



The Oklahoma Educational Memorial Trust Foundation Honors . . .

Robert I. Mayes, Sr



The Robert I. Mayes, Sr. Memorial Scholarship was established to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Mayes (1934-2009). He was posthumously inducted into the Oklahoma African American Educators Hall of Fame, Inc, as a member of the 2022 class of OAAE Hall of Fame Inductees. He was born 1934, and was the youngest of three children. He attended Booker T. Washington Elementary, Carver Jr. High, and as an outstanding student, co-football captain and senior class president. He graduated from Booker T. Washington High School Class of 1952.

Bob received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Mathematics from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, and was noted as All CIAA in football, Master of Science Degree from Oklahoma State University, Administrative Certification from the University of Tulsa with additional studies at Northeastern State University and TU.

Mr. Mayes believed in education and gave his time and his energies to the people of Tulsa. He believed in giving back because his roots were there. In 1959, he accepted his first teaching assignment as a mathematics teacher at Carver Junior High. After that first semester, he spent the next fifteen years at BTW teaching Mathematics, Business Education, and Driver Education, in addition to an assistant football coach position. Bob instilled in his students the will to win, despite suffering defeat, which was a part of life, to never give up, and moral concepts for becoming a success in life.

Bob combined his love of education and community and started the “Ebony Awareness Bowl,” through his fraternity. His chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity was so grateful to him for creating the bowl, that it now bears his name, “Robert I, Mayes, Sr. Ebony Awareness Bowl.”

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