



BIOGRAPHY

A DOCUMENTED ORIGINAL TUSKEGEE AIRMAN

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JAMES PHILIP REMBERT SR. 1916 - 1987



James Philip Rembert Sr. was born in Sumter S.C. on August 12, 1916. He graduated from Lincoln High School and Morris College and was trained as a pilot at Tuskegee Institute. As one of the first Black military pilots in WWII, he bravely served in the fight for freedom while breaking racial barriers in aviation. His dedication to service didn't end with the military—he continued uplifting his community long after the war.



After his service, he taught at schools in Manning, Charleston, and Sumter, S.C., and was also a clerk carrier for the Post Office. In 1974, Rembert made history again as Sumter County's first Black councilman. As a councilman, he worked to get African Americans to register to vote and to increase African American representation on county boards and committees. He was the longest-serving African-American elected official in South Carolina until his death. His leadership helped shape the future of local government. At age 71, he joined the Lonely Eagle Chapter in 1987.

Today, the Tuskegee Airmen legacy lives on through a Tuskegee Airmen monument in Sumter's Veterans Park (pictured at right)—a tribute to his service, courage and contributions as a Tuskegee Airman of Sumter, S.C. For more information about Mr. Rembert and 3-other Tuskegee Airmen from Sumter County, please visit the be;pw Link: <https://www.facebook.com/SumterMuseum/videos/the-four-tuskegee-airmen-from-sumter-county-james-philip-rembert/851076769048012/>



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