



FOUNDATION *for* EXCELLENCE
IN PUBLIC EDUCATION
CLARKE COUNTY, GEORGIA

Charlotte and Claude Williams American History Awards



Charlotte Leverett and Claude Williams, Jr., married in 1947 and had two children: Robert Sanders Williams and Lynn Owen Williams; they now have six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Charlotte graduated from Brenau College in Gainesville (1947) with a degree in English, and has master's and doctorate degrees from the University of Georgia. She served as a faculty member in the Division of Exceptional Children in the UGA College of Education and as a statistical consultant at the UGA Computer Center. She was an associate professor of Special Education and associate dean for research and development prior to her retirement in 1983. Charlotte was also a member of the Phi Kappa Phi and Kappa Delta Pi honor societies.

Claude graduated from North Georgia College (1942) and in absentia from the University of Georgia (1944) with an AB in History. Following military service he enrolled in the Grady College of Journalism at UGA and earned an ABJ (1948). He began his business career in 1948 as co-founder of Athens radio station WRFC; founded Williams & Company in 1958; and developed *The Advertiser*, a weekly that became the *Athens Daily News*. Following its sale in 1968 he founded Georgia Outdoor Advertising, which became one of the largest standardized outdoor advertising companies in Georgia. He later helped organize and was Chairman of the Board of Directors of Georgia National Bank (1988-1998) and helped organize and served as a Director of the National Bank of Georgia, until his retirement in 2008.

The *Charlotte and Claude Williams American History Grant* was established in 2002 by their children, Lynn Dicks and Sandy Williams. It was changed to an award in 2015. The *Charlotte and Claude Williams American History Awards* honor a junior at each traditional high school who has excelled in both US history and government and who is active in service within the school or community. Award recipients receive \$250 and are selected by the social studies department of their school.