**M. HOWARD DAVIS**

M. Howard Davis, Class of 1954, devoted his career in the White Plains Schools to the well-being and education of underprivileged and hard-to-reach high school and adult students.

Born in Savannah, GA, Mr. Davis moved to White Plains when he was three and attended Hillside Elementary School, Ferris Avenue School and Battle Hill Junior High. At White Plains High School he was President of the Junior and Senior classes and a star halfback and defender on the football team. A fractured spine suffered while making a tackle on a muddy field against De Witt Clinton in 1952 changed the trajectory of his life.

The entire White Plains community rallied around Mr. Davis, who initially was paralyzed from his injury, with overwhelming support and encouragement. Mr. Davis went on to earn a BS in Sociology from Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, IL. He later studied at the New York School of Social Work at NYU with an internship in Psychiatric Social Work at Rockland State Hospital and pursued additional graduate studies at Bridgeport and Fairfield Universities.

Mr. Davis worked for four years as Assistant Director of the Carver Center in White Plains, followed by three year stints at both the Bronx After Care Clinic and the Graham Home for Children in Hastings.

In 1963 Dr. Clarence Noyce invited Mr. Davis to join him in the Adult Education Program in White Plains. He began his 32-year career in White Plains in the Manpower Development Training Program before becoming a counselor in SCORE, an alternative education program for White Plains Public Schools. When SCORE was discontinued, Mr. Davis became Guidance Director for White Plains Adult Education.

Active in civic and community affairs, Mr. Davis has served on the Board of the White Plains Human Rights Commission and The Salvation Army, and is a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Beta Alpha Chapter of White Plains.

He has been a member of the Mount Hope A.M.E. Zion Church since he was 10. Mr. Davis has served as the Superintendent and been a teacher at the Sunday School, on the Stewards Board and a number of other committees, including the Thanksgiving Dinner Committee which feeds the needy.

Married to Luvenia Davis, Mr. Davis lives in Greenburgh and has three sons and two grandchildren. His brother, Dr. Marion Davis, also graduated from White Plains High School.