment Fund, Inc. and he served as its first president. To date, thousands of dollars in scholarships have been awarded to promising graduates of D.C. public high schools.

He served on numerous other committees of Kappa from one involving international senior affairs to another for luncheons honoring Kappa widows of the Washington chapter. He held a life membership and was awarded the Lamont Award in 1993. In 2001, he was presented the 50 year Senior Kappa Award at the 75th Grand Chapter Meeting In Cleveland, Ohio.

A charter member of Twelve, Inc. Social Club, Walter served as its first president and authored a history of the club in 1995. Other original members of the club were: Wannamaker Barnes, Donald Kiah, Alonzo Grigsby, Walter Reid, Albert Dupree, Wilson Hull, John Shorter, Alfred Spencer, Dorsey Evans, Richard Teasley, Alfred Hawkins, Hadyn Williams and Walter Battle.

Walter had several hobbies enjoying most of all photography and travel. The home is filled with photos of his travels, his family and friends, and his many organizational connections. He traveled near and far with family and friends. For years the family has enjoyed timeshares in Las Vegas, Orlando and Williamsburg. In addition to travel all around this country, the Caribbean and Canada, they have been to Europe several times.

The Battles joined Plymouth Congregational Church UCC in 1963. There he was a longtime member of the Diaconate, serving as its chairman for four years. In addition, he was a member of the Hymn Choir, the Men's club and the July Calendar Club. Walter chaired the Program Committee for the 120th Anniversary Celebration of Plymouth. During his later years, he joined Ebenezer AME Church in Ft. Washington, Maryland.

Walter R. Battle, a God-fearing, loving gentleman who served all of his life, leaves to mourn his devoted wife of 57 years, Nona; his daughter, April; preceded in death by Terrance, Sr., former daughter-in-law, Gion; grandchildren, Kymberleigh and Terrance, Jr. and great-grandchild, Aaliyah; sisters, Mary Feaster and Theresa Mozie; other family and a host of friends.



Reflection of Life

On Sunday May 5, 2013 George Ginwright, Jr. was called home after a short illness. He was born on September 13, 1948 at Freeman Hospital to the late Ginwright, Sr. and Zadie Ginwright. He was affectionately known as "Cupcake". He received his education through the Prince Georges County School Systems. He attended Fairmont Heights Elementary and Senior High School where he graduated in 1966, while attending he played football, a sport in which he enjoyed. He was active in the Cedar Heights Family Affairs Community. After graduating he joined the U.S. Army, he became a Sergeant and served from May 7, 1968 to March 23, 1969. He received an Honorable discharge from the Army. He tutored high school students in the 1970's. He later married Florence Gorham on August 12, 1987. He gave his life to Christ and was a member of New Covenant Baptist Church. He was employed at the District of Columbia, Department of Public Works for 37 years of service. He was a bodyguard for Sugar Ray Leonard. He attended the University of the District of Columbia (UDC), and graduated on May 12, 2001, with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. He was a Mason, and an active member of the Veteran Association, the American Legion Post 275, and The Society of Engineers. He was a caddy and loved to play golf for the Prince Georges County Golf Club. He received awards of Honor all through his life. He was very proud and enjoyed his life in whatever he decided and planned to do. He loved people and education and growth was what he believed, endeavored and stood on. He taught his children never to quit, no matter how it looks or what life sends your way. George Ginwright III (Scoop) in whom he was very proud of made him stick out his chest as a true soldier. Latasha (Tosh) as he often called her was the (babygirl) who worried his nerves and drove him crazy!!! But he loved her with all that he had in him. She spent numerous hours by his bedside until his passing. Litisha (Tee) who he raised from age 4, and did well by his teaching often instructed "Teeeee, take care of Tosh." Andrea (grandchild) who he loved and shared countless moments with after retiring was the heart of Cupcake. When any child that he helped rear came home with an accomplishment he would reward and continue to encourage them. It is no doubt, no doubt that every child that heard from him could stay the same, eventually they caught on to life, and this was his goal, reaching out to children to do better than their surroundings.

George leaves to cherish his memories, His wife, Florence Ginwright, mother Zadie Ginwright. He was preceded in death by his brother Clyde Ginwright, one son George Ginwright III, one daughter Latasha Logan (Maurice), Two stepdaughters Litisha Lambert (James) Rochelle Gorham, two stepsons Ronald Jr. and Robert Gorham, one brother Andrew Ginwright, six grandchildren, Donovan, Davontac, Andrea, Mauricia, Sierra and Serenity, nieces, nephews and a number of beloved family and friends.



Reflections of Life

Lavata Regina Wilkinson Hamilton Wood was born on May 22, 1940 in Washington, D.C. She was raised by Rev. Eugene and Vernell Wilkinson. She was the first born child of Florence Freeland and Emmett Simms. Lavata received her education in Prince George's County, Maryland. She entered into eternal rest on Sunday July 7, 2013 surrounded by her family. She graduated from Fairmont Heights Senior High School with the Class of 1958. She then went on to graduate from Bowie State Teacher's College with the Class of 1962, where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education. She also held a Masters in Education from Bowie State University. She was a proud Bowie State bulldog and rarely missed a homecoming.

Lavata taught for 50 years in Prince George's County as a classroom teacher and affectionately served as a mentor teacher, retiring in 2005. After retirement she continued to serve as a substitute teacher until the time of her death. She taught at Glenarden, Bladensburg and Perrywood Elementary Schools. Along with being a classroom teacher, she served within the following positions and memberships in the school system: Secretary of PTA at Glenarden Elementary Delegate to PTA Council; Bowie Bulldog Representative for 30 years; Prince George's County Teachers Association for 40 years; Member of NAACP, NCNW; inducted into Alpha Delta Kappa International Sorority for Teachers/Educators; Inducted into Who's Who Outstanding Teachers in USA; Nominated as Outstanding Teacher; Selected as Outstanding African American Teacher by Afro American Newspaper; Classroom Organization and Management Program (COMP).

Lavata accepted Jesus Christ as her Savior at a young age; she was baptized at St. Matthews C.M.E Church and was a member of Bunton Institutional Christian Methodist Episcopal church for over 40 years. She was very active, and served in the following positions. Superintendent of Sunday School; Director of Vacation Bible School; President of Missionary Society; Steward and Secretary of Board of Stewards; Chair/Member of Gospel Chorus; active in Washington-Virginia CME District; Director of Christian Education; Secretary of Missionary Education; Missionary Leadership Director; Dean of Leadership School; Delegate to District and Annual Conference; Delegate to General Conference; Alternate to General Conference Delegate; and Delegate Missionary Connectional Council.

Lavata was a firm believer in community pride, being active in the communities where she lived including Cedar Heights, Glenarden, Landover and currently in the Perrywood Community serving on the Hospitality Committee. She was a walking historian, never forgetting a face or a name or which family each child came from. She knew everyone's birthday and never failed to send a hand picked card especially for you. She never used the boxed assortment cards. Lavata was a lifetime member of Fairmont Heights Senior High School Alumni and Bowie State University Alumni. She was committed to several positions in both of these alumni associations. She was an avid reader and daily crossword puzzle solver. She also loved to cook, travel and fellowship with people. She had a care-free personality, socialized with everyone and took pride in helping others. If she was not wrapped up in a good book, she was on Facebook sending her family and friends encouraging words and giving updates of what was going on.

She also loved sports – football, basketball and baseball games. During both basketball and football season she rarely missed a game. Her favorite teams were the Los Angeles Lakers and the Washington Redskins. But most of all, she was a devoted follower of her grandson Tracy who plays in the Arena Football League for the Jacksonville Sharks. She eagerly watched his games on the internet and kept family and friends updated on his success. She had a deep and abiding love for all her grandchildren and instilled in each of them the importance of a college education; as a result all are college graduates except the youngest, who will be entering college this fall.

She loved to collect books and magazines. Lavata enjoyed decorating her home and made sure that her landscape was always in order. She had many lasting friendships from elementary school including Delores Adams, Juanita Callier, and Beatrice Wyatt. She also enjoyed outings with her best friends from college, Carolyn Armstrong, Jean Henderson, Cassandra Holmes and Audrey Wright.

Lavata married her high school sweetheart, James Hamilton (Stuff) in 1960 and from this union were born three children. She later married Joseph Wood in 1985 and enjoyed many years of happiness by traveling, relaxing and enjoying her grandchildren. She never missed a family gathering and was willing to share her wisdom with all. Lavata carried herself as a lady at all times and encouraged her daughters, granddaughters and nieces to dress appropriately starting off as little tots putting ribbons and barrettes in their hair, while also instilling in them the rules of etiquette.

Lavata lived by her faith and always put her trust in God. She stood on these scriptures: “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” and “With God all things are possible. She was loved and respected by everyone who knew her; she will be truly missed by many.

Lavata leaves her devoted husband Joseph Wood, three children Candace Stowe (Frank) of Winston Salem, N.C., Darryl Hamilton, Lasharn Hamilton and one stepdaughter Sandra Wood; five grandchildren, Tracy Belton, Tamia Turner, Quisharn Hamilton, Franklin Stowe, II, Ka’la Hill and one great-grandson, Amir Belton to carry on her legacy and cherish her memory.

She also leaves her stepfather Thomas Freeland, Sr. and her stepmother Evelyn Simms of Glendale, AZ. She is the oldest to twelve sisters: Gabrielle Patrick, Rosalind Tymus, Laverne Massie (Charles), Antoinette Boyd, Normajean Holladay, Cheryl Thompson, Donna Glover, Joyce Jefferson (Steve), Florence “Terri” Freeland, Patricia Martin, Karen Ezell, and Barbara Freeland. She is also the oldest to eleven brothers: Thomas “Tony”, Carroll “Moochie” (Cheryl), Carlton “Pete” (Annie), Calvin, David (Yvonne), Michael, Jerome (Cathy), Gregory (Kathy), Jeffrey (Sabina) and Gary Freeland (Fran) and Kenneth Simms. She was preceded in death by her sister Terri Simms Grier and her brother Jerome Dennis Freeland. She leaves one dear uncle-in-law, 54 nieces and nephews; 51 great nieces and nephews and 3 great-great nieces, and a host of cousins and friend.

NAMES THAT WERE SUBMITTED
FOR THE 2013 MEMORIAL SERVICE

NAMES	CLASS	
Michael Woodson	1962	December 10, 2012
Bertha Day Jones		December 15, 2012
Derrick Hicks	1985	December 15, 2012
Doris G. Pointer	Faculty	December 26, 2012
Constance Bradshaw	1966	December 27, 2012
Reginald Aaron Jackson Sr.	1961	December 31, 2012
Melvin Sylvester Contee	1960	January 09, 2013
Iris E. Potts Thompson	1962	February 21, 2013
Brian Benjamin	1986	March 04, 2013
George Ginwright Jr.	1966	May 05, 2013
Donald Sylvester Reynolds		May 16, 2013
Bronsmore E. Butler	1958	June 03, 2013
Lavata Wilkinson Wood	1958	July 07, 2013
Sandra McDowell	1968	July 11, 2013
Eulois Williams	1963	July 14, 2013
Anna Mae Queen Holmes	Faculty	August 15, 2013
Danielle Williams	1985	August 22, 2013
Cheryl Jenkins		September
Walter Battle	Faculty	October 04, 2013

Alma Mater

It's Fairmont Heights High School
Our Alma Mater fair
In sunlight and star shine
We see thee in all thy glory.
The gray and maroon, thy colors so glorious,
Ever we praise and hold them
High to the breeze as the symbol
Of our unfailing allegiance.
This anthem, Fairmont Heights, our pledge
Of trust shall be
That thy sons and daughters shall keep faith
With thee forever.

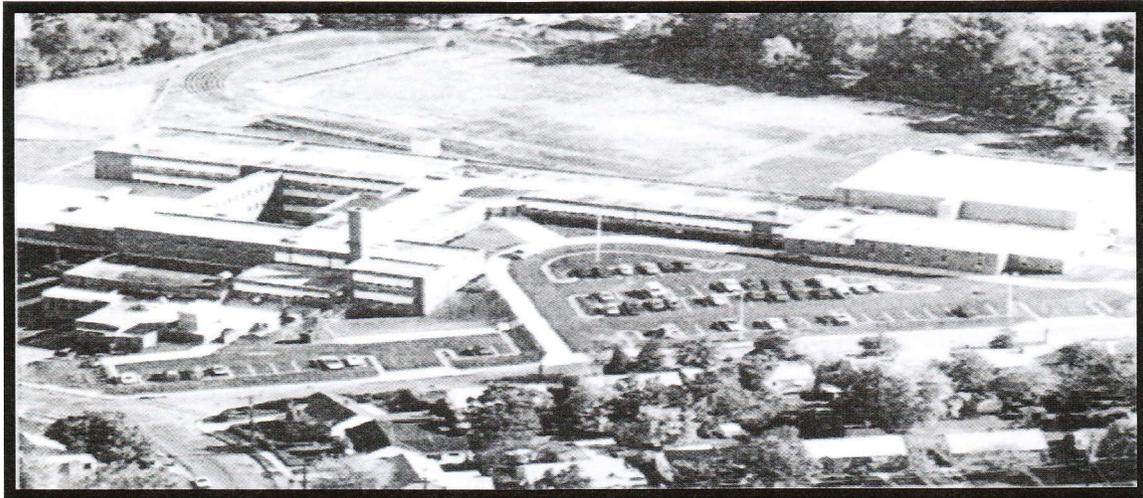
Acknowledgements

Memorial Service Committee

Member
Member
Member
Member and President, FHHSAA

Carolyn Scriber, '66
Michael Marshall, '63
John Williams, Faculty '62-'92
Daphne Bell, '81

The Memorial Service Committee would like to give special thanks to Reverend Robert R. Johnson Sr., Reverend Handel Smith, Victoria Smith, Choir Director, Norma Legette & the Messengers of Zion Youth Choir, Fairmont Heights High School Jr. ROTC, all of the family members, special guest, alumni and others, who helped make this Memorial Service a success.



Old hornets never die!



They just buzz away.

