

*“Well, life for none of us has been a crystal stair, but we must keep moving, we must keep going. If you can’t fly, run. If you can’t run, walk. If you can’t walk, crawl, but by all means, keep moving.”*

**Dr. Martin Luther King**



It is with great sadness and sorrow that the Credibility Assessment Division (CAD) of the Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) announces the passing of William B. Gary, age 57, Investigative Program Specialist (Polygraph Examiner), Columbia, SC on December 02, 2018.

It is rare to know someone who had a positive impact of monumental proportions the size of Mount Everest on so many people. A giant among men. Those who knew Bill, know this to be true. For those who didn’t know Bill or hadn’t met him, you missed an opportunity to know a truly great man. A real-life, quiet unassuming hero to so many. He never sought out the limelight or chased titles. He often referred to himself as an “Ops Guy”.

Bill was a graduate of the University of Alabama receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice and later obtained a Master of Science degree in Psychology from Jacksonville State University.

He began his polygraph examiner career in 1984 with Argenbright Polygraph Incorporated, East Point, GA. He was employed there until 1991 as a Senior Polygraph Examiner and Manager. In his position there, he conducted thousands of polygraph examinations to include pre-employment screening and criminal specific issue examinations. He was also responsible for managing and supervising intern polygraph examiners. In 1986, he was named Argenbright’s Employee of the Year.

From 1991 to 1995, Bill was employed with the Defense Investigative Service (DIS), U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), Alexandria, VA, as a Polygraph Examiner and Investigator. In his position there, he conducted hundreds of specific issue polygraph examinations and investigations in support of DoD personnel security investigations. The topics of those polygraph examinations and investigations included, but were not limited to: crimes against persons and property; illegal narcotics use and trafficking; counterintelligence matters; and subversive affiliations. While at the DIS, Bill also performed research, special projects, and staff studies on polygraph examination techniques. He testified in judicial and administrative proceedings and he routinely received Letters of Recognition and Certificates of Achievement for his superior work. In 1993, he was named DIS’ Barrier Breaker of the Year.

From 1995 to 2009, Bill was a Polygraph Instructor and Examiner employed by the National Center for Credibility Assessment (NCCA), DoD, Fort Jackson, SC – formerly known as the Defense Academy for Credibility Assessment and the Department of Defense Polygraph Institute. While at NCCA, he was instrumental in the polygraph training of personnel from all federal and selected state and municipal agencies with polygraph programs. He served in a variety of positions concerned with curriculum development, testing methodologies, and operational support to the federal and selected state and municipal polygraph community. Bill was recognized as an authority and subject matter expert regarding all facets of polygraph testing. He also provided instruction to

senior polygraph examiners, academic instructors, and other personnel regarding federal polygraph curriculum, policy, practices, development and procedures. Bill was a valued member of the Quality Assurance Program (QAP) team responsible for the inspections of federal polygraph programs to ensure they were in compliance with their established policies and procedures and to determine if they met the standards established for a polygraph program within the federal government.

From 2009 until his passing, Bill was employed with the Credibility Assessment Division (CAD), Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). He was an Investigative Program Specialist (Polygraph Examiner) located at the NCCA, Fort Jackson, SC. Bill was assigned to the CAD's Quality Control (QC) and Training Team. He was the CAD's liaison to NCCA and was instrumental in the training and mentoring of CBP personnel receiving their polygraph training at NCCA. He also continued to provide polygraph instruction to personnel affiliated with other agencies. Because of Bill's vast knowledge and expertise, he was critical to the CAD's early successful NCCA QAP biennial inspections in which it was determined that CAD met or exceeded the standards required of a federal government polygraph program. A standard repeatedly maintained by CAD thanks to the early foundation laid in part by Bill's guidance.

Bill respected the rights and dignity of examinees entrusted to him. He acted with absolute integrity and was an impartial seeker of the truth. He abided by the highest ethical standards and encouraged and expected his fellow professionals to do the same. Bill often was asked to speak at national and regional polygraph seminars and conferences. There are countless people in the polygraph profession at the federal, state, and local levels who learned a great deal from Bill - polygraph and interviewing skills, compassion, and empathy. He was a friend to everyone he met and was always willing to lend a hand to train and mentor people. He was simply one of the nicest people you'd ever meet. His friends and colleagues greatly valued his friendship, personal and professional counsel, warrior spirit, courage, and faith. He was an inspiration to all who met him.

Unbeknownst to some, Bill was an All-American wide receiver in high school. As a teenager, he was recruited to play football for the University of Alabama by the legendary coach, Paul "Bear" Bryant. An accident changed those plans, but quitting was never in Bill's vocabulary. He was a life-long avid Alabama football fan. Roll Tide! Our deepest sympathies to Bill's wife, Tanya, his family, and his friends.

*"The quality, not the longevity, of one's life is what's important."*

**Dr. Martin Luther King**

Expressions of sympathy, condolences, and remembrances can be sent to the Gary family in care of Ned Whiting at the below address. All items received will be forwarded to the Gary family.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
CAD-OPR  
C/O: Ned Whiting  
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