

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Dr. Joseph A. Pierce, Jr.

PERSON

Pierce, Joseph A., 1935-

Alternative Names: Dr. Joseph A. Pierce, Jr.;

Life Dates: August 13, 1935-

Place of Birth: Marshall, Texas, USA

Residence: San Antonio, TX

Occupations: Anesthesiologist

Biographical Note

Anesthesiologist Dr. Joseph A. Pierce, Jr. was born on August 13, 1935 in Marshall, Harrison County, Texas to Joseph A. Sr., and Juanita George Pierce. He attended Oglethorpe Elementary School in Atlanta, Georgia. Pierce graduated from Jack Yates High School, in Houston, Texas in 1952. He joined Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and Beta Kappa Chi National Scientific Honor Society in 1955 at Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas where he received his B.S. degree in chemistry in 1957, and his father Joseph Pierce, Sr. served as dean of the graduate school in 1952; and later, president in 1967. He earned his M.D. degree in medicine in 1961 from Meharry Medical College of Medicine, in Nashville, Tennessee. Pierce completed his internship at GW Hubbard Hospital of Meharry College of Medicine.

Pierce entered the United States Army in 1962. He completed a residency in anesthesiology at Brooke General Hospital/Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio in 1967, where he rose to the rank of lieutenant colonel and he completed a tour of duty in West Germany from 1967 to 1970. Then, in 1970, Pierce received his Texas State medical license and entered into private practice with Anesthesia Consultants in San Antonio, and joined the American Medical Association.

Pierce and his wife, Aaronetta, co-founded the San Antonio Ethnic Arts Society in 1983 to increase the awareness and understanding of visual art of African American ancestry. They also started Premier Artworks, Inc., specializing in the marketing and sale of artwork and books by African Americans. Pierce amassed a collection of roughly 8000 books by African American authors, including mostly first editions. Pierce was also a part owner of the NBA's San Antonio Spurs basketball team from 1974 to 1988. Pierce was a life member of the NAACP. His other memberships include the Texas Society of Anesthesiology, the San Antonio Society of Anesthesiology, Bexar County Medical

Society and Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity. Pierce was inducted into the Prairie View Interscholastic League Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2008.

Pierce and his wife, Aaronetta, have two sons, Joseph and Michael.

Dr. Joseph A. Pierce, Jr. was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on June 8, 2018.

Related Entries

Oglethorpe Elementary School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Jack Yates High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

University of Michigan [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Texas Southern University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

B.S.

Meharry Medical College [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

U.S. Army [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1962 to 1970]

Physician

Anesthesia Consultants [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1970 to 2010]

Physician

NAACP [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Life Member

Texas Society of Anesthesiology [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Member

San Antonio Society of Anesthesiology [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Member

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity [MEMBEROF]
[from 1955 to ?]

Member

Beta Kappa Chi Honor Society [MEMBEROF]
[from 1955 to ?]

Member

American Medical Association [MEMBEROF]
[from 1970 to ?]

Member

Bryar County Medical Society [MEMBEROF]
[from 1970 to ?]

Member

Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity [MEMBEROF]
[from 1988 to ?]

Member