



Shown at the presentation, from left: Judge Cressie Thigpen, Judge Cheri Beasley, Judge Linda McGee, Chief Justice Sarah Parker, Secretary of State Elaine Marshall, N.C. School Superintendent June Atkinson, State Auditor Beth Wood, Dick Barnes, Carol Barnes, Governor Perdue, Preston Burns, Judge Martha Geer, and Peg O'Connell, (the late Jim Long's wife).

Dick Barnes Earns Order Of Long Leaf Pine

State leaders gathered in Raleigh on Aug. 14 to salute Dick Barnes of Davie County for his lifetime of service to North Carolina.

Gov. Beverly Perdue presented the "Order of The Long Leaf Pine" to Barnes - an award presented to individuals who contributed extraordinary service to the state throughout their careers and made a great impact upon the lives of the people.

Some of the people honored with the "Order of the Long

Leaf Pine," include Dale Earnhardt, Maya Angelou, Billy Graham, Charles Kuralt, Oprah Winfrey, Andy Griffith, and Michael Jordan.

Barnes served as a state senator and state representative. He has managed many statewide election campaigns. This year, he is managing the campaigns of Beth Wood, state auditor, Wayne Goodwin, state insurance commissioner, N.C. Court of Appeals, Judges Linda McGee, Wanda Bryant, and Cressie Thigpen.

He is also an entertainer. He wrote and recorded "Booze It and Lose It" which promoted safe driving. He wrote and re-

corded, "North Carolina - The Place to Be." This song was the Number One hit song in 13 countries. "North Carolina

- The Place to Be," was also nominated for "Song of the Year" by the European Country Music Association.