

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with James Hill, Jr.

PERSON

Hill, James, 1941-

Alternative Names: James Hill, Jr.;

Life Dates: August 20, 1941-December 23, 2021

Place of Birth: Baltimore, Maryland, USA

Residence: Chicago, IL

Occupations: Accountant

Biographical Note

Accountant James Hill, Jr. was born in Baltimore, Maryland, on August 20, 1941, to Joyce and James Hill, Sr. Hill graduated from Central State University with a B.S. in accounting in 1964 and received his M.B.A. in personnel administration and accounting in 1967 from the University of Chicago. He was CPA-licensed in Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

In 1964, Hill began his career as a cost accountant for Union Carbide in New York, where he stayed for one year. After receiving his M.B.A., he began working as a Chicago staff auditor for Alexander Grant & Company. Between 1968 and 1970, Hill worked as the deputy director of the Chicago Economic Development Corporation. In February 1972, he founded his own eponymous accounting firm. In 1975 he took on a partner to become Hill, Taylor, Certified Public Accountants, where he presided as chairman and CEO.

Hill received numerous awards and honors for both his professional and community work. His professional affiliations include the American Institute of CPAs, the Illinois CPA Society, the National Black Association of Accountants, and the National Black MBA Association. He is a board member of various community and nonprofit organizations, including the Illinois Institute of Technology, the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, the Better Government Association, Citizen Information Service, the Chicago Commons Association, the Economic Club of Chicago, the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, and the Chicago Economic Advisory Committee. He also was a council member to the graduate business schools at both the University of Chicago and the University of Illinois.

Hill married Sheree in 1995. They had two sons, James III and Brian.

Hill was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on January 5, 2003.

Hill passed away on December 23, 2021.

Related Entries

Dunbar High School [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Central State University [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

BA

University of Chicago [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

MBA

Union Carbide Corporation [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1964 to 1965]

Accountant

Alexander Grant & Company [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1989 to 2016]

Staff Auditor

Chicago Economic Development Corporation [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 198909 to 199208]

Deputy Director

Hill, Taylor Certified Public Accountants [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1972 to ?]

Founder

Alliance of Business Leaders and Entrepreneurs [MEMBEROF]

[from 1993 to ?]

Co-founder

National Association of Black Accountants [MEMBEROF]

[from 2002 to ?]

Member

National Black MBA Association [MEMBEROF]

[from 2008 to 2012]

Member

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Member

Japan American Society [MEMBEROF]
[from 1994 to ?]

Member