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## **Three roads now named for former mayors adjacent to Amazon**

**MURFREESBORO, Tenn.** – Two former mayors, Hollis Westbrook and Richard Reeves were honored Sept. 4 by the naming of two city streets that connect to Joe B. Jackson Parkway. Joe B. Jackson was also a long-time mayor of Murfreesboro.

Both streets named yesterday, Reeves and Westbrook, intersect with Joe B. Jackson Parkway on either side of the Amazon Fulfillment Center. Brief ceremonies were held for each.

In attendance and making remarks were 16<sup>th</sup> District State Sen. Jim Tracy (R-Shelbyville), current Murfreesboro Mayor Tommy Bragg and Reeves, Mayor from 1998 to 2002. Westbrook, who served from 1965 to 1982, is deceased.

Reeves said “I was thinking ... people drive in here to work every day and wonder what is Richard Reeves Drive. These people come here from all over everywhere to work and this is just such a nice honor for me.”

He said it was a privilege for him to be associated with Jackson and Westbrook who did so much for the growth of the community and to bring jobs here.

Former city attorney Tom Reed said he was honored to speak about long-time Murfreesboro Mayor Westbrook. “I had the pleasure of serving as city attorney during a significant amount of time during his tenure,” he said. “The thing I remember best about Mayor Westbrook was he was so gentle-mannered.

“He was caring and gentle with the public – he was firm (when he had to be),” he added, “but he was so gentle.”

Reed told a story about a public hearing where Westbrook’s had to vote an unpopular “no” but did it in such a way that “people thanked him on his way out.”

During an interview in 2000, after retiring from politics, Mayor Jackson told the story of himself and several friends coming back from World War II and seeing the need for a change in direction from the basically agrarian economy that existed in Murfreesboro at that time.

“We had seen more progressive communities,” he said during that interview, “and we realized if we wanted to grow, we were going to have to bring in industry. The first to come was Assonate, a factory where people from all over middle Tennessee came to work, and others followed.

“But we have to keep at it,” he said. “We have to try and stay ahead of the curve.”

All three streets bearing the names of the former Mayors are located in the industrial area south of Murfreesboro between Interstate 24 and Manchester Pike.