



EARNEST O'ROURKE **Class of 1943**

Earnest "Skates" O'Rourke, Colonial Heights, Virginia, was a member of the football team at Tuskegee, 1939-1943. Many recall the many feats of "Skates" especially do we recall in 1942 when he caught the first touchdown pass thrown by Hall of Famer, Alva Tabor.

Mr. O'Rourke's outstanding performance was not only evident on the football field but also in the classrooms at Tuskegee as a scholar in Commercial Dietetics and further study at Cornell and New York Universities. Over the years, he has successfully combined the attributes and characteristics of an athlete/scholar developed and nurtured at Tuskegee into a perfect design for living.

Presently serving as Director of Food Services at Virginia State University, Petersburg, Virginia, he has devoted himself unselfishly to a host of humanitarian causes. Yet, he has found the time and the energy to serve, to work and to lead, shouldering countless burdens with unfailing good humor and grace.