

Earnest Qualls **Football**



Earnest Lee Qualls played football at Dunbar HS in Livingston and graduated in 1954. He received a scholarship to play at Prairie View A&M University.

After a year at PV, Qualls left to pursue a career in the oilfield business and began work as one of the first black men to operate the oilfield machines. He met and married Stella Smith and they had two daughters, Earnetta Louise and Eliese Lorriane. Later, he married Barbara Harrison and adopted her two children Adriane and Joseph. Adriane (2005) & Barbara (2010) have passed away.

Earnest and Barbara were the first blacks to attempt to gain entrance to the prestigious Petroleum Club in Houston, but were turned away though they had been given an invitation. Though age 79, Earnest continues to work in the oilfield. He has his three kids, eight grandkids, and two great grandkids and a dog ("Spice") to keep him young at heart.