Edgar A. Latham, II

Edgar A. Latham, II was born on April 24th, 1924 in the small town of Olean, New York. After graduating high school in 1942, Mr. Latham served the next 18 months in the military before being honorably discharged as a Staff Sergeant due to a medical injury. He then returned home, and proceeded to attend Alfred University located in nearby Alfred, New York. There he received a degree in Frozen Food Technology.

In approximately 1949, Mr. Latham and his family moved to Richmond, Virginia. Upon visiting the Prince Edward area he became exceedingly interested in the development of what would soon become Prince Edward State Park. His interest was spurred by his desire to enhance recreational activities and improve the quality of life for African Americans in the region.

When the park opened in 1950, Mr. Latham accepted the position of Park Superintendent. For the next 18 years Edgar showed a complete dedication to the park, and the community. In 1968, he left Virginia State Parks to pursue a position as Assistant Supervisor of the City Parks Department in Flint, Michigan. After a very short term as Assistant Supervisor, Mr. Latham accepted a position as the District Parks Superintendent of the Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission.

In a quest to broaden his knowledge, Mr. Latham received a Bachelor of Science degree in Parks and Recreation from Central Michigan University in 1976. He then left Michigan to work with the National Park System as the Superintendent of Fort Travis Seashore Park in Port Bolivar, Texas. Thereafter, he accepted the position of Sanitarian Inspector with the Galveston County Health Department where he worked until he retired in 1983. He and his wife, Debbie, then moved to the coastal region of Texas, and ran a successful seasonal cottage operation in the Port Bolivar area.