

An Omega Jewel

Brother Edward H. Taylor Born January 12, 1909 -

Background....

Born Tuesday January 12, 1909 in Brooklyn, New York, Brother Edward H. Taylor was duly initiated on Saturday November 17, 1928 into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated through Alpha Chapter, at Howard University in Washington , D.C. While a student at Howard University , Brother Taylor served as the Howard University Student Council President from 1930-1931. Brother Taylor left Howard University to return home to New York City, where he earned both a B.S. and M.S . in Education from Columbia University . In 1931, Bro Taylor aligned himself with Zeta Psi Chapter, Brooklyn , New York where he served as the Basileus for two years, and the Keeper of Record and Seal for four years.

In November 1949, Brother Taylor, along with other distinguished Omega Men, helped to charter Alpha Upsilon Chapter to serve as the graduate chapter in Brooklyn, New York, where he has served as the Basileus for two years, and the Keeper of Records and Seal for thirty years. Brother Taylor currently serves as the Chaplin and Keeper of Records and Seal Emeritus for Alpha Upsilon Chapter and as a Special Advisor to the Second District Representative. Outside of Omega, Brother Taylor faithfully served as a teacher and guidance counselor for the New York City Board of Education for thirty-four years.

Service....

Up until May 2006, Brother Taylor had not missed a Chapter meeting with Alpha Upsilon Chapter since 1950; he always sits in the front row to keep the Basileus in line. In 1959, Brother Taylor served as the New York City Grand Conclave Grand Marshal. Brother Taylor served on the National Recommendation Committee, the Bishop Love Study Commission, and the Constitution Recommendation Committee for three years respectively. Brother Taylor also served on the National Artifact Committee for three Grand Conclaves, the Constitution Committee for two years, the Second District Recommendation Committee for fifteen years, the Artifact and Memorabilia Committee for thirteen years, served as Advisor to the Second District Representative for twelve years and served as the Project Uplift Chairman.

Awards & Distinctions....

Brother Taylor has been honored or received the following awards and distinctions: Omega Man of the Year, Zeta Psi Chapter 1967; Forty Year Award, Conclave Charlotte, NC 1968; Omega Man of the Year, Alpha Upsilon Chapter, 1970 and 1984; Fifty Year Award, Conclave New Orleans, LA 1978; Sixty Year Award, Conclave Dallas, TX 1988; Founders Award – Stand in for Brother Love at the Second District conference 1989; Seventy Year Award, Conclave New Orleans, LA 1998; Bro Grant Reynolds Lifetime of Courage Award 1999; Special Honoree, Alpha Upsilon Chapter 50th Anniversary 1999; Iota Xi Chapter Award 2000; Outstanding Participation Award, Zeta Theta Chapter 2001; Outstanding Service to Omega Award, Theta Omicron Chapter 2001; Undergraduate Summit – Keynote Speaker 2003; Supreme Council – Keynote Speaker 2003; Special Honoree, Alpha Upsilon Chapter 55th Anniversary 2004. *In 2004, Alpha Upsilon Chapter established the Brother Edward H. Taylor Lifetime Achievement Award to serve as Brother Taylor's Legacy in the Chapter and the Fraternity in recognition of his many years of service and deeds to Omega. This recognition is to be awarded to Men affiliated with Alpha Upsilon Chapter who have served Omega faithfully and tirelessly for at least twenty-five years, and embody the Cardinal Principals of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift.

Summary....

No biography could ever adequately capture the true essence of what Brother Taylor has done for Omega throughout his seventy-eight years of loyal service to her. Brother Taylor currently holds the distinction of being the oldest living active and financial member of our Omega Dear, and we hope and pray to the Supreme Basileus of the Universe that this is a distinction that he holds for many years to come. Throughout the years Brother Taylor has been known for taking Brothers to task, from Neophytes to Grand Basilei, in an effort to maintain the integrity and dignity of our beloved organization. It's Brothers like "Eddie" who help to keep the Lamp of Omega shining bright. I do not know if any more can be said about Brother Taylor, but in his own words, "If you want to know more about Eddie, then ask Eddie". Currently, Brother Taylor is in a nursing home in Brooklyn, New York. He is regularly kept abreast of all the inner workings of the Chapter and the Fraternity, and he still continues to share his insight and wisdom with the Brothers! Brother Taylor will forever remain a precious Jewel of our Omega Dear.