

## **JAMES LUTHER KNIGHT**

### *The Trojan Award*

W. A. Pattillo High School Class of 1967



James Luther Knight was born in Edgecombe County, NC on January 23, 1947 to the late Herman and Susie Bullock Knight. He was raised in the home with his parents and 5 siblings. He is affectionately called Bud by some and Luther by others.

Luther's family moved to the city of Tarboro, and he started school at Pattillo in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. He graduated from Pattillo High School in 1967. While in high school, his favorite class was Shop. Even until this day, Luther still cherishes his experiences as one of the infamous "Shop Boys". In December 1967, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy where he served 4 years. Then he joined the National Guard where he served an additional 16 years in the armed forces. He retired from the National Guard in 1997 with a combined total of 20 years of service in the military as a Staff Sergeant. Luther was also employed at Anaconda (now Superior Cable) in Tarboro and retired after 30 years of service.

After joining the Pattillo alumni association in 2012, he started as a member of the Benevolence Committee until he transitioned to the Logistics Committee in 2015. While serving as a member of the Logistics Team, Luther provided and drove his personal vehicles to transport supplies and materials to and from various association events, and helped to set-up and break-down event locations. He also provided and drove his personal truck and motorcycle to represent the Pattillo alumni association in local Christmas parades. He served as a Logistics Committee member until 2024.

Luther is a member of Salem Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Tarboro, and he is a Deacon. He enjoys riding his motorcycle, driving fast cars, travelling, and taking photographs. He has been married to Mary E. Walston Knight since 1968. They have 3 children: Kenneth, Kevin, and Kawona. They also have 8 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. The couple currently resides in Tarboro.