

In-Memorium

IAOHRA remembers....



Gerald V.K. Foday



Gerald Vincent Kayonga Foday, age 52, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, died on Tuesday, February 20, 2018, at his home.

Gerald was born on April 8, 1965, in Bo, Sierra Leone, West Africa, the son of Anthony and Margaret (Koneh) Foday. He graduated from Christ the King College in Sierra Leone and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from Huntington University in 1992. Gerald was a member of both the Indiana State and Allen County Bar Associations and served as President of the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies and the Indiana Consortium of State and Local Human Rights Agencies. He served as legal counsel and Executive Director of the Metropolitan Human Relations Commission in Fort Wayne and was an adjunct professor at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne.

Aretha Franklin



Aretha Franklin, whose gospel-charged singing and bluesy performances earned her the title of Queen of Soul, passed away at her home in Detroit on August 16, 2018.

In 1967, Franklin released “Respect,” which became an anthem for the racial and gendered political movements of the time, something that wasn’t lost on Franklin who said of her signature track in her memoir *Aretha: From These Roots*: “It [reflected] the need of a nation, the need of the average man and woman in the street, the businessman, the mother, the fireman, the teacher—everyone wanted respect,” Franklin wrote. “It was also one of the battle cries of the civil rights movement. The song took on monumental significance.”

A portrait of Heather Heyer, a young woman with long, wavy brown hair, smiling slightly. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent purple filter. It occupies the left side of the page.

Heather Heyer

Heather Heyer was murdered at the white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia on Saturday, August 12, 2017, while standing up to racism and hatred as one of the counter-protesters.

The 32-year-old paralegal was standing up to injustice as one of the counter-protesters in Charlottesville when a car senselessly drove into the crowd.

Heather's last visible post on her public Facebook page reads, "If you're not outraged, you're not paying attention." Heather was a young woman deeply involved in taking a stand against injustice. Heather's story shows how much has changed since the civil rights movement, but it also shows how much hasn't changed.

James Wells



James Wells, a member of a South Carolina civil rights protest group known as the Friendship Nine whose sit-in at a whites-only lunch counter in 1961 was a key moment in the civil rights movement, died on Sunday, July 9, 2018 at his home in Rock Hill, S.C. He was 77. Mr. Wells spent a month in jail in 1961 after he and eight other black men were charged with trespassing at the lunch counter.

Eric Jackson



Eric Sean Jackson (Age 52), devoted father, son, brother, friend, and Commissioner passed away suddenly on June 22, 2018 in Fort Washington, MD due to natural causes. He was an accomplished attorney, Eric assumed each role that he was given or he chose to accept with serious determination. Mr. Jackson was a graduate of Milwaukee's Rufus King High School, then as an undergraduate at Stanford University, and finally at the law school of the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

He was a passionate **Commissioner on the Prince George's County Human Relations Commission**. He was well known as the Commissioner, that always called 'A Ball, A Ball and A Strike, A Strike regardless of the circumstance.

Linda Brown



Linda Brown was the child associated with the lead name in the landmark case *Brown v. Board of Education*, which led to the outlawing of U.S. school segregation in 1954.

Linda Brown was born on February 20, 1942, in Topeka, Kansas. Because she was forced to travel a significant distance to elementary school due to racial segregation, her father was one of the plaintiffs in the case of *Brown v. Board of Education*, with the Supreme Court ruling in 1954 that school segregation was unlawful. Brown continued living in Topeka as an adult, raising a family and continuing her desegregation efforts with the area's school system. She passed away on March 25, 2018, at age 76.

Sandy Rumbler



Sandy Rumbler founded a Spanish-language meet-up group here and strongly espoused the causes of immigrants from south of the border, once volunteering for a week in Texas helping refugees.

Her social activism began with the civil rights March on Washington in 1963, continued with numerous campaigns in Chicago and reemerged here with the Women's March, the March for Science and other causes. Sandy Rumbler Sandy passed away August 15, 2018

Dorothy Cotton



Dorothy Cotton (January 5, 1930 – June 10, 2018) was an American civil rights activist, who was a leader in **the Civil Rights Movement** in the United States and a member of the inner-circle of one of its main organizations, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). Ms. Cotton was the SCLC's Educational Director and a confidante and aide of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

In 2010, Cotton was awarded the National Freedom Award from the National Civil Rights Museum.



Martin Luther King, Jr.

Martin Luther King Jr. (January 15, 1929 – April 4, 1968) was an American Baptist minister and activist who became the most visible spokesperson and leader in the civil rights movement from 1954 until his death in 1968. Born in Atlanta, King is best known for advancing civil rights through nonviolence and civil disobedience, tactics his Christian beliefs and the nonviolent activism of Mahatma Gandhi helped inspire.

King led the 1955 Montgomery bus boycott and in 1957 became the first president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). Dr. King organized the nonviolent 1963 protests in Birmingham, Alabama and the 1963 March on Washington, where he delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. King was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal.

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