



# BIOGRAPHY

## A DOCUMENTED ORIGINAL TUSKEGEE AIRMAN

TUSKEGEE AIRMEN INC. PUBLIC RELATIONS, P.O. Box 830060  
TUSKEGEE, AL 36083

### Ezra M. Hill, Sr.



Ezra M. Hill was born in Newport News, VA in 1930. He moved to Washington, DC as a child and lived there until the age of seventeen. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps, Ft Meade, Maryland in July 1947. He completed basic training at Lackland AFB, Texas and in October 1947 was assigned to Lockbourne AFB, Columbus Ohio. His primary duty was in Crash and Rescue; however, because of other talents which were discovered early on, he spent most of his time in “Special Services Activities.”

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and Rescue, but still devoting most of his time to “Special Services Activities.”

Sergeant Hill was reassigned to Andrews AFB, MD in late 1949 where he played “base-level” basketball, (the first black and first enlisted man to play at this level). He was selected to play on the Air Force Basketball Team, which played in world-wide competition. He was also an Entertainer and was selected to perform with “Operation Happiness” (fore-runner of today’s “Tops in Band”). He was reassigned to Tokyo International Airport, Japan, for the next 3-years for duty in Crash and Rescue, but still devoting most of his time to “Special Services Activities”.

In 1956, TSgt Hill was relocated to McGuire AFB, New Jersey and retrained into the electronics field as a Weapons Systems technician. He spent the greater portion of 1958 and 1959 in Technical Schools at Lowry AFB, Colorado and Hughes Aircraft Plants and took advanced Weapons Systems courses. He was subsequently assigned to Langley AFB, Virginia where he worked as a Weapons Systems technician in the 48<sup>th</sup> Fighter Interceptor Squadron from 1960 to 1965. He returned to McGuire AFB, NJ and worked as an Electronics Operational Readiness Inspector until his retirement as a MSgt in 1967.

After retirement, MSgt Hill taught in the Newport News School System for approximately a year and worked with the Navy at the Naval Air Station, Norfolk, VA for 18 years, as a Computer Technician Supervisor, before retiring for the second time. His educational achievements included many military courses, a certificate in Computer Science from Trenton Junior College, Trenton, NJ and a BS Degree in Industrial Engineering from Ohio Saint Matthew University, Columbus, OH. In March 2007, former President George W. Bush conferred a Congressional Gold Medal (replica pictured above) on all those individuals participating in the Tuskegee Airmen Program. In May 2012, MSgt Hill, and five other Tidewater Chapter-based DOTAs received honorary Doctorate Degrees in Humane Letters from Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA.

Since 1953, MSgt/Dr. Hill has been married to the former Mable Haltiwanger. From their union, they have 3-children, 9-grand-children and 2-great grandchildren. For more information about MSgt/Dr. Hill, please visit the following website:  
[www.TAI-TidewaterChapter.Com](http://www.TAI-TidewaterChapter.Com).

