

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with The Honorable Doris Ward

PERSON

Ward, Doris Margaret

Alternative Names: The Honorable Doris Ward;

Life Dates: January 27, 1932-April 14, 2018

Place of Birth: Chicago, Illinois, USA

Residence: San Francisco, CA

Occupations: County Supervisor

Biographical Note

Doris Margaret Ward was born on January 27, 1932, in Chicago, Illinois, to Robbie Floyd and Jesse Keys. Ward's grandparents, Joseph and Julia Floyd, migrated from the South and settled in Gary, Indiana. Ward grew up in Gary and lived with her grandparents after her parents divorced. Ward's family also owned a grocery store in the community. Ward attended integrated Frable School from kindergarten through twelfth grade. While there, Ward was a member of the debate team and was queen of the Bud Billiken Parade in Chicago. She also became interested and active in the burgeoning Civil Rights Movement. Ward attended Indiana University and earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in education. During and after college, she participated in sit-ins at bars and other public areas in Indiana.

Ward started her career as a teacher, taught in Indiana for ten years and then moved to California. In 1968, Ward decided to continue her education and attended San Francisco State University. After that, Ward began her political career in 1972 when she became a trustee for the San Francisco Community College District. In 1979, Ward became a county supervisor, and in 1990, she became president of the Board of Supervisors. In 1996, Ward was elected San Francisco County Assessor-Recorder. In 2000, Ward served as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention, representing California. In 2006, Ward retired.

Ward passed away on April 14, 2018.

Related Entries

Froebel School [STUDENT OF]

[from ? to ?]

Indiana University [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

San Francisco State University [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

County of San Mateo [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1968 to 1972]

Educational Administrator

San Francisco Community College District [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1972 to 1979]

Trustee

San Francisco Board of Supervisors [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1979 to 1996]

Member and President

City of San Francisco [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1996 to 2006]

Assessor-Recorder

Black Women Organized for Political Action [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Co-Chair

Black Leadership Forum [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Member

NAACP [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Member

2000 Democratic National Convention [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Delegate