

Earl B. Hunter, Jr.

Founder and President

Black Folks Camp Too

Earl B. Hunter, Jr is an experienced business leader across multiple industries. He has been widely recognized for his ebullient personality, hard work ethic and non-traditional approach to building relationships and closing deals. Mr. Hunter is driven by success and he always plays to win at whatever challenge is presented to him.

Mr. Hunter is the Founder and President of [Black Folks Camp Too](#) — a marketing-driven business whose mission is to increase diversity in the outdoor industry by making it easier, more interesting and more fun for black folks to go camping.



The idea for *Black Folks Camp Too* began when Mr. Hunter was introduced to camping for the first time in 2015 while serving as Vice President of Sales for Sylvansport, one of the world's most innovative outdoor industry companies. The idea didn't fully form, however, until Mr. Hunter and his son, Dillon, went on an epic camping road trip across the USA and Canada. They traveled for 3 months visiting 49 campgrounds in 20 states/provinces and saw precisely ONE other black family camping.

At that moment, Mr. Hunter was on a mission. He began sharing stories of camping adventures across his network of friends, family and followers — quickly becoming a top influencer for black folks looking to give camping a try. KOA Campgrounds was so inspired by the Hunters' trip, they invited Mr. Hunter and his son to the KOA headquarters in Billings, MT and wrote an article called [A BUCKET LIST FATHER-SON ROAD TRIP](#) which was posted on the KOA website. Mr. Hunter was also featured in a recent Recreational Vehicle Industry Association (RVIA) article as an outdoor leader who is [“Shaking Up the RV Industry”](#) — highlighting Mr. Hunter's ideas for expanding marketing efforts to be more inclusive of the African-American community.

At the heart of *Black Folks Camp Too* is the belief that once black folks become more active campers and begin enjoying the outdoor lifestyle — this will help break down barriers to create more inclusive communities and stronger relationships overall. Also, since camping is one of the most inexpensive ways to take a family vacation, *Black Folks Camp Too* will encourage more black families to build memories and strengthen family

bonds. Of course, expanding the camping consumer base will also help energize the outdoor industry economy.

Black Folks Camp Too is a business that combines all of Mr. Hunter's previous sales leadership roles, but especially his most recent position as Vice President of Sales at Sylvansport. While at Sylvansport, Mr. Hunter grew the business from \$1.5 million to \$17.5 million in sales in 4 years, primarily by going on the road to build a network of over 100 RV dealers. In doing so, he put over 400,000 miles on the road across North America to work personally with dealership owners and sales teams at their outdoor/RV events to "drive the business." Mr. Hunter also, developed a national sales relationship with Gander Out-doors/Camping World that helped establish a significant retail presence for the brand.

Prior to SylvanSport, Mr. Hunter was Vice President of Sales and Executive staff member at International Procurement Distribution (IPD), where he helped create jobs by merging American manufacturing companies with international corporations located in Canada, China, India, Mexico, South America, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam.

From 1998 - 2006 Mr. Hunter was Executive of Accounts Sales for Nokia Mobile Phones. He quickly rose through the organization by creating and closing multiple multi-million dollar deals with wireless carriers.

Mr. Hunter's discipline and competitive spirit were honed from a young age as a high school and college athlete — being awarded full athletic scholarships for football to Georgia Military College in Milledgeville, Georgia in 1994 and to Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina in 1996.

In addition to his multi-faceted business career, Mr. Hunter is also the author of children's book, [The Chronicles of Dillon & Fuzzy](#). Mr. Hunter also mentors area youth, is a proud and active alumni of his Alma Maters, and loves to sing as a hobby. He is a member on the executive board of The Cindy Platts Boys and Girls Club of Transylvania County and Dare Dreamers Teen Mentoring.

Mr. Hunter resides in the Mountains of Western North Carolina with his three favorite people — his wife Tamika, son Dillon and daughter Gabrielle, affectionately known as "Fuzzy."