Adel Family to Receive ABAC Award April 10

TIFTON--The family of Marshall Bennett, Sr., from Adel will be presented with the 2015 Family Legacy Award on April 10 at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College during the annual ABAC Alumni Association awards ceremony.

The ceremony will recognize ABAC alumni who impacted the college and their communities in significant ways. Advance tickets are $30 per person. There will be no tickets sold at the event.

Tickets can be purchased from the ABAC College Advancement Office at (229) 391-4895. For more information on the 2015 Homecoming Week, interested persons can visit the web site at www.abac.edu/homecoming.

The Family Legacy Award was established in 1998 to recognize families with five or more family members spanning two or more generations who have attended ABAC and made a significant contribution to the college thereby creating a legacy for their own family and leaving a legacy at ABAC.
Three generations of the Marshall Bennett, Sr., family from Adel have attended ABAC, beginning with Marshall Raymond “Buck” Bennett, Sr., a 1959 agricultural engineering technology graduate. Bennett was a U.S. Army volunteer, who was a part of the European Rifle Team in Germany. He used the Army’s GI Bill to become the first person in his family to earn a college degree. He served on the Cook County School Board and as a county commissioner.

His sister, Patty Bennett Shaw, received her nursing degree from ABAC. His three children all attended ABAC. Bennett’s daughters, Angela Bennett Simmons and Kathy Bennett, attended the college in 1979. In 1987, Bennett’s son, Marshall Bennett Jr., attended as a pre-veterinary medicine major.

Bennett’s niece, Tammy Gaskins Carter, is a graduate of ABAC’s nursing program and currently serves as an instructor in the School of Nursing and Health Sciences. Bennett’s granddaughter, Carrie Simmons Gantt, earned her nursing degree in 2003, followed by granddaughter Alison Harvey in 2004 with a degree in business. Alex Brennan, who became a part of the Bennett family by marriage, received his business degree in 2004.

In 2013, Bennett’s grandson, Marshall Raymond “Ben” Bennett, III, received his degree in agricultural education. Ben was a 2011 ABAC Presidential Scholar. Bennett has several more nieces, nephews, and other family members who have attended ABAC. At present, Bennett’s grandson, Samuel Joseph Bennett, is attending the college, majoring in diversified agriculture.