

JAMES E. WOOD

Distinguished Graduate

Tarboro High School Class of 1976
(Posthumously)



James was a 1976 Honor Graduate of Tarboro Senior High School. He is a graduate of North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, NC where he was a tuition-funded Cooperative Education student majoring in the field of Mechanical Engineering. During his college years, he worked cooperatively in the Navy Material Command in Bethesda, MD as an Engineering Intern. After graduating in 1982, James accepted a full-time position as a Mechanical Engineer with the Navy Material Command. His work career spanned 36 years with the Navy Material Command and the Navy Surface Warfare Center. James was very instrumental in projects involving submarine warfare. The tenor of much of his work carried security classifications.

As an Engineer, he was a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and an active member of Blacks in Government (BIG), serving a tenure of Treasurer in the BIG Navy Metro Chapter. James was also a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. A caring and compassionate person, he was a mentor and friend to many in his employment and community. Giving was his hallmark; selflessly giving so much to so many.

James's deportment as an engineer in the Navy Materiel Command and the Navy Surface Warfare Center and as an advocate in the National Organization Blacks In Government he made outstanding contributions to the security posture of this nation and advocated for the inclusions of African Americans in the federal level of government. These two strengths, at a minimum, justify his admission to the Distinguished Graduate Chapter.

Sadly, James passed 2013. In his memory his family sponsors the James E. Wood Engineering Scholarship that is awarded annually to a student attending North Carolina A&T State University and majoring in the field of engineering.