2014 EMCC SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

LAVERTTE FILES JR.

After playing two years as a tight end at Meridian High School, Lavertte (Junior) Files Jr. was moved to the center position by Hall of Fame football coach Bob “Bull” Sullivan at East Mississippi Junior College. Taking over the starting role midway through his freshman year, Files was part of Lion teams that went 19-3-1 combined during the 1963 and 1964 football seasons with the late, All-America quarterback Bill Buckner under center. Tempted by scholarship offers from Tennessee-Martin and Richmond, “Junior” opted to enter the work force as a lineman for East Mississippi Power Company. A few years later as he joined the Air National Guard, he began a six-year stint mostly traveling abroad working for the Lockheed Corporation as an electronics technician. Alongside his 27-year military career with the Air National Guard, Files also worked in the electrical field and then as an independent contractor for businesses and homes for more than 50 years. Most recently, “Junior” has worked as a sales representative for Schaeffer Manufacturing as well as working part-time as an electrician and running hot shot trucking loads. Once an avid hunter and fisherman, Files primarily enjoys offshore fishing in the Gulf of Mexico these days. Currently residing in the Clarkdale community south of Meridian, Files has been married 46 years to the former Kay Thomas of Meridian. They have two daughters and are the proud grandparents of two boys and two girls ranging from ages 10 to 16. Their daughter, Ame, married to Tim O’Brien, works with charter schools in Michigan and has one girl, Erin, and one boy, John. Daughter, Courtney, married to John Wolstenhulme, is a registered home health nurse in Maine and also has one girl, Nola, and one boy, Peyton.