



**Rep. Darrel Ealum
D-153**

Biography

Elected to represent Georgia House District 153 in 2014, Representative Darrel Bush Ealum is from Albany, Dougherty County, Ga.

He is a retired Marine Officer; holds a master's degree from Pepperdine University; and is Chief Executive Officer, Ealum Estates, Inc. He also taught as an Associate Professor, Miami University, and served on the Dougherty County School Board for four years.

Born 1948 in the family farmhouse in south Alabama, Darrel is one of six siblings who worked on the farm picking cotton, cropping tobacco, and hoeing peanuts. At age 43, their mother earned her teaching degree from Troy State Teacher's College, and they moved from their farm, which had no indoor plumbing, to a small brick house with two indoor baths in Fort Walton Beach, Fla.

Influenced by his mother's determined quest for an education, Darrel soon enrolled at Troy University, graduated in three years, and later earned his Master's Degree from Pepperdine University, Malibu, Calif.

Darrel served 20 years as a Marine Infantry Officer, Reconnaissance Officer, Logistics Officer, Aviation Observation Officer, and Program Manager, Norway Air-Landed Marine Expeditionary Brigade (NALMEB). Darrel's twin brother Carrel was killed in Viet Nam.

As a young Marine Captain in 1980, Darrel was assigned to the Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany, where he and his wife Linda settled. Married 35 years, the couple have four children (Lydia, Jo, Susie, and James) and eight grandchildren. Jo and Susie served four years as active duty Marine Officers and are presently Marine Captains in the inactive and active reserves, respectively.

In the early 1980s, the Ealums began buying, managing, and selling personally owned real estate. Today, Darrel and Linda are Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officers, Ealum Properties and Ealum Estates, Inc. They personally own and manage their houses, apartments, and mobile home estates in four surrounding counties.

Active in the community, Darrel is a member of the Albany Rotary Club, Past President of two Kiwanis Clubs, Past Lt. Governor of Kiwanis, Division 3, and Past Vice-President of the Albany Symphony Board. While on active duty, Darrel and Linda served as Base Chapel Youth Directors and are currently members of Porterfield United Methodist Church.

