

— 2019 —

# Forsyth-Monroe County Sports Hall of Fame

## *Richard Chambliss Sr.*



Richard Chambliss, Sr. is a 1972 Mary Persons alumni, who became one of the top basketball players in MP program history after transferring from Hubbard High as a Sophomore in 1969-70. Richard served as Class Vice-President in 1969 at Hubbard. His Mary Persons basketball accomplishments include Captain of the teams of 1971 and 1972, Mr. Basketball (1971), held the single game scoring record of 54 points (against Crawford County) for more than twenty years, and was the MVP after the 1971-1972 seasons. In football, Richard played for the 1971 and 1972 Bulldogs, lettering both years, and in 1972 receiving Macon Telegraph All Middle Georgia recognition. Richard's parents were Thad and Sadie Chambliss, and he has six siblings.

He remembers with gratitude and respect his basketball coach, James Love and his football coach, Dan Pitts. The skills that he honed from a young age through practice and determination, propelled him into his own business, Chambliss Paint and Body Shop, and he maintained the business from 1978 until his retirement in 2013. He considers one of his most satisfying accomplishments the call into ministry in 2006 and he is an ordained Local Elder in the AME Church, and he pastored Coleman Clark AME Church for eight years until his health forced him to retire from that. He continues, however, to work in ministry, assisting his wife, Rev. Ella Chambliss. He and Ella have been married for 46 years and are the parents of three children, Iris Chambliss-Kelly, and Patrice Chambliss Walker, both MDs, and Richard Chambliss, Jr., a musician. Today Richard enjoys restoring cars, hunting and fishing, and watching sports.

