

Travis Alton Wright

Basketball



Travis Alton Wright, “T Wright,” grew up in Mount Union/Magnolia Springs, Texas. He graduated from Walnut Hill High School (a Rosenwald School) in 1961.

Known for his set shot and ball-handling skills, he was one of the best guards to play at Walnut Hill and left a legacy in Southeast Texas. He was a member of four district championship teams and two Class B state finalist teams (1959, 1960). He is retired from the timber industry.

John Wilkerson

Tennis



John Wilkerson is a San Antonio native and was a senior at Wheatley HS before picking up his first tennis racquet after encouragement from his brother to take up the game. In doing so, Wilkerson went on to win state singles and doubles titles in 1957. Instead of pursuing a career on tennis scholarship at Prairie View A&M, Wilkerson joined the U.S. Army Airborne Brigade and served two years in Germany.

Wilkerson attended Texas Southern University and graduated with honors in 1972 after a stellar tennis career that saw him win Southwestern Athletic Conference singles and doubles championships, and the American Tennis Association national championship in the Open and College Divisions.

After graduating from TSU, Wilkerson became the Tennis Director at MacGregor Park and found his real passion, teaching young people on and off the court. He was the coach for Zina Garrison when she became the No. 1 Junior Player in the World in 1981 and two of his players, Garrison and Lori McNeil, were simultaneously ranked in the top ten in the world. Wilkerson has received numerous awards for work with children including the Arthur Ashe Safe Passage Award and the Lloyd Sessions Award.

He is a board member of the Houston Tennis Association and has been inducted to the Texas Tennis Hall of Fame and the Black Texas Sports Hall of Fame. He is Tennis Director for the Zina Garrison All Court Tennis Academy which has helped over 100 youth receive college scholarships.

Wilkerson has been ATA Senior Singles and Doubles Champion numerous times, most recently in 2005-2006.