

Willie Baker

Willie Baker is a proud alumnus and lifelong advocate of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, whose legacy of service and generosity has left an indelible mark on the institution. A graduate of the Class of 1965, Mr. Baker has been a steadfast leader in alumni relations, serving as President of the UMES National Alumni Association from 1987 to 1991. His leadership helped expand alumni engagement, strengthen university traditions, and elevate the visibility of UMES across the region.

In addition to his service, Mr. Baker is a dedicated philanthropist who has consistently invested in the growth and success of his alma mater. He has made significant contributions to student scholarships, student athletics, alumni programming, and institutional advancement—helping to open doors for future generations of UMES scholars. His giving reflects a deep personal commitment to education and equity, inspired by the transformative experience he received at UMES.

As Co-Chair of the university's \$60 million capital campaign, "Soaring Above & Beyond," Mr. Baker continues to lead by example, not only through his leadership but also through his financial support. His generosity has directly supported student excellence, faculty development, and strategic initiatives that position UMES for long-term sustainability and impact.

Mr. Baker's legacy is one of action, advocacy, and altruism.

His journey—from a student at a then-small HBCU to a world-traveled professional and civic leader, underscores the power of giving back. Through his gifts of time, treasure, and talent, he continues to uplift the UMES community and inspire others to follow in his footsteps.

