

CUMMINGS NAMED 2009 COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR



George W. Cummings, III, a 1979 Louisiana Tech University graduate with a B. S. degree in Banking and Finance, has been announced as the 2009 College of Business Alumnus of the Year.

Cummings will be honored with six other alumni during the 2009 Homecoming activities at a noon luncheon, Friday, Oct. 16 in the Student Center.

Drake Mills, CEO and president of Community Trust Bank in Ruston and a 1982 College of Business graduate with a bachelor's degree in finance, will be recognized as the University's Alumnus of the Year by Tech President Dr. Dan Reneau and will also be honored at the luncheon.

The alumni luncheon is \$20 per person or \$160 for a table of eight. For more information and to register for the luncheon, visit www.latechalumni.org/awards2009 or call Barbara Swart at (318) 255-7950. The deadline for tickets is Friday, Oct. 9.

Cummings is president, chief executive officer and chairman of the board for Progressive Bank in Monroe and serves as the chairman of the board for Progressive Bancorp. In addition to his degree from Tech, Cummings is also a graduate of the Strategic Thinking and Management Program at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School (of business) and of the School of Banking of the South at Louisiana State University.

The Winnsboro, La., native began his banking career in 1979 with the Bank of the South in Baton Rouge serving as assistant vice president and then president in the operations area. In 1982, Cummings moved to Monroe where he was president, chief executive officer and a member of the board of directors at Security Bank. He has also worked at Capital Bank in Monroe as president, chief operating officer and a member of the board directors.

Cummings serves on Tech's School of Business Advisory Board and on the board of directors for the University Foundation. Cummings is a member of the Monroe Chamber of Commerce, where he has served as chairman and director. He works with the United Way of Northeast Louisiana, where he has served as director and chairman and is a member of the Rotary Club of Monroe and the First United Methodist Church of Monroe.

Cummings was cited as 2005 Volunteer of the Year by the Ouachita Economic Development Corporation. He was recognized in 2004 by the Monroe Chamber of Commerce as the Top 10 Most Influential Business Leaders in Northeast Louisiana and in 2002 was presented the group's Rabin/Silverstein Memorial Civic Award for outstanding leadership and community service.

Cummings is married to the former Nan Weaver, and is the father of three sons – George W. Cummings, IV; Brad Cummings; and Ben Cummings. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Cummings, Jr. of Winnsboro, La.