

**DONALD J. L. COPPEDGE**  
**a.k.a. “Don” and “Mayor of Community Service”**

- Born, Raised and Invested in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania.
- Educated in the Phoenixville Public School System.
- Phoenixville High School Class of 1951.
- An athlete throughout high school, he played Basketball, Football and Baseball.
- Member of the Junior Red Cross.
- Entered the United States Army with a tour of duty in Germany.
- Loving husband to Redonia.
- Devoted father to Donald Jr. and Daniel.
- Caring grandfather to Dayon, Dawan and Jaylyn. Great-grandfather to Olivia.
- In 1970 Don was the first African-American to become Executive Director of an Independent YMCA. During his tenure as President, Chief Executive Officer of YMCA (Phoenixville) and being active in the community, he launched foundations for growth.

**The Foundations for Growth**

Expansion of Recreation, Health and Physical programs to families; Growth of volunteer service through community organizations; Established and expanded affordable housing for low income families, seniors and persons with disabilities in Phoenixville.

**Member of the following Boards and Community Organizations**

- Grimes AME Church (Trustee)
- Phoenixville YMCA Corporate Board of Directors
- Chester County Housing Authority (Chairman)
- Social Concerns (Chairman)
- New Century Bank
- NAACP
- Diversity in Action
- Habitat for Humanity
- Phoenixville Interfaith Council
- Kiwanis Club of Phoenixville (served as President)
- Minority Advisory Committee (Congressman Gerlach)
- Phoenixville Area Progressive Club (Founder/President)

- Phoenixville Homes, non-profit Housing Corporation (served as President)

**Recipient of the Following Awards**

- 2007 Champion of the Community (Unsung Hero Award)
- Phoenixville Area Chamber of Commerce (Citizen of the Year)
- Phoenixville Area Violence Network (Peacemaker Award)
- Phoenixville Inter-Service Clubs (Ambassadorship Award)
- Chester County Community Foundation (Thanks for Caring Award)
- Spring-Ford Rotary Club “Service Above Self” (Don Nelson Memorial Award)
- YMCA (Humanitarian Award)
- B’nai B’rith (Citizens Award)

**Don’s famous quote:** “Love God, Love People; nothing else matters”