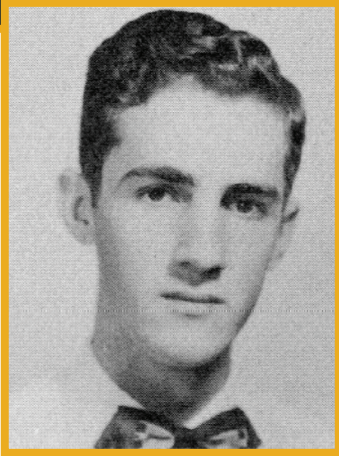




LEGACY TESTIMONY



DR. JAMES BEST CLASS OF 1955

"I had no way of attending college and seminary without working part-time and receiving scholarship assistance."

Dr. James Best ('55) is grateful for his experience as a student at East Texas Baptist College. As a student who benefited from scholarship support at ETBC, he wants to help future generations of ETBU students have the same opportunity for success. "Bobbie and I learned early in ministry the importance of stewardship and the educational scholarships provided by the Cooperative Program to ETBC."

James, a native of Woodville, Texas, married his high school sweetheart, Bobbie, who also attended ETBC. The education and encouragement James received during his time on the Hill prepared him for his career in ministry. James served as a pastor of churches in Texas, Alabama, and Oregon for more than 40 years. Following his time as pastor, James served for seven years as the Director of Missions at the Pine Barren Baptist Association in Alabama.

When James reflects back on his life, he acknowledges how God used his time at ETBC in his faith formation and career preparation. Prior to Bobbie's death in 2013, James and Bobbie decided to include ETBU in their planned giving. "In my ministry I learned the value of 'giving it twice' through estate planning."

In addition to their planned gift, James and Bobbie have faithfully supported the institution through annual gifts for 25 consecutive years. "Starting with a small amount and giving, as blessed and able, we established two scholarships at ETBU that will assist other Tigers for eternity."

To learn more about the Legacy of 1912 Society go to www.ETBU.edu/legacy. If you have any questions, contact Dr. Scott Bryant.



Dr. Scott Bryant | Vice President for Advancement
903.923.2069 | sbryant@ETBU.edu