



## Biography of Valerie Rodgers

I was truly born to be a leader and teacher. I am a retired Captain in the United States Army with 15 year of service under my boots. I am also a retired Family and Consumer Sciences teacher with 32 years of service in the classroom. I have always had the desire to help people. As a child, we all were expected to help my mother around the house while my dad went to work. I am one of five children born to Nelson and Ella Chaneyfield. As a child, I was a leader and helper.

I graduated from Louisville High School. Attended Fort Valley State University where I earned my Bachelors of Science in Home Economics; completed Army ROTC where I was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> LT. I enlisted in the United States Army. Participated in three campaigns for the Armed Forces Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation New Dawn (OND). The remainder of my time was spent in the Reserves. I have served our nation with three tours of duty in Kuwait. There I served as the Operations Officer (ONS) for G6 Communications Section.

After the army, I started my teaching career in Wilkinson County as a Home Economics teacher. During that time I married Elbert Slappy, Jr. and had two beautiful and talented daughters Alaysheia (Slappy) Goodhall and Kabriya Slappy. I worked in Wilkinson County for 13 years under. Dr. Barbara Wall and was hired in as a high school Family and Consumer Sciences position in Baldwin County Jan 2000. I have taught in Baldwin for 19 years upon my retirement this year 2020. During that, time I have touched many lives of many children, parents, and their children's children. I served as the president of our local GAE chapter known as BAE. In Baldwin, I have fulfilled many roles, for example, Department Chair, Cheerleading Coach, Military Liaison for BHS. I am a lifetime member of FCCLA and GAE. I have been a member of ACTE, GACTE, and GATFACS during my entire teaching career. I continued my formal education by earning a Reading Specialists endorsement and Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from University of Phoenix.

I am currently married to Steven Rodgers. To this union we have parented sixed daughters. Two are active duty in the United States Army. The remaining four are establishing their own families. We are grand parenting our, seven-year-old granddaughter Denise Gay. This has been a challenge and joy after having gone through the empty nest phase of our lives. She brings new and exciting adventures to our home and is a delight to have temporarily with us.

I would be more that delighted to serve as your GATFCS President. I bring an enormous amount of experience and energy if elected to this position.