Ringgold Resident Named Distinguished Alumnus at ABAC

TIFTON—William H.H. Clark from Ringgold will receive the 2016 Distinguished Alumnus Award on April 1 at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College during the annual ABAC Alumni Association awards ceremony. The ceremony will recognize ABAC alumni who have impacted the college and their communities in significant ways.

Tickets for the 6 p.m. dinner and awards ceremony in Gressette Gym are $30 each. The deadline to purchase tickets is March 21. 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 2016 Homecoming Week, interested persons can visit the web site at www.abac.edu/homecoming.

The Distinguished Alumnus Award is presented annually in recognition of alumni who have distinguished themselves through professional achievement, community service and service to ABAC. It is the highest honor bestowed on an alumnus by the Alumni Association. It was first presented in 1969.
Clark and his wife, Eleanor, reside in Ringgold where he is a retired colonel from the United States Army Veterinary Corps. He attended ABAC as a pre-veterinary medicine major from 1954-1956 and transferred to the University of Georgia, earning a doctorate degree in veterinary medicine. He then joined the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps as a First Lieutenant.

Clark furthered his education at Tulane University, receiving a master of public health in tropical disease degree. He served both overseas and stateside before being selected for the U.S. Military Advisory Group in Iran from 1968-70. He was stationed stateside from 1970-74 before heading to Korea as commander of the 106th Medical Detachment. He returned to the states in 1975 and served 15 years in Washington, D.C. in the Office of the Army Surgeon General. He retired in 1990 with over 29 years of service to the United States Army.

Clark then followed in the footsteps of his father and grandfather to become the third generation of his family to serve in the Georgia House of Representatives from 1996-2000 and became the first ever Republican to win a contested race for public office in Catoosa County. He served as chair of the Catoosa County Board of Commissioners from 2005-09. Clark has authored three books, started The Catoosa Tribune newspaper, served as a founding member of Gateway Bank and Trust, and is currently the manager of a family business involving commercial real estate development, stocks, bonds and timber.

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