

Spotlight on
Brother Vorry Chandler Moon, Sr
By. Brother Jeffrey T. Smith

Brother Vorry C. Moon, Sr. is a distinguished leader of people having honed his considerable talents and skills during a military career, political activism, civic groups, service organizations, church, and raising a family. He models the way for family, values, friendship, and service; he is a bridge builder to others who are willing to listen and learn from his varied and vast life's experiences. Brother Moon will impress you with his genuineness, confidence, enthusiasm, and congeniality. His words and deeds are congruent, and his record of service to the community demonstrates courage, loyalty, and commitment. When approached about sharing his Omega, professional, and personal activities for this article, Brother Moon supplied a life's work which truly represents the leadership model created by Kouzes and Posner in their book called 'The Leadership Challenge.' The concept outlines five core principles for leadership practices and behaviors: Model the Way; Inspires a Shared Vision; Challenge the Process; Enable Others to Act; and Encourage the Heart. The book is a good read and useful for leaders at different levels. Brother Moon's history is a great read and fits equally well into the fraternity's four principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.

Manhood. Brother Moon is a Floridian and his hometown is Miami. He graduated with honors from Northwestern Senior High School in 1962 before attending Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN. In 1964, Moon crossed the burning sands into Omega Psi Phi through the Mighty Rho Psi Chapter, 5th District. Moon is a 50 year member of the fraternity and he indicated that while in college two Omega men and a professor were inspirational and encouraging. Moon remarked that Brother William 'Bill' Hampton (Omega Chapter) was the chapter Basileus and a mentor, role model whom he emulated. Brother David Saunders, DOP, was source of motivation; he is currently a member of the Rho Psi Alumni Chapter. Mr. Hannibal Cox was a professor of Aeronautical Science and Space, Moon's chosen path for nearly 27 years.

Brother Moon is married to the former Candace Millicent Davis of Fort Smith, Arkansas, and they have seven adult children and ten grandchildren. His son, Vorry Moon II is an Omega man and was made in 2007 through Chi Phi Chapter.

Scholarship. Brother Moon has attended several colleges, receiving degrees throughout his career. He has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Aeronautics Education from Tennessee State University. Moon received a regular US Air Force (USAF) Commission through Reserve Officer

Training Corps (ROTC) in 1967. He graduated from USAF Undergraduate Pilot Training (UPT), Craig AFB, Selma, AL in 1968. He is a graduate of the Squadron Officer School (1972), Maxwell AFB, AL, the Air Command and Staff College (1978), Offutt AFB, NE, and the Graduate Industrial College of the Armed Forces – National Security Management (1983), Offutt AFB, NE.

Perseverance. Recently, Brother Moon has served three terms as a city council member in Centennial, CO. He was elected in 2004, appointed in 2008, and reelected in 2012; in 2011, Moon was elected as Mayor Pro Tem. Currently, he is the CEO of MBJ, Incorporated.

His service to the country is filled with titles, assignments, units, and overseas duty in various theaters. Moon's military titles are extensive: USAF pilot from 1968 to 1991; Combat Crew Aircraft Commander AC-47; T-37 Instructor Pilot, UPT Academic Instructor; Chief of Social Actions for Moody AFB; Drug Education Field Team Commander; DOD Training Officer for the Royal Laotian Air Force; Military Attaché/Embassy Pilot; KC-135A Aircraft Commander; Flight Commander; Branch Chief; Squadron Operations Officer; Squadron Commander; Command Post Controller; Command Control Unit Operations and Training Branch Chief; and, Command Pilot with more than 900 combat flying hours.

His military assignments spanned the globe: USAF Pilot Training, Craig AFB, Selma, AL (1967); 3rd Special Operations Wing, Bien Thuy AB, Republic of Viet Nam (1968); Moody AFB, Valdosta, Georgia (1969); US Military Assistance Command Thailand/Joint US Military Assistance Group in Bangkok, Thailand (1973); Udorn Royal Thai Air Force Base (1973); Grand Forks AFB, Grand Forks, North Dakota (1979); Offutt AFB, Emergency Actions Controller in the Strategic Air Command Underground Command Post, Omaha, Nebraska (1979); and, Carswell AFB, Fort Worth, Texas (1983 - 1990).

Brother Moon's community service is spread among several professional, civic, and fraternal organizations. They are: South Metro Denver Chamber of Commerce; Denver South Economic Development Partnership; Military Officers Association of America; Hubert L. "Hooks" Jones Chapter Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. (president); NAACP; AARP; Good Shepherd Episcopal Church; Colorado Democratic House District (chair); Mullen High School Football Booster Club (super volunteer); and, Macedonia Baptist Church (Ordained Deacon).

Uplift. Brother Moon's journey is one of servant leadership, helping others over the years regardless of their stations in life and circumstances. The communities he served reciprocated in similar fashion by bestowing accolades, achievements, and awards for jobs well done. Moon's accomplishments are: 1983, 8th District Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Man of the Year, Omaha, NE; 1999, Outstanding Boy Scouts America Scouter Award, Denver, CO; 2008, Jack and Jill Of America, Inc. South

Suburban Denver Chapter Honoree for Outstanding Contributions to African American History; 2008, Chi Phi Chapter Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Founder's Award, Denver, CO; 2011, Chi Phi Chapter Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Bridge Builder Award for service to youth, Denver, CO; and 2012, Epsilon Nu Omega Chapter Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Men of Distinction, Excellence and Leadership (M.O.D.E.L.) Award Honoree, Denver, CO.

Brother Moon's military awards and decorations are: The Distinguished Flying Cross; Meritorious Service Medal; Air Medal with eleven Oak Leaf Clusters; Joint Service Commendation Medal; Air Force Commendation Medal with one Oak leaf Cluster; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two devices; National Defense Service Medal with one device; Viet Nam Service Medal with 4 devices; AF Overseas Short Tour Ribbon; AF Overseas Long Tour Ribbon; AF Longevity Service Award with five devices; AF Training Ribbon; Republic of Vietnam (RVN) Gallantry Cross with Palm; RVN Campaign Medal; and, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon.

Brother Moon is an active member of the Hubert L. "Hooks" Jones Chapter Tuskegee Airmen, Incorporated. On a side note, Brother Hubert 'Hooks' Jones was an Omega man and a long-standing member of Chi Phi Chapter. He was also a Documented Original Tuskegee Airmen (DOTA). Brother Moon held the office of chapter president and Board of Directors (BOD) Chair from 2009 – 2011; BOD Member from 2009 – present; Chair BOD from 2012 – present. He is the Scholarship Committee Chair and chaired the Bylaw Committee Chair to revise Chapter Bylaws in 2012 and 2014. He helped the City of Centennial, Colorado proclaim November 8, 2010, Tuskegee Airmen Day in Centennial. On April 2012, Moon successfully petitioned the Colorado Legislature to rename I-70 Interstate Highway across Colorado from Utah to Kansas (451 miles) to 'The Tuskegee Airmen Memorial Trail (TAMT).' This memorial will serve to continue the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen in perpetuity. In February 2013, Moon led a chapter committee in the formation of the 'Tuskegee Airmen of Colorado' display at the Denver International Airport and he assisted in raising \$4,000.00 to purchase TAMT highway signs. Moon led the Scholarship committee to two successful Chapter Scholarship Fundraising Luncheons. He successfully petitioned TAI National to induct Michael B. Hancock, Mayor of Denver, Colorado as an Honorary Tuskegee Airmen by Chapter and TAI National. As Chairman of the Board of Directors, Moon led the chapter to successfully seek a scholarship endowment with the University of Denver for \$50,000.00.

In conclusion, Brother Moon shared his aspirations for the future of Omega Psi Phi and Chi Phi Chapter. His statement for the Fold is that the fraternity and chapter must keep the legacy and fraternal purpose in the public; the organization must continue to showcase young people to the community and placed them first in the programming of Omega.

Brother Moon is the epitome of Omega's values and friendship motto. He radiates a spirit of respect, responsibility, dedication, and love for others. May God continue to bless him, his family, and his several endeavors in life.

