

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Monte Ford

PERSON

Ford, Monte, 1959-

Alternative Names: Monte Ford;

Life Dates: October 3, 1959-

Place of Birth: Washington, District of Columbia, USA

Residence: Westlake, TX

Work: Southlake, TX

Occupations: Corporate Executive

Biographical Note

Senior vice president and chief information officer of information technology for American Airlines, Inc., Monte Ford, was born October 3, 1959, in Washington, D.C.; his mother Charity Hunt's Georgia ancestors were written about in a book entitled *Ambiguous Lives*. Ford's father, Nathaniel Ford, was from Waycross, Georgia. Growing up in Southeast D.C.'s Stronghold neighborhood, Ford was inspired by his older brother who attended Wilberforce University; finishing Jackson Elementary School, he attended Augustus Paul Junior High School, Linton Hall Military School and graduated from co-educational Perkiomen School in Pennsburg, Pennsylvania, in 1977. Ford earned his B.S. degree in Business Administration from Northeastern University in Boston in 1982 where he met his future wife.

Ford worked for Digital Equipment Corporation as a marketing representative and in other positions from 1982 to 1990, while occasionally working as a disc jockey. From 1990 to 1994, Ford worked for the Bank of Boston, becoming senior vice president for technology. At the Associates First Capital Corporation, Ford served as the executive vice president and CIO from 1997 to 2000, when he was named senior vice president and CIO. In 2001, Ford became the chief information officer and senior vice president of information technology for American Airlines, Inc., which is a subsidiary of AMR Corporation; in this context, he was in charge of the information technology services group. From 2006 to 2008, Ford also served as the director of Moneygram International Inc.

Action oriented, Ford promoted the concept "Well done is better than well said;" his articles, *True Colors* and *Be A King, Not A Joker*, remain widely read in CIO circles.

Active in youth programs, church leadership groups, and the Children's Medical Center, Ford maintained a long history of community service for which he received numerous awards. Ford and his wife raised three children, settling in Southlake, Texas.

Related Entries

Perkiomen School [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Jackson Elementary School [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Augustus Paul Junior High School [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Linton Hall Military School [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Fillmore Arts Center [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Katie B. Lewis Elementary School [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Northeastern University [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Digital Equipment Corporation [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1982 to 1990]

Marketing Representative and Other Positions

Bank of Boston [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1990 to 1994]

Senior Vice President for Technology

Associates First Capital Corporation [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1997 to 2000]

Executive Vice President and CIO

Associates First Capital Corporation [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1999 to 2008]

Senior Vice President and CIO

American Airlines [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 2001 to 2011]

Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Senior Vice President of Information Technology

Moneygram International, Inc. [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 201102 to 201703]

Director

Kappa Alpha Psi [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]