



**Iverson Dudley, III**

Class of 1957

Iverson Dudley (affectionately known as "Slick") is a native of Bessemer, Alabama. HE enrolled at Tuskegee Institute (University) in 1953 where he walked on to the basketball team his freshman year. Iverson excelled as the center on the basketball team, and therefore became a starter his sophomore year. As a result his determination and skill lettered during the years of 1955-56 and 1956-57, while also serving as captain of the team his senior year.

As an Industrial Education major, Iverson learned to do 'common things in an uncommon manner'. He found his niche in his industrial education department. Instructors commended and valued his effort and work; as a result, he was often called upon by them to provide assistance to his peers. His gifts made room for him, and provided him with the opportunity to work in the industrial education general shop and maintenance department as a student; where he was involved with all facets of painting automobiles and building, as well as refurnishing wood. Iverson's talent was respected by his instructors and peers; however the dean noticed him as well, and chose him to perform his internship at Philander Smith College. Additionally, he was active with the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC), where he served as a guard. In his capacity he led students to chapel every Sunday. After graduating from Tuskegee, Iverson followed his passion for vocational education, and received the equivalence of a Masters degree after taking courses at Alabama State University and Alabama A&M University respectively.

After graduation Iverson "Slick" Dudley began his career in the Bessemer School System, his alma mater, working as a Physical Education Instructor, while serving as the coach and mentor of the students on the basketball and football teams. Later, Iverson was afforded the opportunity to teach his craft at C.A. Fredd Technical College as an Upholstery Instructor, was serving as Junior Class Sponsor and President of the C.A. Fredd Technical College Faculty Association. He decided to return to the Bessemer School System, teaching Upholstery where he retired as a Special Population's Coordinator with over forty years of experience. Iverson and his students won many awards for the Bessemer City School System by participating in VICA contestants, which is a statewide program for children who take vocational education. He has also served as a judge for this competition. Iverson was affiliated with National Education Association, Alabama Education Association, State and National Vocational Professional Organizations, and Jefferson County Retired Teachers Association. His affiliations also included numerous athletic associations. He served as a member of the State of Alabama High School Athletic Association and Metropolitan Association of Football Officials. During his tenure, Iverson was recognized with the Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award for his system and for the State of Alabama.

Iverson has been a devoted member of Second Avenue Beulah Baptist Church for over fifty (50) years. Serving on the Deacon Board, the Pastoral Care Committee, Brotherhood of Young Men Ministry, and as a Sunday Hence, he is extremely involved in voter registration drives, campaigns throughout Bessemer, and transports voters who are in need. He has served as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Treasurer of the organization. He is also committed to the American Red Cross where he actively participates with the board, and volunteers his time as well as resources to providing disaster relief.

As a member of the Birmingham-Tuskegee Club, Iverson Dudley, III is a fervent supporter of the University. He contributes his finances and his time faithfully.

Iverson Dudley, III resides in Bessemer, AL; and his children, Iverlynn Vallerie and Iverson IV (Carla), and grandson, Iverson Austin lives nearby.