

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Gloria Riddick

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Oral History project

Interview # DST-A-L-2017-080

Gloria Foster Riddick, a charter member of Springfield Decatur Area Alumnae Chapter and retired programming and IT manager, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Delta Sigma Theta Sorority* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: Sep 8, 2017 Location: Telephonic interview with Ms. Riddick in her home in Waldorf, Maryland

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Beverly Peters, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Transcript
being processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 0:44 / 0.73 hrs.

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on October 25, 2017.

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Gloria Foster Riddick, *Delta Sigma Theta Sorority*, DST-A-L-2017-080

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Gloria (Foster) Riddick was born on January 12, 1949 in Basset, Arkansas to Israel Foster-Black and Marsha Foster-Black. Gloria was married to Reginald Anderson until 1970 and since 2010 has been married to Marvin Riddick.

Gloria attended Wilson Trade School in Wilson, Arkansas, and graduated in 1965 from G. W. Carver High School in Marked Tree, Arkansas. Upon graduation, Gloria attended Arkansas AM & N (Agricultural, Mechanical and Normal) College, an historically black college in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. Through support from her church and encouragement from others, Gloria was initiated on December 11, 1968 into the Delta Eta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. While pledging, Gloria was keenly aware of her commitment to her studies and the importance of maintaining her grade point average (GPA). Though the rigors of pledging and maintaining her GPA were daunting, Gloria drew on the support of her “line sisters” (twenty other pledges) and “big sisters” (members of the sorority) for support.

After graduating from college in 1969 with a degree in mathematics, Gloria returned to Decatur, and from 1970-1977 worked as an engineering programmer at Illinois Power Company. Her expertise in the field of computer programming and mathematics gave her access to a variety of opportunities and positions. She later moved to Virginia and soon after arriving there, she began working as a programmer/analyst at Computer Science Corporation, working there from 1980-1987. Employment in this field opened many doors in numerous corporate settings, including TRW Inc., Digital Equipment Corp, Compaq Computers, Hewlett Packard Corporation, and MTS, Inc. & Technical Corp. Ms. Riddick retired in 2010.

Ms. Riddick is the mother of one son, Eric C. Anderson and a daughter, Darcee M. Anderson King.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Theta Zeta Chapter; Springfield Decatur Area Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority

Note to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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