

# Wilson E. Ennis, Sr. Memorial Scholarship



1932 – 1990

Wilson Ennis was a son, a veteran, a husband, a father, a teacher, a coach and a mentor. He was born the son of a share cropper in Laurel, Delaware. After completing high school, he joined the newly established and integrated U.S. Air Force. After serving his country he attended Maryland State College (now University of Maryland Eastern Shore) on the GI bill. Wilson earned a B.S. in Mathematics.

Upon graduation, Wilson Ennis began his teaching career in 1959 at Brooks High School in Calvert County, Md. Brooks High School was Calvert County all Black High School because in 1959 the schools in Calvert were not integrated. He also began his famous coaching career in 1959 by coaching the Brooks Basketball team with Wallace Leeper. Wilson's teaching career lasted over 30 years, until 1990. During his career he taught at Brooks High, Calvert Middle, Calvert High, Our Lady Star of the Sea and St. Mary's Ryken High School. He believed education was the key to success, especially for young Black men and women. He went out of his way to get his students into college.

Wilson Ennis's greatest accomplishment was his family, his wife Mary and his 11 children, six girls and five boys. All of his children attended college. Five of his children followed in his footsteps and became teachers, two went into Engineering fields and two went in the programming fields and two went into Business.

Wilson Ennis was truly committed to education but is most remembered for his contribution to coaching. He coached Basketball, Football, and Track. He was the first coach in the Southern Maryland Athletic Conference (SMAC) to win two State Championships, both in track. He started the Park and Recreation Basketball Program in Calvert County. He helped start the Park and Recreation football program in Calvert County. He started the first track team at Our Lady Star of the Sea School. Because of his teaching and coaching career, he became a mentor to many of his students. Wilson Ennis passed away in 1990 doing what he loved, teaching and coaching.



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