



NEWS RELEASE

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Former employee recognized as distinguished civilian

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — James A. Wilson was named the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville's Distinguished Civilian Employee during an Engineer Day awards ceremony June 4 at the Carroll D. Hudson Recreation Area on Redstone Arsenal.

Wilson retired Jan. 3, 2005 as the chief of the Systems Engineering Division, Engineering Directorate.

His photograph will be placed in the Gallery of Distinguished Civilian Employees, located in the lobby at the Huntsville Center. The gallery identifies, recognizes and honors former civilian employees for their service to the Center, the Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Army.

Wilson served in several key leadership positions within the Huntsville Center during his 20-plus year career with the Center. His major contributions included the establishment of a new Special Project Branch in 1986, that is now known as Management Review.

“Jim was a key member of the Huntsville Center team that helped the Department of Defense Strategic Defense Initiative Organization in the design and development of the Ground Based Radar at White Sands, N.M.,” said Col. Nello Tortora, Huntsville Center's commander. “Wilson's professional and personal qualities made him an excellent mentor to numerous employees across several functional areas. Many of these employees are now senior leaders within the organization and represent his legacy to our organization.”

During his time at the Huntsville Center, Wilson received several awards and honors including the De Fleury Medal in 2005, the Commander's Achievement Medal for Civilian Service, Federal Women's Program EEO Supervisor of the Year, and numerous performance and on-the-spot awards.

Wilson said there were several highlights of his career at the Huntsville Center. Some of those highlights included becoming the chief of the Systems Engineering Division and seeing those he helped and mentored achieve management positions. Wilson also said being named the Distinguished Civilian Employee was a highlight he did not expect.

“Winning this award is such a great honor. You work your whole career for something like this,” said Wilson. “I never expected to get the award, and I am very happy about it.”

Wilson, who is originally from New York, New York, started working at the Huntsville Center Dec. 1, 1978. He now lives in Fairfield Glade, Tenn.