

## **Willie Mood Harrison, Sr.**

1916-1997

He was born April 20, 1916 in Ridgeway, South Carolina and was the son of Lider and Sallie P. Harrison. His early education began in the public school in Ridgeway and later transferred to the Morris College Preparatory School. He continued his education by enrolling in the college programs at Morris College in Sumter, South Carolina.

While serving in the United State Army from 1943-1946, he received the following honors: Earnest Campaign Medal; Good Conduct Medal and the ATO Campaign Medal. He was discharged honorably as an outstanding serviceman.

In 1949, he immediately took over the management of the family business which began about 1900. He took up the reins following the sudden death of his mother. His maternal grandfather, S. R. Harrison, was the first owner of the business, which has survived three generations.

June 13, 1950, he was married to Thelma McRae, and to this union were born two children.

He was a member of the Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, Ridgeway, South Carolina.

Mood Harrison received the Distinguished Service Award as affiliate of the Shell Oil Company in recognition of valued business association. For a number of years, he served on the Advisory Board of Trustees for the Ridgeway Public Schools.

His involvement in the Masonic Order spanned over forty years in the Purity Lodge #42. In this organization, he held the following positions: Senior Deacon; Junior Warden (for more than one term); and served as Senior Warden.

In 1985, the Fairfield County Planning Commission renamed Highway Road 650 t Mood Harrison honoring him.

On April 16, 1992, Mood was tapped to be enrolled in the Morris College Athletic Hall of Fame with recognition for his performance with the football team.

He can easily be classed as a humanitarian for his concern for his fellowman and his family.