

BIOGRAPHY

A DOCUMENTED ORIGINAL TUSKEGEE AIRMAN

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

DUDLEY M. GLASSE

Dudley Maurice Glasse was born September 25, 1924, in New York City to Una Nicholson and Percival Glasse. After graduating from DeWitt Clinton High School (Bronx) in 1942 he joined the Civilian Conservation Corp and was sent to the North-eastern part of New York State where he gained skills in conservation and forestry which sparked a lifetime love of outdoor activities.



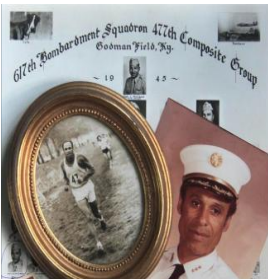
Dudley was drafted to serve in the United States Army and after a battery of tests was qualified for Pre-Flight training in the Army Air Corp at Tuskegee Alabama. After completing bombardier-navigator training, Dudley was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant and attached to the 617th Bombardment Squadron 477th Composite Group. After his honorable discharge Dudley remained active in the United States Air Force Reserves, achieving the rank of Captain. He was interviewed for a Man on the Street newspaper article in May of 1945 about the state of the Negro after the war. He stated, "The Negro has gained somewhat during the war and reactionaries are trying to push him back...after fighting and dying for his democratic rights, his rights as a man, (he) will not accept second class citizenship".



In January 1947, Dudley Glasse was appointed to the Fire Department of the City of New York where he remained in service for 42 years rising through the ranks to become Bronx Borough Commander (1983) and Chief of Communications (1986), the first African American reaching such high rank in the history of the department to that date(s).



In 1955, Dudley was one of eight Scholarship winners selected after competitive testing to receive tuition costs necessary to study engineering at New York University. Post retirement, Dudley attended Lehman College majoring in American Studies. He was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and graduated Magna Cum Laude. Thereafter



he was accepted into the American Studies Graduate Program at Columbia University. An outdoors and health enthusiast Dudley ran in the Boston Marathon and the first New York City Marathon. He served as Scoutmaster to the children of a number of his former Tuskegee Airmen brethren including his two sons, Dudley and Dexter, who he raised alone after separating from his wife Daisye. A true renaissance man, his interest in languages and culture took him to places such as post-war Vietnam and Cuba, while he and his brother-in-law Royce entered Amateur Night at the Famed Apollo Theatre singing "Blue Moon" in falsetto.

Dudley Glasse joined the Lonely Eagles Chapter on August 2, 1997. He was 72-years old.

