



ARTHUR MAY
Class of 1971

A “Gentle Ben” to those he met, his family, and friends, this giant of a man was truly a roaring tiger on the gridiron. Born and educated in Bessemer, AL, this Tuskegee Institute football star was urged by his father to pursue his athletic prowess while in high school. To satisfy his father’s dream, he played and he played well--earning all-county team selection in 1966; he also was Captain of his high school team for two years. Offered more than 15 athletic scholarships upon graduation from high school, this outstanding defensive end chose Tuskegee Institute because of its academic reputation; there was no athletic scholarship involved in this decision.

This Outstanding Defensive Player (1969-1970), Mr. Arthur May, earned the bachelor’s degree in Business Management from Tuskegee Institute in 1971. In 1973, he earned his masters degree from Texas Southern University (Houston) and is now employed by the Hattiesburg, Mississippi Scott Paper Company at its Mobil Operating site where he serves as the organizational effectiveness resource site manager for the engineering and maintenance group. Arthur is also the Vice President of the Board of Directors for the Hattiesburg, Mississippi Boys Club and a member of the Local Chamber of Commerce. His wife Angela is employed by the Baldwin County School System.

Coached by Leroy Smith (1967-69) and Haywood Scissum (1970), Arthur was selected to the SIAC Team (1967-1970), the Pittsburgh Courier All-American Team (1970), the Outstanding Defensive Player by the Birmingham Grid Forecasters All-Alabama Small College Team (1969-1970), and he earned the position of Captain during his last two years at Tuskegee. Arthur was drafted by the NFL Cincinnati Bengals and later traded to the New England Patriots. He played professional football for five years, including two years with the World Football League. Art dedicates this honor to his father who passed away in January 1991--and will not be able to see his son inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame. Yet, Art feels that somehow his dad will be there to collect this award to add to the collection of trophies that he has always displayed so proudly. Art’s total football career was for his dad--not himself. It was strictly “coincidental” that Art was good at the sport and was able to excel to heights of honorable mention. Art says, “I am proud and honored by this award, but my dad would have been absolutely besides himself.” “I love what this would have done for him; so, this award is for you Dad!”