



Willie J. "Strat" Stratford, Sr. (1923-2002)

Willie Stratford, Sr. was born in Lancaster, SC, moved to Charlotte as a child, attended public schools in Mecklenburg County and later graduated from Johnson C. Smith University. At the time of his death, he was a member of Ascension Lutheran Church. Strat was a politician and community advocate who worked tirelessly to help the poor divide that existed in Charlotte. He also made it his mission to touch lives for Jesus Christ by sharing his hope love and distributing "The Cross in My Pocket" to everyone he met.

Included in the organizations to which he gave his services are: The Urban League, Hope Women, Boy Scouts of America, Chamber of Commerce, American Red Cross, Public Relations Society, The Relatives, Afro-American Cultural Center, Mecklenburg Bar Association, Hispanic AIDS Project, Cherry Community Association, and the YMCA.

Strat's life of accomplishments and awards such as the State of North Carolina's Community Service Award, the Willie J. Stratford Award for the Luther King, Jr. Keeper of the Beatties Ford Road.

As a builder of community, Stratford's legacy at the YWCA should represent Christ in the lives of all who come in to us according to John 13:15.



James F. "Jim" Richardson (1926-2003)

James F. Richardson was born in Charlotte, NC, attended Johnson C. Smith University, and graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, the U.S. Senate, and the U.S. Supreme Court. He was also a member of the U.S. Public Service and was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate.

