



Greetings Fellow Alumni,

I was a few weeks shy of my second birthday when Ezell Blair, Jr., Franklin McCain, Joseph McNeil, and David Richmond walked down to the F. W. Woolworth in Greensboro on Monday, Feb. 1, 1960. Their courage to sit down at the lunch counter that day started a movement across the south that changed America forever.

In May 1969, I was 11 years old when local police officers and the U.S. National Guards stormed the campus of N.C. A&T State University due to a student protest at James B. Dudley High School that included students from our university. Bullets riddled the outer walls of Scott Hall, a campus residence hall for men, and quickly escalated out of control. In the early morning hours of Thursday, May 22, 1969, Willie Grimes, a 20 year old A&T sophomore from Winterville, N.C., died after being shot while standing on campus near Carver Hall.

Forty years later, May 22, 2009, Dr. Harold L. Martin, Sr. was elected the 12th Chancellor of N.C. A&T University and the first alumnus to serve in this capacity. At that same time in 2009, I was serving as chair of the Board of Trustees and only the second alumna at that time to do so. This was the first time in our University's history that the Chancellor and Chair of the Board were both alums.

There are many stories like this that have filled the history books for our University and we continue to make history as we educate exceptional young people every day. In celebration of Black History Month, let's honor all who have paved the way for us to enjoy the rights and freedoms we too often take for granted; "Because of you, we are."

With Aggie Pride,

***Pamela McCorkle Buncum '81***

Board Chair

N.C. A&T State University Alumni  
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