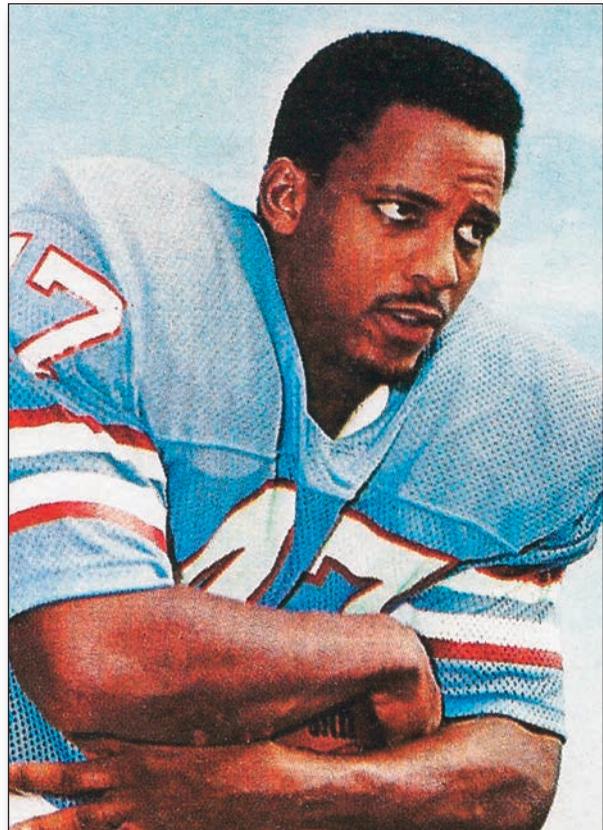


## RONNIE COLEMAN

**R**ONNIE GRADUATED FROM WALKER COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL IN 1969 EVEN

though he only attended one semester. When the Walker County Training School closed in January of 1969 because of integration, Ronnie was forced to finish his career at the previously all white high school. Many of the records from the training school have been lost over the years, but he is believed to be the best modern day football player to come out of Walker County and his credentials certainly back that up. After a phenomenal career at the training school, where he gained over 2000 yards his senior year and was the starting back all four years of his high school career, he then moved to Walker and immediately became a star basketball player for Coach Herbert Green. He was also a great baseball player and was picked as the team captain despite only being at the school for less than 6 months. This baseball team only lost one game that year.



Ronnie then signed a scholarship to play at Alabama A&M in Huntsville where he led the Bulldogs to a National Championship in 1972. Following a stellar career at A&M, he was drafted in 1974 by the Houston Oilers of the National Football League. He played the next 8 years for Coach Bum Phillips, who Ronnie credits with teaching him not only football, but more importantly about life. He started at running back, was a receiver out of the backfield, and returned punts and kickoffs. He averaged over 20 yards per kickoff and 10 yards per punt on over 140 returns. He also had over 4000 yards rushing and receiving in his career. He played in the same backfield with Hall-of-Famer Earl Campbell. His best year with the Oilers was 1975 when he rushed for 791 yards and had 130 yards receiving. After his retirement from professional football, he coached and taught school for nine years in the Houston area.

Ronnie is married to the former Julie Carter and they have 6 children: Tiffany, Karon, Giovanni, Zephaniah, Franquette, and Chelsea.

Ronnie lives his life by the code: "Giving all that he has to give at all times"