

Albert Lee "Tipping" Terry Class of 1951

Outstanding Athlete, Renowned Coach, Educator, and Humanitarian, Albert Lee "Tipping" Terry is known by his classmates and friends for his performance on the playing fields and by his colleagues as a coach to be reckoned with. While at Tuskegee, Terry played football and ran track, lettering in both sports. Because of his agility and speed as a running and defensive back, running tiptoed, he acquired the nickname "Tipping" Terry. As a sprinter, his leadership skills were demonstrated as the lead runner in the 4x100 and the 4x800 and as captain of the 1950-51 Golden Tiger track team.

Terry was commissioned Second Lieutenant at Tuskegee and completed a four year tour of duty retiring in 1979 with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army Reserve. During his military tour he was awarded the Infantry Combat Medal and the Good Conduct Medal.

Terry's coaching talents resulted in an outstanding coaching career. His record of 252 wins and only 64 losses, a seventy nine percent winning percentage is far above the average. While at Williamson High School, as head football coach, he won several city and district championships. However, his proudest moment was the crowning of his team, as State 3A football champions in 1962- the first minority school to achieve that feat in the state of Alabama. This accomplishment earned him the 1962 3A coach of the year award. In 1965, Terry continued his coaching career at Blount High School, again winning several city and district titles including the honor of coaching the first minority high school All-American in the area.

In the late 1980's Terry retired and devoted about ten years as a volunteer to Blount's Athletic program. During this period of volunteerism, Blount's football team participated in seven State 5A playoff games and won five. The Track Team participated in and won several State Track Championships. Terry was inducted in the Blount High School Hall of Fame in 2002. He received a certificate of appreciation as a volunteer with the Food Share Program and the Mobile County Training School Un-song Hero Award. He is also a Reserve Police Officer for the City of Prichard.