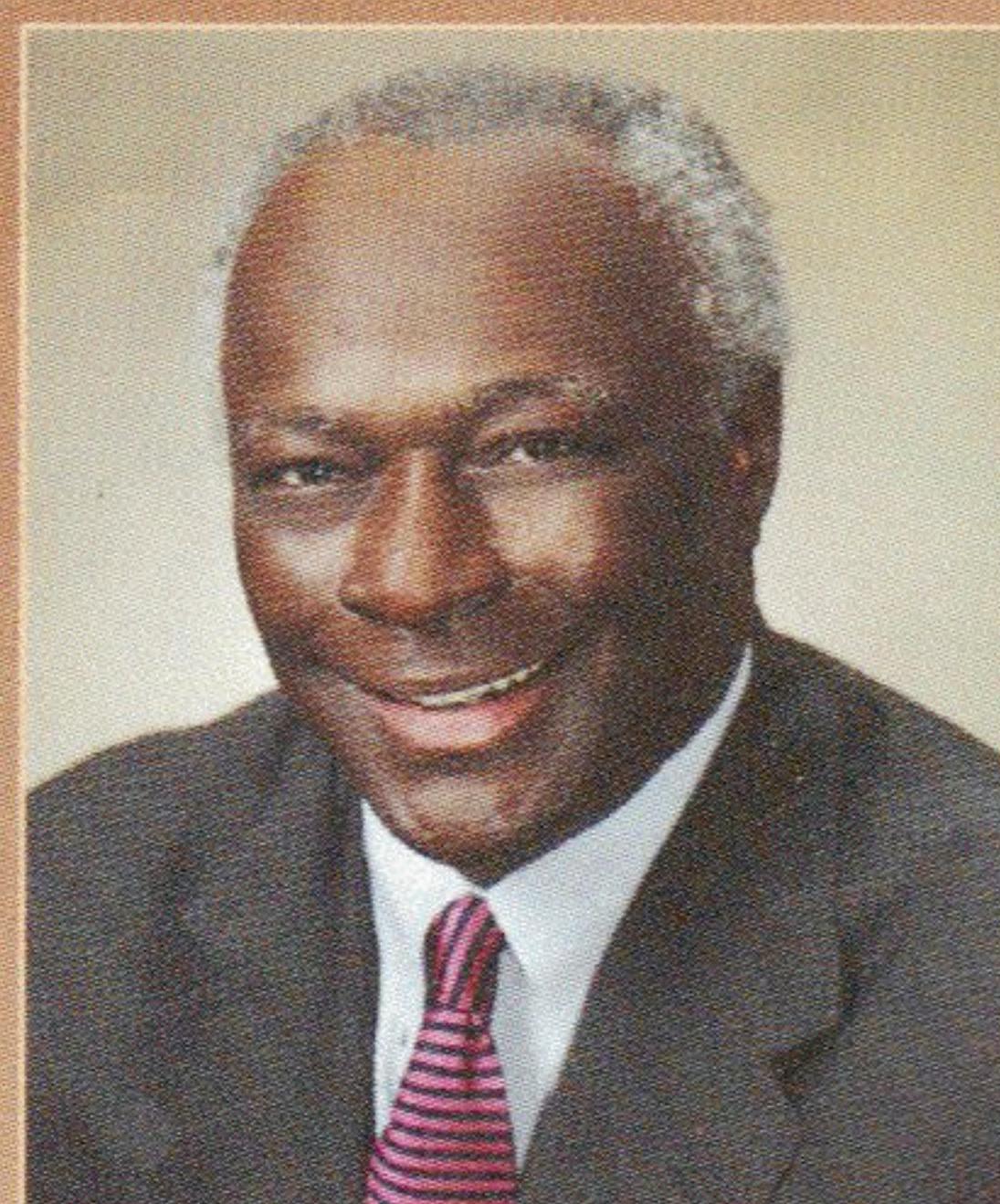
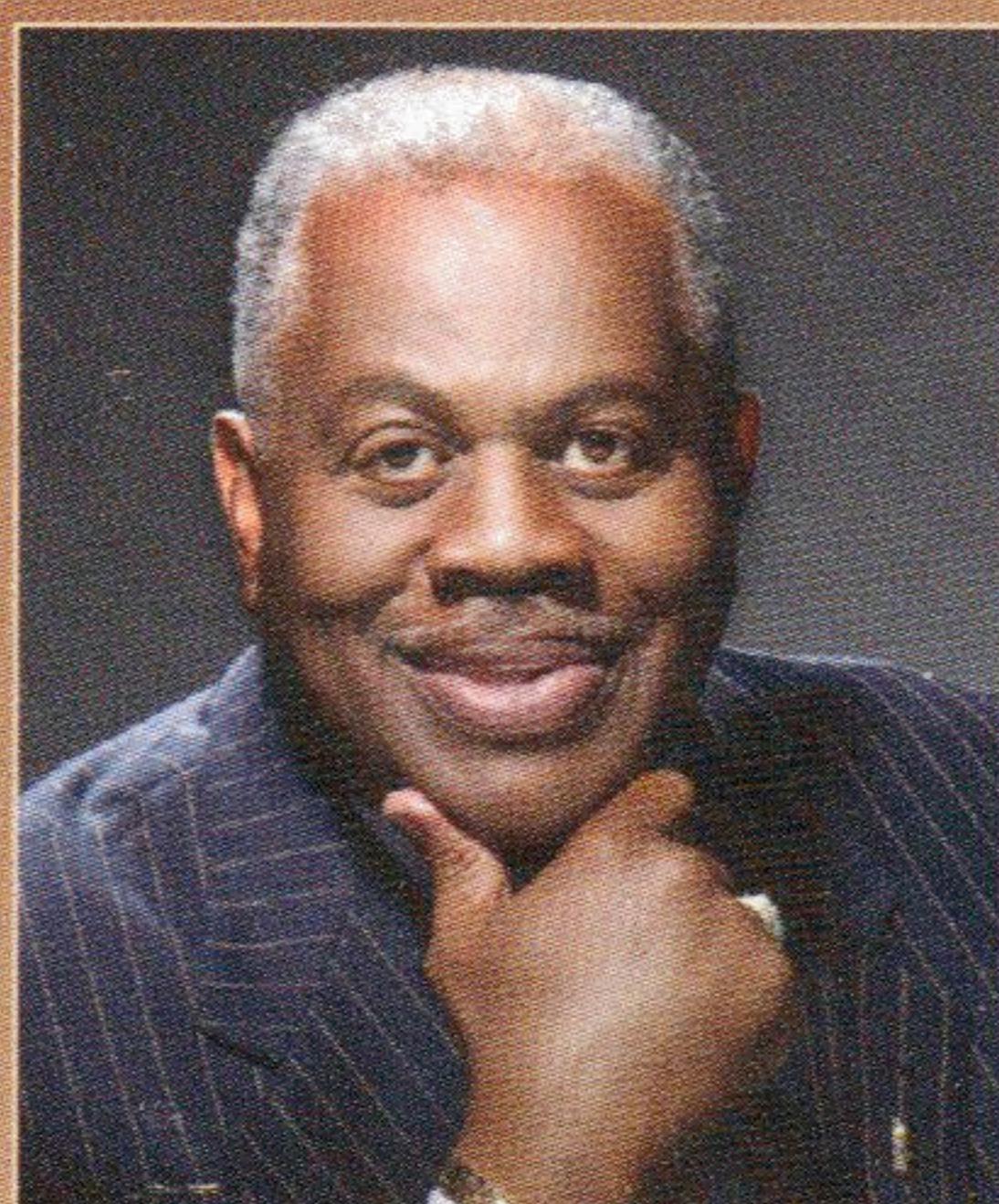
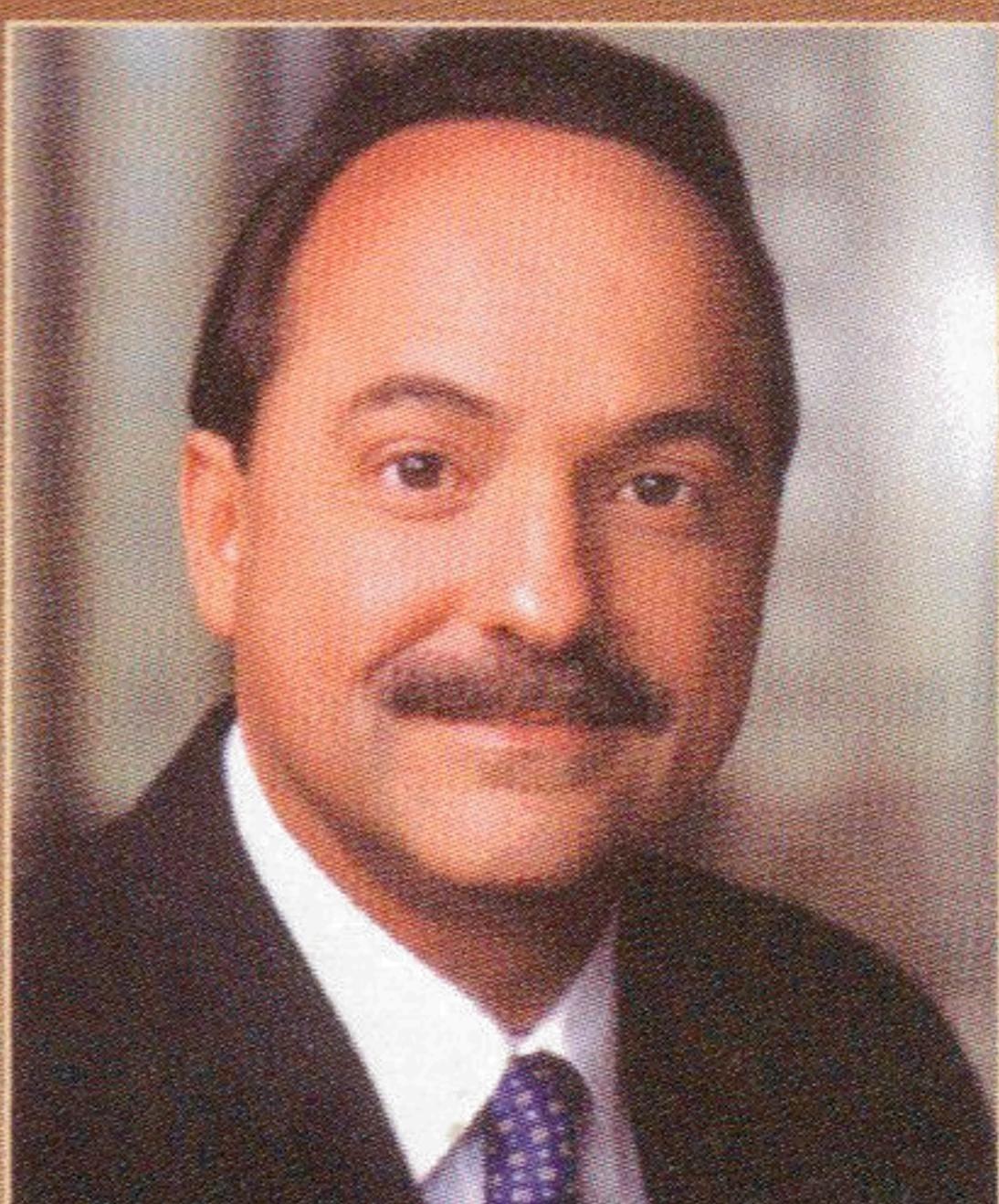
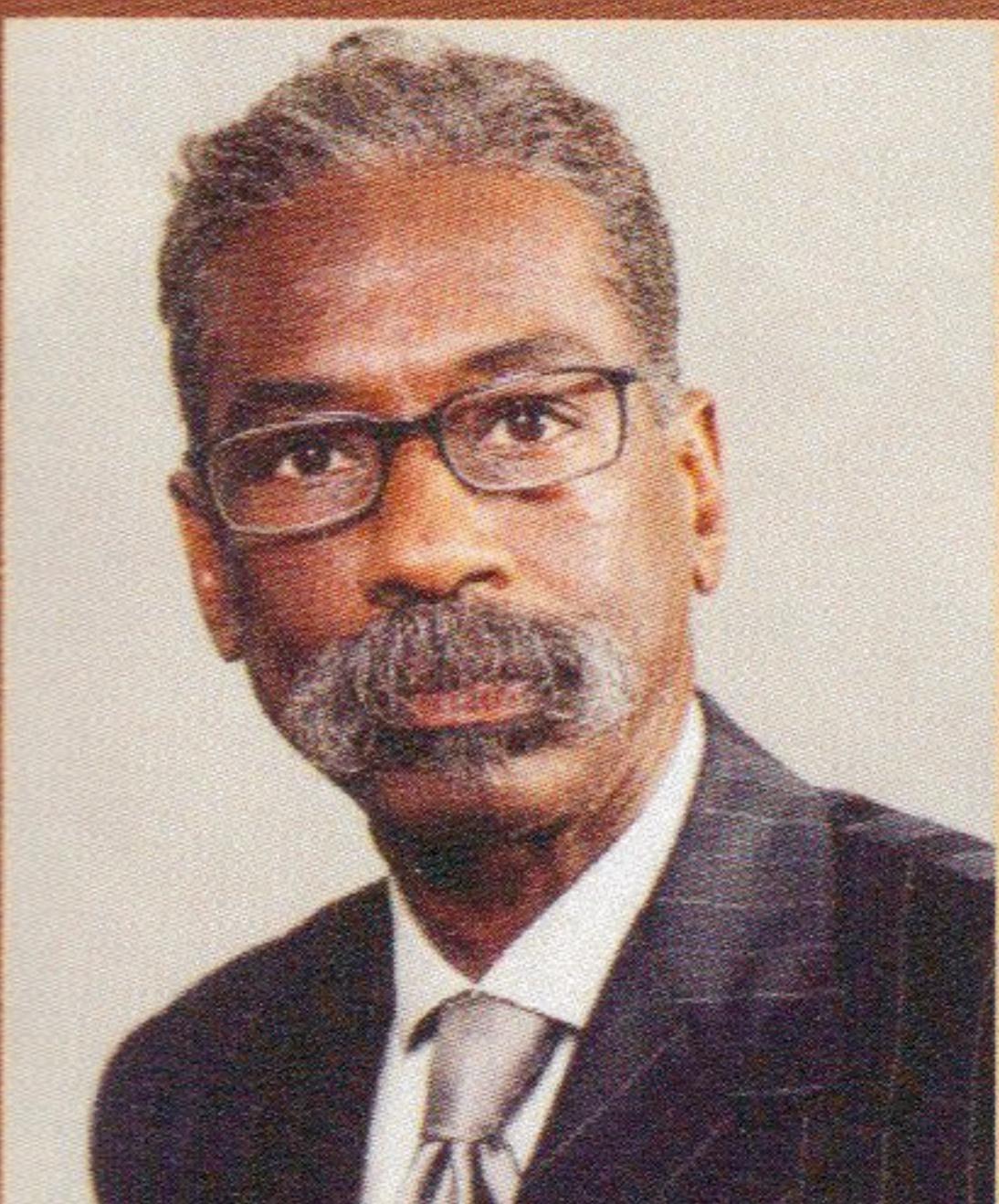
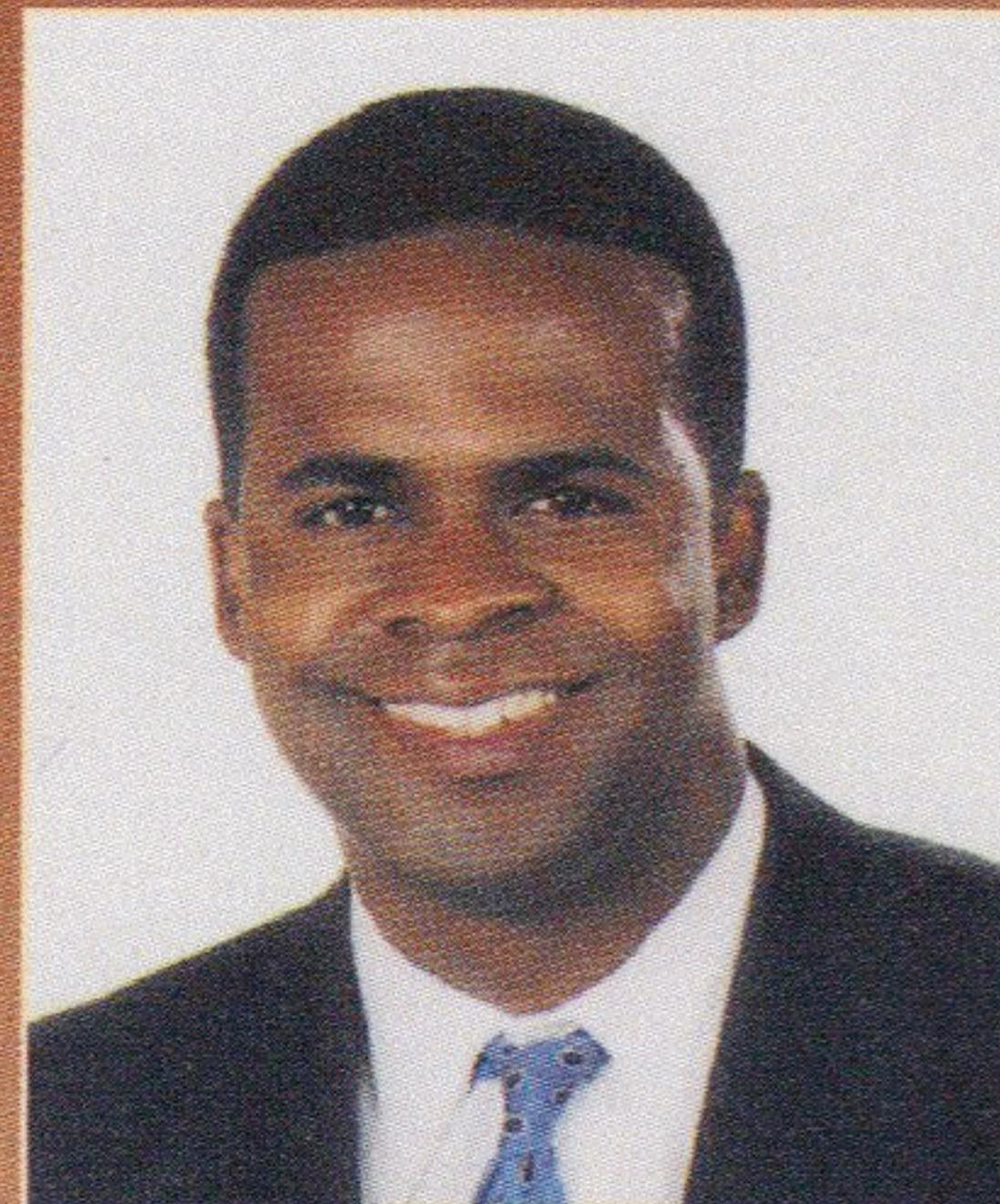
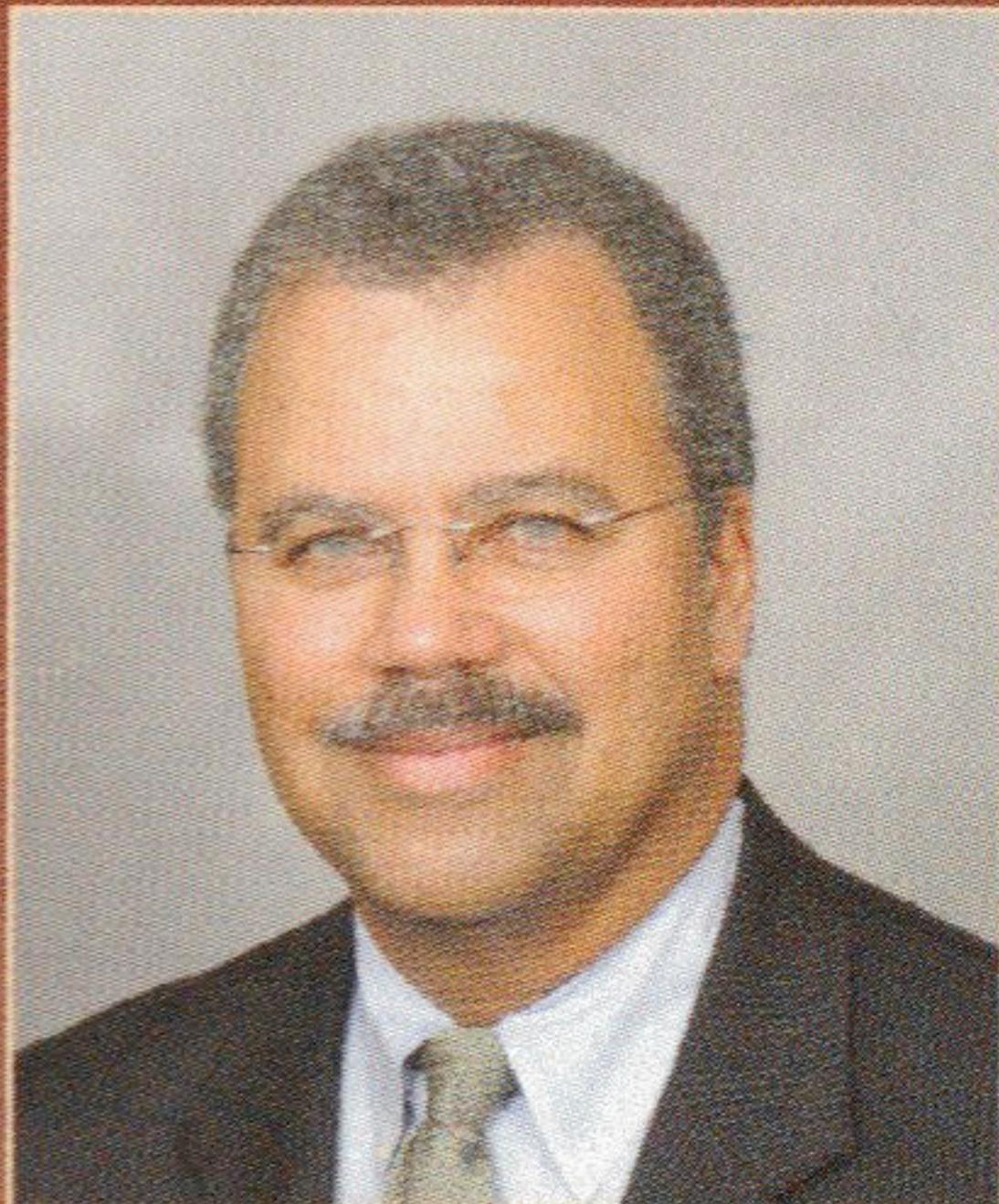
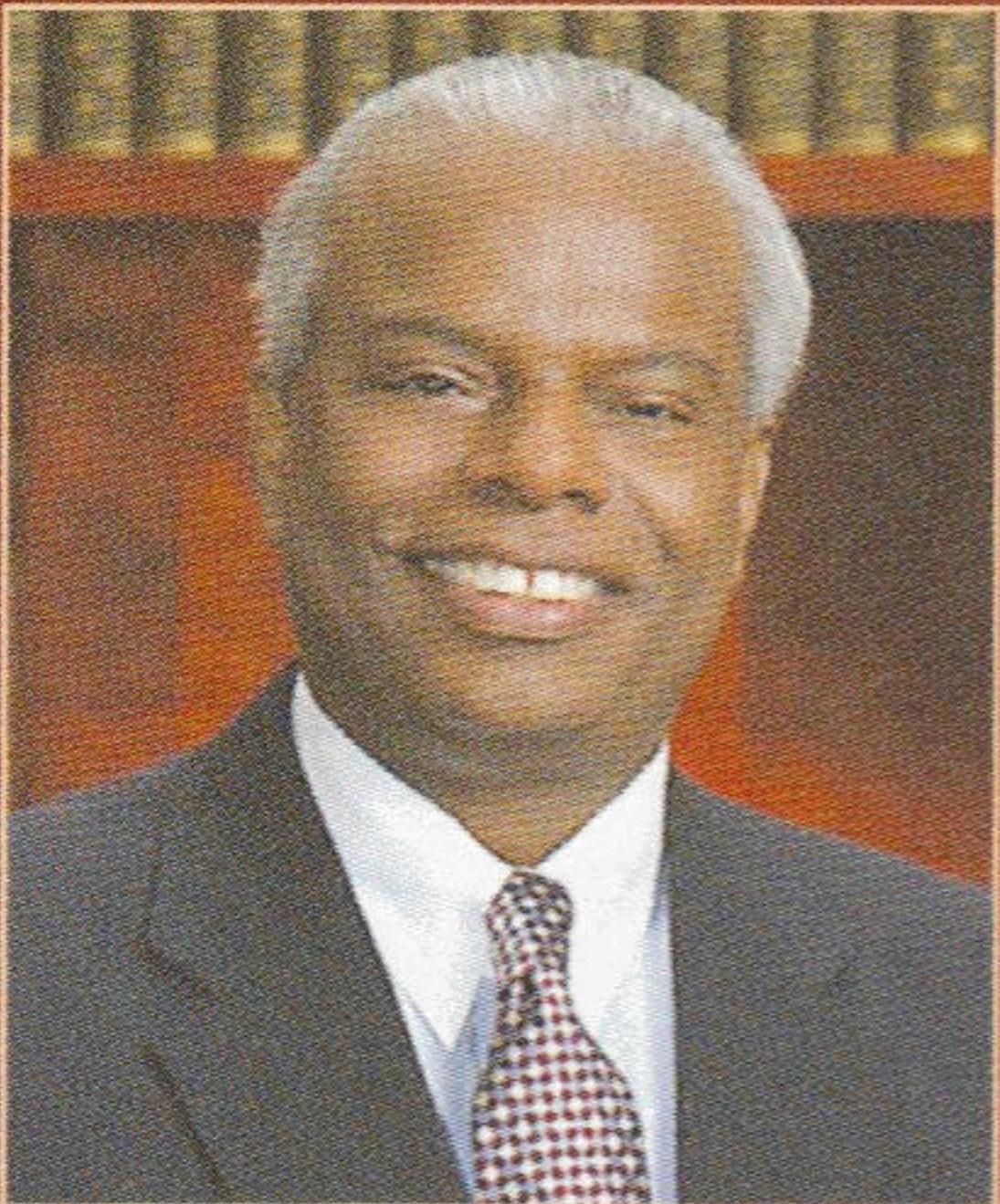
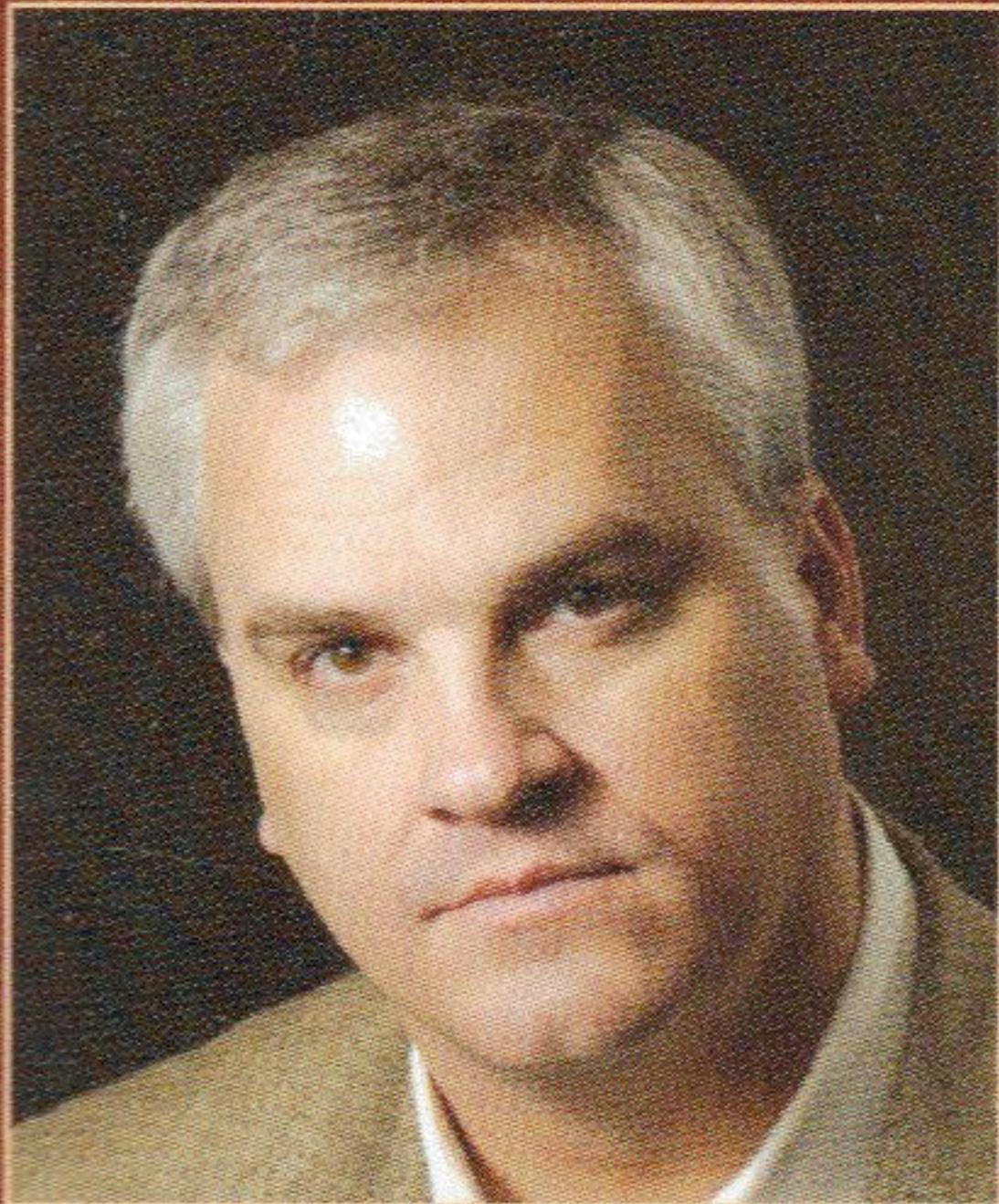


# M

**MEN**  
LOOKING AHEAD  
— NEWS MAGAZINE —

## 2008 MEN OF THE YEAR **MEN WHO SOAR**



## JUDGE PENNY BROWN REYNOLDS WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Douglas A. Blackmon • William A. Clement  
Ben DeCosta • Milton J. Little, Jr. • M. Kasim Reed  
Barney Simms • Michael V. Smith, MD  
Ralph de la Vega • Willie A. Watkins • Jim Winestock

*2008 Woman of the Year • Men Who Soar Honoree*



# The Honorable Penny Brown Reynolds

Host, Family Court With Judge Penny

Bringing an authentic new voice to daytime television, and an inspiring new perspective to the court show genre, the honorable Penny Brown Reynolds presides over Family Court with Judge Penny, drawing on her legal and personal background to address fighting couples, reckless parents and child custody issues in the freshman court series from Program Partners and 44 Blue Productions. As one of four daughters raised by a single mother, Judge Penny's personal struggles of growing up poor in the South might make her more understanding of situations and circumstances, but it also makes it harder for people to make excuses for their actions. The fact that she recently became an ordained minister, graduating from the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, and is married to the Reverend Edward Reynolds of Midway Missionary Baptist, also influences the legal advice and judicial decisions she renders.

Colleagues in the State Court say Judge Penny is concerned about the plight of others — how a particular legal charge affects them as well as their family. She is known to counsel people to do better in life, for themselves and their families, and in addition to fines and judgments, has also sentenced people to counseling, put troubled teens into a boot camp program, and required others to get their GED.

"What it says to the person is that somebody believes in you," explains Judge Penny. "Sometimes, punishment can involve doing something that helps you, so that you can be a vital and contributing member of society. You need somebody to be straight, but not humiliate or degrade. There's a back story to every situation. I'm the person who wants to hear that story."

Appointed to the bench by Georgia Governor Roy Barnes, Judge Penny served as a trial court judge in Georgia's Fulton County State Court and ran unopposed in a re-election campaign for a second four-year term. During her time on the bench, Judge Penny consecutively directed the proceedings in a variety of cases, including domestic violence, medical malpractice, wrongful death, product liability, contract disputes, personal injury, driving under the influence and other misdemeanor criminal violations.

Prior to her court appointment, Judge Penny served as Executive Counsel to Georgia's Governor, the first African American in the state's history to hold that position. Before joining the Governor's cabinet, Judge Penny served as Assistant Attorney General for the State of Georgia, and also worked as a prosecutor.

Judge Penny received her undergraduate degree, graduating with honors, from Georgia State University after only three years of study, and received the University's Outstanding Student Award. She went on to earn her Juris Doctor degree from Georgia State University College of Law, which also presented her with its Outstanding Female Law Student Award. GSU's College of Law also established an academic scholarship in her honor.

Deeply committed to her community and her profession, Judge Penny serves on the Board of Directors for the International Women's Forum and on the Executive Board of the NAACP's Atlanta Chapter and The International Family Center, Inc. She is also the founding chair of the Judicial Section of the Gate City Bar Association and a member of such professional organizations as the American Bar Association, National Bar Association Judicial Council, Council of State Court Judges, Georgia Association of Women Lawyers, Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys and Lawyers Club of Atlanta, among others.

A certified and licensed mediator in the State of Georgia, Judge Penny also serves on the Advisory Board of the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus and has been honored by the National Council of Negro Women. Judge Penny has authored several articles and is co-editor of *Women and the Law: A Guide to Women's Legal Rights in Georgia*. She has also lectured at Georgia State University, Spelman College and Clark Atlanta University.