

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, Dr. Donald L. Durham received a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics and Mathematics in 1964 from Centre College, Kentucky, a Master of Science degree in Oceanography and Math in 1967 from Texas A & M University, and a PhD in Physical Oceanography Geophysics and Math in 1972 from Texas A & M—he then joined the Army Corps of Engineers as a research oceanographer at the Waterways Experiment Station in Vicksburg, and in 1978 joined the staff of the Naval Oceanographic and Atmospheric Research Laboratory at Stennis Space Center as an oceanographer—in 1986 he joined the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command; and

WHEREAS, by 1989, Dr. Durham’s work in developing the Navy’s ability to gather, analyze and distribute critically important information about the world’s weather and oceans to the Naval fleet earned him the highest position ever held by a civilian in the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command—headquartered at the Stennis Space Center, the Command employs over 3,000 people in over 60 locations worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Durham was instrumental in bringing the most fully integrated, modern computer system in the Navy to Stennis Space Center—it is one of the five most powerful computers in the world, and provides our naval forces with the most modern system for navigation and nautical charting that has ever existed; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Durham has received dozens of awards and citations from the most prestigious State, national and international organizations, including several Presidential awards, numerous Department of Defense and Navy awards, and the Defense Meritorious Civilian Service Award, the highest civilian award bestowed by the Department of Defense; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Durham was the driving force in establishing the Center for Higher Learning at Stennis Space Center—today, it offers eleven graduate degree programs and undergraduate courses to over 3,700 employees at Stennis Space Center; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Durham has been one of the most innovative leaders in the world in the development of advanced systems for supplying the U.S. Navy’s fleet with the most sophisticated information possible for the fleet’s operations—through his leadership, our Navy has saved billions of dollars in operational costs; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Donald L. Durham, Deputy Director of the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command at the John C. Stennis Space Center, is retiring on August 21, 2002, after 30 years of dedicated service to the United States; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim August 21, 2002, as

DR. DON DURHAM DAY

in the State of Mississippi.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, August 19, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR