



BIOGRAPHY

A DOCUMENTED ORIGINAL TUSKEGEE AIRMAN

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Mr. Clayton Lawrence



At the age of 21, Mr. Clayton Lawrence had already overcome the odds by becoming one of the Black Aviators who became known as the Tuskegee Airmen. Mr. Lawrence was born in 1924, in Brooklyn, New York where he received his formal education. He attended Brooklyn College up until 1943 when he interrupted his studies to volunteer for Military Pilot Training in the U.S. Army Corps.

After completing Basic Pilot Training, Mr. Clayton was assigned to Cadet Pilot Class 44-H for Pilot training at Tuskegee Army Airfield, Tuskegee, Alabama. Upon elimination from Pilot Training, he was assigned to Bombardier-Navigator training where he graduated, received his Commission and Silver Wings and assignment to the 477th Bombardment Group at Godman Field, Kentucky. He would be a Bombardier-Navigator flying in B-25's. Clayton was one of the many who took part in the Freeman Field Civil Disobedience for equal rights as an Officer. Historians say the protest hastened the end of segregation in the U.S. military.

Upon his honorable discharge from active duty to the Military Reserves, Lieutenant Lawrence returned to Brooklyn College and earned a B.A. Degree in Economics. In 1952, he was recalled to active duty during the Korean Conflict and served as a Bombardier assigned to B-29's. After the Korean Conflict, he returned to the Reserves as a Liaison Officer to the Air Force Academy and various others assignments until his retirement.

Mr. Clayton Lawrence joined the other Airmen who had passed away before him, in the Lonely Eagles Chapter, on September 8, 2014 at the age of 90.

To learn more about Mr. Clayton Lawrence, other Documented Original Tuskegee Airmen, please visit the Website at the following location: www.TuskegeeAirmen.org.

