Thomas B. Shropshire

Businessman/Entrepreneur

Inducted July 27, 2002

Thomas Shropshire was born in Little Rock, Arkansas. He attended Lincoln University and New York University Graduate School of Business Administration. Shropshire's varied career with Philip Morris spanned 36 years where he worked as a sales representative, college supervisor, export representative and sales manager of tropical Africa. During his 13 years of working in Africa, Shropshire served as Chairman and Managing Director of Phillip Morris Nigeria and had total responsibility for the tobacco growing, manufacturing and marketing operations. During this period, he introduced and trained over 18,000 Nigerian farmers in the methods of growing and curing tobacco as well as rotation of food crops. He was elected to the Miller Brewing Company's Board of Directors in 1972 and became Corporate Vice President, Philip Morris Inc. and Assistant to the President, Senior Vice President and Treasurer of Miller Brewing Company.

Shropshire currently serves as a consultant to Philip Morris, Inc. He is a board member of the Joint Center For Political and Economic Studies and was formerly a board member of OIC International; trustee of Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation, Little Rock Arkansas; trustee of Howard University, Washington, DC; board of directors of Key Banks, Albany, NY; Key Pacific Bancorp, Seattle, WA; the Seven UP Co; the National Urban League and trustee of Talladega College, Talladega, Al.

Shropshire became Grand Sire Archon (President) of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity in July 2000 after being elected Grand Sire Archon Elect in July 1988. Sigma Pi Phi is an organization of over 4000 professional men who have earned a minimum of a college degree and made distinguished achievement in their careers. The members of the organization are devoted to providing leadership in the communities, in which they worked and live.

Shropshire is the recipient of numerous awards including Ebony magazine's Black Achievement Award for Business; the Roberto Clemente Award from the National Association for the Puerto Rican Civil Rights; the NAACP Freedom Award; the Philadelphia Tribune's Charities Humanitarian Award; the Chicago Conference Brotherhood and the Lincoln University Distinguished Alumni Award. He's also received honorary doctorate degrees from his alma mater, Lincoln University, Houston-Tillotson College, Miles College, Philander Smith College and Talladega.

Shropshire and his wife, Jacquelyn have two children, Terrilyn and Tom Jr.