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Atlanta legend **Jesse Hill Jr.** could not be more touched. He will be this year's recipient of the Shining Light Award, a prestigious gas lamp presented by Atlanta Gas Light and WSB Radio.

The award will be presented to Hill at a luncheon Oct. 2 at the Atlanta History Center.

"As you review the list of past recipients of the award, it's pretty good company," said Hill of the late Atlanta Constitution editor **Ralph McGill**, the late Atlanta Mayor **Ivan Allen Jr.** and former Atlanta Mayor **Andrew Young**.

Hill had a heart attack in January and said he "was out of it" until May. Only recently has Hill, 81, been able to regularly attend his beloved Big Bethel AME Church every week. His preferred location for the gas light in his honor will be in front of the church on Auburn Avenue at Jesse Hill Jr. Drive.

Hill, who retired as chairman and CEO of Atlanta Life Insurance Co. in 1995, credited his health to his wife, **Azira**.

"I would not be speaking like this if it weren't for my wife," he said. "She gave me around-the-clock care."