



**Thomas O. Lampkin**  
Class of 1961

Thomas O. Lampkin, outstanding athlete, educator, corporate pioneer, civic and religious leader. Lampkin began his athletic tenure at Tuskegee as a walk on. His excellent performance on the basketball court earned him a scholarship in the spring semester of 1955 and recognitions as All-SIAC Freshman. His leadership and skills as player caused him to be named team captain during his junior and senior years and earned him letters each of his four years. Lampkin was the team's leading scorer. His athletic prowess continued on the track as he lettered for his speed while participating in the 440 and 880 relays.

Having graduated from Tuskegee with baccalaureate degree in Health and Physical Education, Lampkin's first professional work was in the classroom as a teacher and coach in Miami, Florida and Detroit, Michigan. He continued his professional development by earning a Master of Science degree in Educational Sociology.

By continued work and study, he adapted himself to new skills and knowledge and entered industry, becoming the first black manager supervisor to work in General Motors in Detroit, Michigan. This was followed by becoming a Manager-Consultant in charge of the Proud Foot Auto and Manufacturing in Illinois, Safety Engineer at Savannah River Nuclear Energy facility and President of Sage Life Insurance Company.

He has served and continues to serve the communities where he lived as pastor, consultant, motivator and activist. Reverend Lampkin credits Coach Ross Owens with inspiring him to become an activist. He states that, "it was the genuine interest, encouragement, support, and intellectual exchange of many at Tuskegee, especially Dr. C. G. Gomillion and Coach Owens that undergirded his success while at Tuskegee and throughout his life.

Reverend Lampkin's successes are substantiated by the number of awards, citations and recognitions he has received. The person he is was elegantly summarized by his great niece in her nomination letter supporting his induction into the Hal of Fame – "My Uncle is a committed father, grandfather, and father