



THE OKLAHOMA EDUCATIONAL MEMORIAL TRUST FOUNDATION HONORS

Dr. Hiram Alexander



A scholarship was established by the **Edison High School Class of 1960** to honor the memory of Dr. Hiram Alexander. He was a retired Tulsa Public Schools Associate Superintendent who died in April 1987 at the age of 78.

Alexander planned and in 1961 introduced the first desegregation project for Tulsa, which included a human relations department and workshops to discuss racial attitudes. Instrumental in the forming of the magnet school concept, he supported the integration of teachers before the mixing of students to help prepare for the desegregation of classes.

A native of Yale, he attended high school in Osage. He received bachelor's and master's degrees from The University of Tulsa, where he was on the football and basketball teams, and was basketball team captain one year. He received his doctorate from Oklahoma State University.

He was a coach before coming to Tulsa in 1934. He coached at Cherokee Junior High and biome history teacher and basketball coach at Rogers High School when it opened in 1939 and during his second year at Rogers, his team won the state Class A basketball title. In 1949, he became athletic director at Rogers, and in 1950 became assistant principal and dean of boys. In 1954, he was named Edison High's first principal. He assumed the associate superintendent's post in 1960, retiring in 1976.

Dr. Alexander was a member and elder emeritus of First Christian Church. He was a 33rd degree Mason and a member of the Scottish Rite. He was a charter member and second president of the Will Rogers Rotary Club and a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International. He was chairman of the state textbook commission for four years and was a past president of the Tulsa Secondary School Principals Association and a director of the Oklahoma Education Association.

In 1947, he received the Valley Forge Schoolmen Medal for patriotism. Other honors

included the Sertoma Club Testimonial of Merit and the Civitan Club Citizenship Citation.

- Adapted from the Tulsa World, April 1987