

BIOGRAPHY

A DOCUMENTED ORIGINAL TUSKEGEE AIRMAN

Tuskegee Airmen Inc. Public Relations, P.O. Box 830060
Tuskegee, AL 36083

JAMES LEE BYNUM

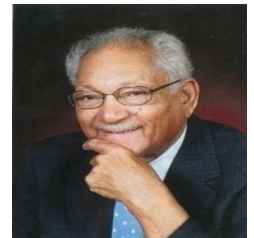
James Bynum was born on a farm in Lexington County, South Carolina, on January 6, 1921, but he grew up in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He attended Elementary and Junior High School in North Philadelphia until the Murrell Dobbins Vocational School opened in 1937. He Enlisted in the Army in 1941 at the Headquarters Company, 95th Engineers Battalion, as a Soldier in Fort Belvoir, Virginia. The 95th Engineers helped build the 1600-mile-long Alaskan highway through the rugged mountains of Canada in the Spring of 1942. The 95th also helped create the D-Day Training Camp for invasion troops in South Wales and made road repairs after battle damage.



He separated from the Army on October 3, 1945, and was back in uniform within 90 days at Fort Meade, Maryland. In 1946, the Army transferred him to Lockbourne Air Force Base under Colonel Benjamin O. Davis Jr. Sgt. Bynum was placed in charge of the single officer's billeting office and unit inventory by Lieutenant Daniel "Chappie" James.

Three months later, the Army reassigned him to McChord Field, Washington, as chief clerk, First Sergeant, personnel clerk, and accounting clerk. SGT Bynum was stationed at various assignments in Washington, Japan, and Vermont. In addition, he held ROTC positions at Tennessee State University and then served at the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) in Paris, France. After a 30-year military career, he retired in 1971 as a Senior Master Sergeant. In 2007, President George W. Bush awarded the Congressional Gold Medal to he and the Tuskegee Airmen.

Before retiring for the second time, Mr. Bynum dedicated himself to a career in real estate. He was requested to speak to audiences everywhere about his military experiences and time as a Tuskegee Airmen.



James Lee Bynum joined the "Lonely Eagles" on April 29, 2022.

