

In Memoriam



Walker Edward Campbell



Gertrude W. Coleman



Mildred Shipp Crouch



Mary Lease Borders DeWitt



Cordell Page Olive, Sr.



Sandra Payton

Mignon Bolden Johnson

Kathleen L. Payne

William P. Robinson, Jr.



Walker Edward Campbell

Archon Walker Edward Campbell, Jr., of Gamma Xi Boulé, Sarasota, Florida, died suddenly on December 23, 2006. Born in Floyd, Virginia, he graduated from Christiansburg Institute in Christiansburg, Virginia, and earned his B.S. in education and psychology from Virginia State College. In 1967 he was selected to participate in the Experienced Teacher Fellowship Program at Michigan State University, where he received his M.A. in math and science. He earned his Ph.D. in administration and supervision from the Union Institute and in 1979 received a prestigious appointment as a White House Fellow. Later he was awarded a second fellowship to the Institute for Educational Leadership at George Washington University.

Archon Campbell's professional life included teaching and administrative positions in Roanoke, Virginia; in Las Vegas; and in the Englewood and Montclair, New Jersey, school districts. Leaving his educational roots, he began a new profession with the Internal Revenue Service in Atlanta, from which he retired in 2004.

Early in life Archon Campbell joined Mount Zion Christian Church in Floyd. He was a member of Omega Phi Phi Fraternity and was Thesauristes of Gamma Xi Boulé, presiding over conferences and forums at the local, state and national levels. Retire-

ment marked the beginning of new ventures: He became an avid golfer and a mentor, he worked with troubled youths at the YMCA, and he was a tax adviser to local residents.

Archon Campbell is survived by his loving wife, Archousa Garnett Brown Campbell; his daughter, Tracey Underwood; two grandchildren, Maya and Kayla; his sister, Phyllis Cunningham (Ray); three sisters-in-law, Phyllis Harrison, Idella Brown and Irie Jenkins; four aunts; and a host of nephews, nieces, other relatives and friends.



Gertrude W. Coleman

Archousa Gertrude W. Coleman of Psi Boulé, Louisville, Kentucky, passed away on March 21 at the age of 72. A native of Lawrenceburg, Kentucky, she earned a bachelor's degree in nursing and a master's degree in education from Spaulding University and a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Louisville.

Archousa Coleman was a pivotal crusader for the Civil Rights Movement in the early 1960's. She helped organize and actively participated in critical marches and sit-ins to integrate Louisville's restaurants, clothing stores and housing. She assisted in formulating the school-busing plan, and a compromise plan was implemented after she voiced strong concerns about inequities and vehemently protested the provisions that African American children would be bused farther from home and for more years than their white counterparts.

Archousa Coleman was president of Black Women for Political Action during the 1970's and 1980's; she was appointed to the original board of the Park Duvall Community Health Center, where she fought for the requisite funding to provide qualified medical personnel to serve the economically disadvantaged. She turned no problem away, whether of housing discrimination, unequal education or struggling families in crisis.

She belonged to numerous community-service organizations, including the Human Relations Commission, the NAACP and the National Conference of Christians and Jews (National Conference for Community and Justice). She was a retired professor of nursing at the University of Kentucky, Jefferson County Community College and Spaulding University, but she continued work as a clinical specialist in suicidology.

She was preceded in death by her daughter Alexis D. Coleman. Survivors include her husband of forty-eight years, Archon James M. Coleman; two daughters, Kathy W. Coleman-Maclin and Natalie L. Coleman; a son, Paul J. Coleman; a sister, Lula White Miles, and three grandchildren, Brianna A., Trey M. and Chase A. Coleman.



Mildred Shipp Crouch

Archousa Mildred Shipp Crouch, 92, of Nashville and St. Petersburg, Florida, passed away on March 29 in Louisville, Kentucky. A memorial service in celebration of her life was held at Clark Memorial Methodist Church in Nashville on April 14.

She was born in Austell, Georgia, but spent most of her formative years in Ames, Iowa, where her extended family, the Martins, had migrated at the beginning of the twentieth century seeking greater educational and employment opportunities. The city of Ames erected a historical marker in honor of her grandparents, Archie and Nancy Martin, in 2002, and in 2004 Iowa State University honored the Martins by dedicating a \$26 million state-of-the-art residence hall to them. During the 1920's, '30's and early '40's, the Martins provided aid, counsel and assistance to African American students who were enrolled at the university earning advanced degrees but were denied housing on campus. Mildred Shipp married one of those students, the late Archon Hubert B. Crouch, Sr., who received his doctorate from Iowa State University in 1936. Past Grand Sire Archon Samuel Massie lived in their home while working on his doctorate and the Manhattan Project. George Washington Carver (Iowa State's first black student—B.S., 1894, and M.S., 1896) boarded with

the Martins when he was a visiting professor at the university. He was a regular summer visitor until the university built a cabin on campus solely for his use while he was in residence, teaching and doing research.

Archousa Crouch earned her B.S. at Kentucky State College and two master's degrees, in guidance and counseling and educational psychology, at Tennessee State University. She wanted to pursue a doctorate at Peabody College in Nashville, but the college did not offer a doctoral program to African American students at that time. She did additional graduate work at the University of Michigan and taught at Fisk and Tennessee State universities.

As a community volunteer, she received numerous accolades for her service. She was the first female and first African American appointee to the Nashville Civil Service Commission. She fostered and supported many changes that made employment opportunities more available to African American and female applicants.

During the fifty years she and Archon Hubert Crouch, Sr., were married, she was supportive of his activities. He was engaged in research at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute and at Staten Island Hospital; he was also dean of the graduate school at Tennessee State University, chairman of the Nashville Housing Authority and cofounder of the Nashville Urban League and many other organizations. Archousa Crouch proudly stood by his side as the graduate-school building at Tennessee State University was named Crouch Hall in his honor and as Crouch Drive and Shipp Drive, in her honor, were dedicated in Davidson County, Tennessee.

She was a member of many professional organizations as well as Alpha Kappa Alpha

sorority and Beta Kappa Chi Scientific Society. She was an Archousa of Chi Boulé in Nashville, a member of the Nashville and Orlando chapters of the Girl Friends, Inc., and cofounder of the Memphis Chapter of the Girl Friends.

Archousa Crouch was preceded in death by her husband, Archon Hubert Crouch, Sr.; her son, Hubert Crouch, Jr.; and her grandson, William M. Moses, Jr. She is survived by her daughter, Archousa Marinelle Moses Biggerstaff (married to Archon Robert); her grandchildren, Valerie Cobbs (Winston), Millicent Moses Gompertz (Michael), Melanie Crouch and W. Christopher Moses (Laura); her great-grandchildren, Noelle Cobbs and Paige Cobbs, and their grandmother, Josephine Crouch. She is also survived by her brother, Colonel Grantland Shipp (Ann), and her sisters, Julia Nell Simms (Leo) and Thelma Osborne (Edward). She leaves nieces, nephews and family members who lovingly referred to her as Bamommy or Aunt Milly.



Mary Lease Borders DeWitt

Archousa Mary Lease Borders DeWitt of Alpha Pi Boulé, San Diego, passed away on March 11. She was the loving wife of Archon Rufus B. DeWitt for sixty-six years, until his death on May 21, 2006. He was 90 years of age and the oldest member of Alpha Pi Boulé.

Archousa DeWitt was a beacon for her family, guiding them along the way with her wisdom, unconditional love, compassion and generosity. It was her love for her family, and her passion for teaching, that led her on a journey that took her from her hometown in Tennessee to Alabama and finally to San Diego.

Archousa DeWitt was born in Memphis on January 28, 1920. After graduating from Booker T. Washington High School with honors in 1936, she attended LeMoyné-Owens College, where she majored in mathematics with a foreign-language minor and became a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Her career goal was to follow in the footsteps of her mother and maternal grandfather and become a teacher. After graduating in 1940, Archousa DeWitt considered graduate school but instead accepted a teaching position at Manassas Elementary School. After three years she transferred to the mathematics department at Manassas High School, where she taught for the next eight years.

She married her college sweetheart, Archon DeW-

itt, in January 1946. Born in Rossville, Tennessee, on December 1, 1915, Archon DeWitt graduated from high school in Memphis and then attended LeMoyné-Owens College. He became a teacher and a principal before being drafted. He came back to Memphis after serving three years in the U.S. Army during World War II then returned to LeMoyné and earned a bachelor of arts degree. He entered Union Theological Seminary at Columbia University in 1947 and in 1948 received a master's degree in social science. Archon DeWitt began his career with the YMCA in Montgomery, Alabama, where he was appointed executive director of a branch facility. He was the first African-American appointed executive director of a YMCA in Montgomery. Archon DeWitt befriended the late Archon Martin Luther King, Jr., and Mrs. Rosa Parks and became fully engaged in the budding Civil Rights Movement during his tenure in Montgomery, Alabama. He participated in lunch-counter sit-ins, protest rallies and other peaceful demonstrations. He was also supportive of the Montgomery bus boycott, which led to focusing national and international attention on the indignities of racial segregation in the South. History repeated itself for Archon DeWitt when he was transferred to San Diego in 1963 as the executive director of the Southeast Branch YMCA (currently known as the Jackie Robinson YMCA). He was the first African-American executive director of a YMCA branch in San Diego County. Under his leadership, the Southeast Branch YMCA membership and staff increased, new programs were developed, and the first Olympic-size swimming pool was built in southeast San Diego. He retired from the YMCA but remained a dedicated YMCA volunteer and in 1986 received the first Human Dignity Award pre-

sented by the YMCA of San Diego County.

When his work led the couple to Mobile, Alabama, Archon DeWitt accepted a position as math teacher at Blount High School, where she was honored as Teacher of the Year for three consecutive years. While in Mobile, Archon DeWitt started honing her leadership skills by organizing a chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., and eventually becoming the chapter's first president.

Archon DeWitt, who had been attending graduate school at UCLA for several summers, took a leave of absence from her position at Blount to complete her master's degree in mathematics at UCLA in 1961, when she and her husband moved to San Diego. There Archon DeWitt resumed her career in education at the San Diego Unified School District, where she worked as a teacher, counselor and vice principal until retiring in 1982. She earned her counseling credentials from the University of California, San Diego, and her administrative credentials from Point Loma College.

Following retirement from the YMCA, Archon DeWitt returned to the field of education as faculty member of the San Diego Community College District. He also served the district as an affirmative-action officer and Dean of Community Services. He retired from the San Diego Community College District in 1983 but returned a year later as the interim president of the Educational Cultural Complex. He remained in this position until 1984, when a permanent president was appointed. Never one for idleness, Archon DeWitt enjoyed a third career as a real-estate associate with Hawkins Realty in 1984 following his second retirement from the San Diego Community College District.

Archon DeWitt dedicated more than forty years of his life to serving the San Diego Community and was supportive of any positive activity involving the academic and social development of San Diego's youths. He was a board member and president of the nationally recognized Elementary Institute of Science during its formative years and was business manager and longtime president of the Southeast Community Theater (now known as the Common Ground Theater). He also was president of the Area "E" Community Action Council and actively participated in the Model Cities Project, which funded the feasibility study that led to the construction of a San Diego Community College campus, the Educational Cultural Complex, in southeast San Diego. He was an original member of the Catfish Club, a community political forum, and was a member of the City of San Diego Salary Setting Commission. He was appointed to the San Diego United States Draft Board by President Gerald Ford.

Archon and Archon DeWitt were longtime active members of San Diego's St. Paul United Methodist Church. Archon DeWitt became president of the United Methodist Women, chairperson of the church's scholarship committee and chairperson of the Commission on Social Concerns. Archon DeWitt was past president of the United Methodist Men and a member of the board of trustees.

Archon DeWitt gave generously of her time to many community-service and church organizations, both before and after retirement. Over the years, she was president of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; the president and a charter member of Women, Inc.; a member of Tema Ghana, an African Sister City organization, and of Delta Kappa Gamma Education Sorority; president of Retired

Black Educators; and a member of the Urban League.

During her forty-four years in San Diego, she received many honors for her leadership and community service, including the Delta 50 Years Service Award; the Outstanding Educator Award of the San Diego Chapter of the Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs; the Child Development Humanitarian Award from California State Preschools; the Outstanding Service Award from the San Diego Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; and the United Negro College Fund Meritorious Service Award.

The couple's survivors include daughters Johari Marilyn DeWitt-Rogers and Francine DeWitt-Haynes, both educators; grandsons Omari and Kofi Rogers; and many nieces, nephews and other relatives. Archon and Archon DeWitt will long be remembered by family, friends, Alpha Pi Boulé and the San Diego education community.

Mignon Bolden Johnson

Archousa Mignon Bolden Johnson, wife of deceased Archon Ernest Johnson of Beta Nu Boulé, Northern Virginia, died on April 17.

Born in Arlington, Virginia, on February 12, 1916, to Willie and Viola Bolden, she attended Francis Junior High School and later graduated from Dunbar High School in Washington, D.C. She received her bachelor's degree in Latin from Virginia State University in Petersburg, Virginia, and later obtained a master's degree in guidance and counseling from New York University.

She began teaching Latin and history at Elliott Junior High in Washington, D.C., and later worked as a guidance counselor and as an assistant principal at the D.C. Evans Junior High School. She went on to become principal of Randall Junior High School in D.C., retiring from the Washington, D.C., public-school system in 1973. Later she came out of retirement to set out on a new path as a career-center counselor in the Arlington, Virginia, public-school system.

Archousa Johnson was a member of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority for more than seventy years, having joined the Virginia State University chapter in 1935. She helped organize her Arlington chapter of The Links, Inc., and remained actively involved for more than forty years.

Her passion was helping young people, and when the Prince Edward County, Virginia, public-school system closed its schools under the Massive Resistance Act, Archousa and Archon Johnson opened their home to a student, Freddie Cobb, so that he could continue his education.

She faithfully served as a member of the Calloway United Methodist Church for

more than eighty years. Archousa Johnson, who loved to play bridge, pinnocle and Scrabble with her friends and neighbors, will be forever in our hearts.



Cordell Page Olive, Sr.

Gamma Chi Boulé of San Jose, California, mourns the death of Archon Cordell Page Olive, Sr., on February 21 at Stanford University Hospital from complications following heart surgery. His Archousa and children were at his bedside.

Archon Olive, the third of three sons, was born in Louisville, Kentucky, to Lewis Cortez Olive, Sr., and Catherine Brown Olive on November 24, 1933. He earned his bachelor's degree in business administration from Indiana University at Bloomington, where he met his future first wife, Betty Jean Reid. To that union were born Desnee Lynn, Cordell Page, Jr., and LaTanya Angel.

After college Archon Olive, finding business opportunities for minorities limited, joined the U.S. Army. He and his young family spent five years in Germany and Italy, and he later served two tours of duty in Vietnam, earning two Bronze Stars for meritorious service.

In 1971 Archon Olive moved his family to San Carlos, California, and joined the Allstate Insurance Co.; he went on to become the principal of his own agency. Betty Jean passed away the following year. Archon Olive persevered as a single parent, businessman and staunch community activist. In 1981 he married Carolyn Yarbrough, whom he had met at a political fund-raiser.

An outstanding member of Gamma Chi who was respected for his integrity and insight, Archon Olive was cochairman of the care-and-comfort committee, cochairman of the planning committee for the 1999 Pacific Regional Boulé Meeting in Hawaii, and a member of the social-activities and membership committees. He was also a valued and active member of Alpha Phi Alpha.

He is survived by his Archousa, Carolyn, and his children, Desnee Flakes, Cordell Page Olive, Jr., and LaTanya Obijiofor, and his stepson, Benjamin J. Miller III. He also leaves six grandchildren; his brother, Borden Olive, and half sister, Mary Thorpe; and three nieces and three nephews.

Many stirring tributes to Archon Olive were presented at his memorial service, which took place March 18 at Cunningham Chapel on the campus of Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont, California. Archousa Linda Burroughs offered this poem:

*You were never boastful
Always humble was your walk
Though military honors
and prestigious degrees you earned
You met every man with the
same ready smile
Your welcome so genuine the
glow generated warmth that
comforted and encouraged
Gentle strength propelled
you through many heavy
trials
Still your focus on others
separated you from the rest
Filing complaints was never
your style
Instead you showed us how
to clear life's hurdles
Finding lessons and growth
in all life's battles
Exuberance for life fueled
infectious enthusiasm and
spontaneous laughter
Making your light shine ever
brighter*

*That even now
My friend
My mentor
We stand in awe of all the
blessings you shared
What a profound difference
you made in our lives
God's angel
A man named Cordell*

Kathleen L. Payne

Archousa Kathleen L. Payne of Alpha Pi Boulé, San Diego, passed away on May 7. She was a longtime resident of Rancho Palos Verdes, California, and later retired with her husband, Archon William K. Payne II, to Henderson, California.

Archousa Payne dedicated many years of service to organizations that she held dear to her heart, including the Palos Verdes chapter of The Links, Inc.; the Las Vegas Carrouseles, Inc.; the Jugs; and the Torrance Memorial Medical Center. She was also a distinguished member of the National Board of Realtors.

This beloved Archousa had many interests, but her true passion was painting. A gifted artist, she had a passion for life and fashion that is reflected in her works of art. Her smile could light up a room, and her laugh was infectious. She truly enriched the lives of those around her. Her kindness, courage and optimistic outlook gave others strength.

She is survived by her husband, Archon Payne; two sons: Archon William K. Payne III of South Suburban Chicago's Delta Sigma Boulé and Michael D. Payne, Esq.; four grandchildren; and her sister, Dorothy Bell.



Sandra Payton

Memorial services for Archousa Sandra Payton, 64, of Beta Eta Boulé, Delaware, were held on June 8 at the Church of the Holy Trinity in West Chester, Pennsylvania. She and her devoted husband, Archon Michael Payton, were married thirty-nine years. Born in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, Archousa Payton graduated from Williamsport High School, where she was known for her sense of style and fashion. She later attended Hunter College in New York City and eventually returned to Pennsylvania, where she received a bachelor's degree in education from Cheyney University. Archousa Payton enjoyed teaching and spent twenty-two years in the West Chester Area School District. After retiring in 1993, she joined the staff at the CACC Montessori School in Hockessin, Delaware, where she pursued her passion for teaching for seven more years.

Archousa Payton was active in several church and community organizations throughout the Delaware Valley. A former member of the St. John Episcopal Church in Concord and the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in West Chester, she was a member of the Cathedral Church of St. John in Wilmington when she passed. She was also a member of the National Education Association and the Urban League of Wilmington. She volunteered her services at the Thornbury Historical

Society and the Brandywine Battlefield Park Association.

Reading and baking were among Archousa Payton's many hobbies. She participated in reading groups and enjoyed hearing others' perspectives on popular literary works. She often took these opportunities to treat friends and family to delectable delights—Teacher's Rum Cake was her specialty.

Archousa Payton is survived by her husband, Archon Payton, and children, Stephanie L. Payton and Michael C. Payton; her father, Albert Henderson, and brother, David Henderson; her grandchildren; and a host of friends and other relatives.

William P. Robinson, Jr.

Archon William P. Robinson, Jr., of Beta Lambda Boulé, Hampton-Norfolk, Virginia, died in December 2006 following a lengthy bout with liver cancer. A noted criminal defense lawyer and former legislator, he was a graduate of Morehouse College and Harvard University Law School.

Archon Robinson began his legal career in 1967 in his native Norfolk and quickly established himself as a trailblazer. He was the first black to work in the Norfolk Commonwealth Attorney's Office and the first black to serve in the office of the Virginia attorney general. Later he succeeded his father as a member of the Virginia General Assembly. There, too, he distinguished himself as a leader and astute legislator. For many years he chaired the Black Caucus of the General Assembly, molding it into a powerful voice that influenced public policy in several areas. In the 1990's, he strengthened Virginia's fair-housing laws, which were originally drafted by his father. He also led a commission that examined Virginia's highway needs and recommended ways to pay for them. In addition, he exerted pressure on judges to disassociate themselves from clubs with racist and sexist practices. A fellow Archon and General Assembly colleague, Kenneth Melvin, observed that the legislature was an ideal forum for Archon Robinson to exhibit his considerable talents and skills.

He served in the Virginia House of Delegates for more than two decades, rising to chairman of the House Transportation Committee, one of its most powerful posts. He was also one of the first African Americans on the influential House Appropriations Committee. He is survived by Archousa Sylvia Robinson and four children. Ω