



**Jesse Davis  
(Posthumously)**

**Jesse “Smoke” Davis**, came to Tuskegee University on an athletic scholarship in 1947 after graduation from Milton high School, Tampa, Florida. A multi-dimensional athlete who excelled in two sports at Tuskegee - basketball and football. His final debut on the courts and playing fields at Tuskegee was denied when he was called to active military duty in 1951.

Jesse’s military career began with the Reserve Officers Training Corps at Tuskegee and span twenty-two and one half years. He earned the rank of First Lieutenant, served two tours of duty in Vietnam and retired in 1973. After completing his military career, he and his family made their home in Mount Holly, New Jersey, where Jesse attended Trenton State University and earned the Bachelor of Science degree in 1975 and the Masters degree in 1977.

Jesse was very active in his church and his community. His commitment to improving the quality of life for youth in the community was second to none. His most important accomplishments were the work he did with the Juvenile Conference Committee and as founder and director of Westampton Township Recreation Department. The Juvenile Conference committee provides juvenile offenders counseling and positive strategies for coping with their problems. He was also one of the original trustees of the Westampton Fire and Rescue Department and a member of the Boards of Burlington County Vocational Technical High School and Hampton Hospital.

Jesse married his college sweetheart, Laura M. Hogan, class of 1953. They have four children, Myrtle, Nathaniel, Betty and Carol.