

# Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Edward "Buzz" Palmer

PERSON

Palmer, Edward, 1936-

**Alternative Names:** Edward "Buzz" Palmer;

**Life Dates:** May 13, 1936-April 11, 2021

**Place of Birth:** Chicago, Illinois, USA

**Residence:** Chicago, IL

**Occupations:** Community Leader

## Biographical Note

Globalist, civic activist and organizer Edward L. "Buzz" Palmer was born on May 13, 1936, in Chicago and grew up in Chicago's Englewood community.

In the 1960s, Palmer joined the Chicago Police Department and founded the African American Patrolman's League. Motivated by his experiences during his youth and during his career with the Chicago Police Department, Palmer became active in the community and developed an expertise in international urban affairs. He brought these academic interests into the classes that he taught at UIC, where he later became a senior fellow for the Institute for Government and Public Affairs, and continues to be involved with UIC's Great City Institute.

Palmer served as Chairman of Chicago's Sister Cities Committee under Mayor Harold Washington. He and his wife, former state of Illinois Senator Alice Palmer, have been committed to stimulating African American involvement in and awareness of foreign policy issues. Palmer served as chairman of the Senate Advisory Committee on South Africa and acts as a confidante to Prime Minister Michael Manly of Jamaica; Glyn Ford, Member of European Parliament (MEP) for the UK; and Harlem Desirs, MEP for France. In these capacities, he advises policy makers on the issues surrounding urban instability.

He is a member of the International Board of United Townships in Paris; the President of the Black Press Institute; the Director of the People's Program and the Founder and Executive Director of Comprand, Inc.

Palmer passed away on April 11, 2021.

## Related Entries

**Lindblom Math & Science Academy High School** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Langford Academy** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Chicago Police Department** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1992 to 1997]

**Institute of Government and Public Affairs** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 195409 to 195509]

**Senior Fellow**

**Afro-American Patrolmen's League** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1973 to ?]

**Founder**

**Chicago Sister Cities** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1955 to 1966]

**Chairman**