

Gilbert “Chic” G. Early, III

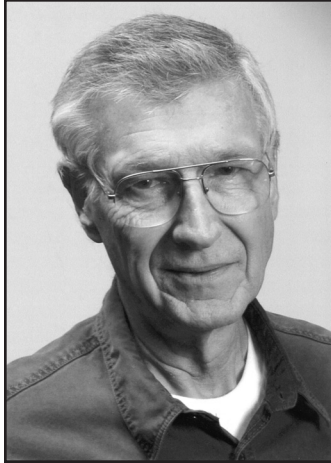
Class of 1954

As a budding artist at Jackson Park Elementary School and Hanley Junior School, Gilbert “Chic” G. Early III busied himself by drawing, painting, designing model cars, and even a Native American regalia for Boy Scout Troop 49, where he earned the highest rank of Eagle.

After graduation from University City High School in 1954, he earned a degree from Washington University in St. Louis’ School of Fine Arts and spent a year in the university’s study-abroad program at the Beaux Arts Academie in Paris.

His professional career began as an advertising illustrator for Charles E. Cooper Art Studio and Portraits Unlimited in New York City. While in the U.S. Army, he painted Army and Navy recruiting posters. In 1965, he returned to St. Louis and taught at both Washington University in St. Louis and St. Louis Community College - Meramec and began accepting portrait commissions. By 1973, he was an established and sought after portrait painter. On display throughout the nation are approximately 1,000 of his portraits from Supreme Court Judges to local clergy, doctors, educators and businessmen as well as families.

Early is still painting in his home near University City, where he lives with his wife Caroline.



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