

Dinwiddie County
2018 Hometown Heroes
Mr. Legert Hamilton



Mr. Legert Hamilton was born March 3, 1937 in Bay Spring, Mississippi. He is the third of nine children born to Berlon and Hettie Hamilton.

Legert Hamilton received his undergraduate degree in 1961 from Jackson State College (University) in Jackson Mississippi. He earned a certification in Physics from Boston College and a Master's degree in Guidance from Virginia State University. Mr. Hamilton's teaching career began in 1961, when he taught Math in Newton, Mississippi.

Mr. Hamilton was drafted into the Army in 1962. He was assigned to the Mathematical and Statistical Unit and was stationed at Fort Lee, Virginia, and served in this capacity until August 1964. Toward the end of his service he was encouraged by a colleague to consider teaching in Dinwiddie County. After meeting with a principal and the Superintendent at the time, Mr. Hamilton agreed to "give it one year". That year turned into 38!

Legert Hamilton began his career in in Dinwiddie in 1964 at Southside High School. Following integration, he taught one year at Dinwiddie County Jr. High School, before moving up to Dinwiddie County High School, where he taught from 1973-1994. In 1994, Mr. Hamilton accepted the position of Guidance Counselor at Dinwiddie County High School and served in this capacity until his retirement in 2002.

Mr. Hamilton served on the Dinwiddie County Planning Commission from 1978 – 1996. In 1980, he was appointed to a special committee responsible for investigating allegations of "false claims for wages", at a state agency. Mr. Hamilton also served as Treasurer and Manager of the Dinwiddie Education Association Federal Credit Union for 35 years, prior to their merger with People's Advantage.

After retirement, Mr. Hamilton was elected to the Dinwiddie County School Board, where he served two, four-year, terms. He currently serves on the Historic Southside High School Education Center Committee.

Legert Hamilton married his wife Rachel in 1967. The couple met while Rachel was a student at Virginia State University and assigned to Dinwiddie for student teaching. Together they raised three children and are now enjoying three grandchildren.

Mr. Hamilton is dedicated to rendering services for the betterment of people and the community. He is known to be an advocate for youth, disabled adults and the elderly. He has been described as a man of wisdom and knowledge. For this reason, people of all backgrounds seek his advice when making large purchases or life-changing decisions. He is a master gardener who grows and harvests vegetables, then

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delivers them to seniors. Gardening is more than a hobby for Mr. Hamilton, it is his passion. He gardens year-round and is currently growing collard and oriental greens, onions, carrots and spinach.

Mr. Hamilton is a member of Mt. Calvary Baptist Church in DeWitt, where he serves as treasurer and a trustee. Among other organizations, he supports The Children's Home of Virginia Baptists, the NAACP, AARP and the American Red Cross.

Legert Hamilton has spent his entire, adult life in service to others and his community. It is an honor to recognize him and his contributions to Dinwiddie County, with a 2018 Hometown Hero award.