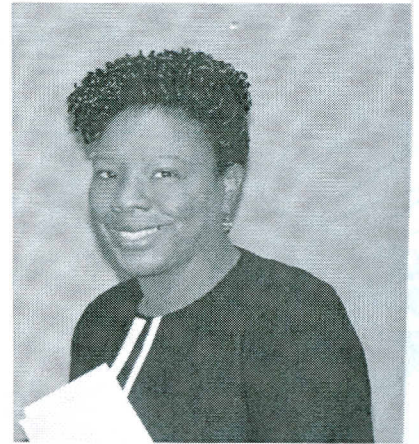


Wilma J. Dillard

Class of 1977



Wilma Jeanne Dillard is a native of Durham, North Carolina. She is the youngest child of Samuel and Geneva Dillard. She attended Durham Public Schools and graduated from Hillside High School in 1977.

Rev. Dillard attended and graduated from North Carolina Central University with a BA degree in Early Childhood Education in 1983 and she earned a Master's degree in 1985. She was employed by Durham Public Schools from 1985 – 1997.

In September of 1997, she left Durham Public Schools and became the General Manager at Dillard's Bar-B Que Restaurant, after the passing of her father. Samuel Dillard, who died in February, 1997 had run the family business serving Durham for over 50 years. God then chose his youngest child, Wilma to carry on the legacy.

So far, her tenure at Dillard's Bar-B-Que has proven to be very positive. Her leadership is based on the principles of a Christian and Godly influence. She has found favor locally as well as nationally. Dillard's Bar-B-Que has been spotlighted on the Food Network Channel where on the Rachael Ray Show; Rachael Ray commented that "Dillard's Bar-B-Que is amazing."

In 1999, Wilma Dillard received her call to the ministry and in 2001 she graduated from Hosanna Bible College with a BA degree in Theology. She is currently an Associate Minister at North East Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor Wesley Elam, Sr. Pastor Elam has chosen her to facilitate the Singles Ministry at North East Baptist Church where singles can come together monthly to fellowship and discuss their own unique needs as singles. Rev. Dillard's Prayer and expectation is that God will Bless singles to find contentment, Peace and fulfillment where they are now as long as they are single or choose to be.

In March 2011, after the closing of Dillard's Bar-B-Que Restaurant, she was hired as a Marketing Director at a local Chic-fil-A where she assists with special promotions.

Rev. Dillard has heeded God's Call to full time Ministry in full obedience of God's Word. It is her desire to be a living testimony to the Glory of God, through Faith in His Son, Jesus.

The National Alumni Association of Hillside High School salutes one of its own – Rev. Wilma Dillard.