



J.H. Flakes, III
Class of 1978

J. H. Flakes, III. A native of Columbus, Georgia enrolled at Tuskegee (Institute) University in 1974 on a football scholarship as a "Punt/Kickoff Return Specialist". This "Mighty Golden Tiger's" talent was confirmed early on the playing field. As a freshman, he was named "player of the week", earned a spot on the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference's Championship team and the "T" award. A four year letterman (1974-1977) Johnny's prowess continued. In 1977, he received a leadership award and a sweater and finished the season as the #2 "Kickoff Punt Returner" in Division II. He currently holds one of the longest kickoff return records in the history of football at Tuskegee University for 100 yard against Florida A & M University in 1977. The 2010 Tuskegee Media Guide list Flakes as one of the "All-time Greatest Athletes" under the category Kick-off Punt Returns.

Johnny was not just a great athlete, he was and excellent student. In 1977, he received an academic award and was named to the Dean's List. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in political science in 1973. After graduating from Tuskegee University, he continued his educational pursuit earning a Masters Degree from Iowa State University, Iowa City, Iowa in 1980 and his Master of Divinity from the Interdenominational Theological Center, Morehouse School of Religion In 2001. He is listed in Who's Who among Students in American Universities across the United States. He is also a writer and author. Flake's article "The Civil Rights Movement 1955-1965" was published in the Tuskegee Political Review and in 2008 his book "Keeper of the Trust" was published.

Johnny's excellence continued in his professional career as Pastor of the Mount Gilead Missionary Baptist Church, Southeast, Atlanta Georgia and currently Co-Pastor of the Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church, Columbus Georgia and Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church, Phenix City, Alabama. Reverend Flakes is affiliated and actively involved with numerous professional, community, social and spiritual organizations. Among them are the Metro-Atlanta Baptist Ministers Union, Muscogee County Clergy Association, National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, Turner Center Ministry Advisory Board, Columbus Regional Hospital Foundation Board, the Tuskegee/Morehouse Football Classic Committee and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.