

## **Pacolet Memories Website Honored by Town of Pacolet**

**I would very much like to thank the town of Pacolet for the honor that was given to this website. At the Pacolet Town Council meeting on Thursday, June 6, 2024 they passed a Proclamation of Appreciation and Thanks to me for the website. This award was unexpected . I am very pleased that the website is valued and is important to the Pacolet Community. Starting the website was a labor of love. Working on it allows me to reminisce about growing up in Pacolet and all the wonderful people and experiences. The Proclamation is shown on the following page. The video of the Town Council meeting passing the Proclamation can be seen at:**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w8gS0HcRHEY&t=879>.**



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Proclamation to honor and appreciate the work and services of  
*Gerald Fred Teaster*

**WHEREAS**, Gerald Fred Teaster was born on March 25, 1937 and raised in Pacolet, SC where he was a 1955 Graduate of Pacolet High School; and

**WHEREAS**, Gerald Teaster attended Wofford College and later graduated from the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering and is currently a retired licensed Professional Engineer; and

**WHEREAS**, Gerald Teaster worked at the United States Department of Defense at Robins Air Force Base in Georgia, Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville Alabama, and the Charleston Naval Shipyard in various engineering projects on missiles, submarines, and submarine and destroyer tenders around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, Gerald Teaster started the publishing company Junior History Press, as a means to produce local history books and material for younger readers, where he wrote and published children's books including, The Confederate Submarine H.L. Hunley, The Confederate Steam Torpedo Boat CSS DAVID, Confederates Courageous - The Story of the Confederate Submarine H.L. Hunley, and Spirit Up the People - Four Days to the Cowpens; and

**WHEREAS**, Gerald Teaster married Mary Lee McKinney and were married for almost 67 years when she passed in February of 2023, but not before they had 4 children (Claudia Lee, Raymond Lewis, James Fred, and Laura Marie); 5 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren; and

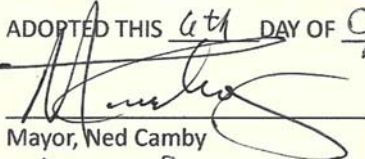
**WHEREAS**, Gerald Teaster started the archival website Pacolet Memories in approximately 2006 where he catalogues and researches various aspects of Pacolet's history; and

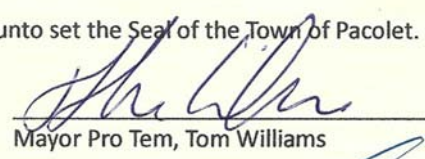
**WHEREAS**, Gerald Teaster website has been a repository of history and research of many current and former residents of the Town of Pacolet; and

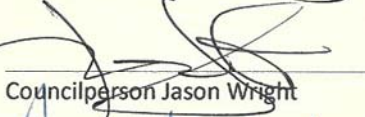
**WHEREAS**, Gerald Teaster's website has been such a positive impact on those in the Pacolet Community for sharing his knowledge, research, pictures, memories and information;


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Pacolet hereby proclaim our thankfulness and appreciation to Gerald Fred Teaster for all his work and time spent to create and maintain this website for all those have and will continue to enjoy it.

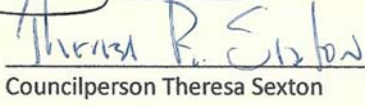
ADOPTED THIS 6th DAY OF June, 2024, and hereunto set the Seal of the Town of Pacolet.

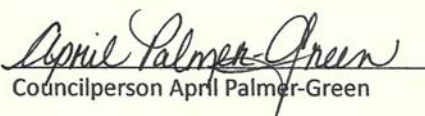
  
Mayor, Ned Camby

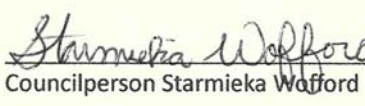
  
Mayor Pro Tem, Tom Williams

  
Councilperson Jason Wright

  
Councilperson Rick Brackins

  
Councilperson Theresa Sexton

  
Councilperson April Palmer-Green

  
Councilperson Starmieka Wofford

ATTEST:  
  
Town Clerk, Toni Kirby

**I was not able to travel to Pacolet to accept the Award. My sisters, Vicki and Kay, attended the meeting and received the Award for me. They gave the Town Council the following message from me:**

*I'm sorry that I cannot be there in person to receive the award. My sisters, Vicki and Kay, have kindly agreed to accept it for me. I would like to deeply thank the town of Pacolet for giving me this award. It was totally unexpected and I appreciate it so much. I am pleased to know that it has made a contribution to the people of Pacolet. Actually, the website really is a love letter to the community and people where I grew up.*

*I tried to explain why I started the website when it began about 18 years ago. As I got older, I came to realize how unique and special Pacolet and the surrounding area had been when I was a child. At the same time, I realized that a great number of the places and people that I remember existed only in my memory. A lot of the Mill's buildings and structures, except the houses, have been torn down. It occurred to me that if people my age did not write it down, then the story of this rich blend of wonderful people, places and events would be lost forever to today's children and those to come in the future.*

*The memories on the website are not a critical analysis of the conditions of the times. They are the recollections of a small boy that at the time, believed that he lived in a southern version of the Garden of Eden. I will cherish this award, thank you again.*

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