

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with E. Ginger Sullivan

PERSON

Sullivan, E. Ginger, 1933-

Alternative Names: E. Ginger Sullivan;

Life Dates: July 31, 1933-

Place of Birth: Pittsfield, Massachusetts, USA

Residence: Atlanta, Georgia

Occupations: Civic Leader

Biographical Note

Civic leader E. Ginger Sullivan was born on July 30, 1933 in Pittsfield, Massachusetts to Catherine Caesar and James Williamson. Sullivan attended Craneville Elementary School and Pittsfield High School. In 1955, Sullivan received her B.A. degree from Northeastern University. She later received her J.D. degree from Woodrow Wilson College of Law in the 1970s.

While attending Northeastern University, Sullivan served as a hepatic research technician at Yale School of Medicine. In 1958, she moved to New York, where she worked as a medical assistant. She later joined Massachusetts General Hospital as a cardiovascular researcher. An active member of Christ Church in Boston, Massachusetts, she helped plan the church's trip to attend the March on Washington in 1963. In 1975, Sullivan's husband, Dr. Louis Sullivan, was appointed dean of Morehouse College Medical Education Program. During his deanship, Sullivan clerked for a Fulton County Superior Court Judge and founded the Friends of Morehouse School of Medicine. After President George H.W. Bush appointed Dr. Louis Sullivan U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services in 1988, Sullivan served as a spokesperson for the National Cancer Institute on the early detection and treatment of breast and prostate cancers in 1989. During this time, Sullivan also joined the President's Commission on White House Fellowships for three years. In 1993, Sullivan and her family returned to Atlanta, where Dr. Louis Sullivan served as president of Morehouse School of Medicine until 2002.

Sullivan served as founder and co-sponsor of The Sullivan 5K Run/Walk Road Race for Health & Fitness on Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. She has also served on the boards of the High Museum of Art, the Alliance Theatre, True Colors Theatre in Atlanta, Wolf Trap, the Shakespeare Theatre in Washington, D.C., and the Arthritis

Foundation of Georgia, and was a strong supporter of Medical Education for South African Blacks (MESAB) and Africare. A member of the Buckhead Cascade Chapter of Links, Inc. and the auxiliaries to the Atlanta Medical Association and the National Medical Association, Sullivan was active in the Atlanta community.

Sullivan and her husband, Dr. Louis Sullivan, have three children: Paul, Shanta, and Halsted.

E. Ginger Sullivan was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on August 22, 2019.

Related Entries

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

Pittsfield High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Northeastern University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Atlanta Law School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

J.D.

Yale School of Medicine [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from ? to ?]

Hepatic Research Technician

National Cancer Institute [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1983 to ?]

Spokesperson on the early detection and treatment of breast and prostate cancers

Massachusetts General Hospital [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from ? to ?]

Cardiovascular researcher

Superior Court of Fulton County [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from ? to ?]

Law Clerk

[EMPLOYEEOF]
[from ? to ?]

Friends of Morehouse School of Medicine [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Founder

President's Commission on White House Fellowships [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Member

The Sullivan 5K Run/Walk Road Race for Health & Fitness [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Founder and Co-Sponsor

High Museum of Art [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Board Member

Alliance Theatre [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Board Member

True Colors Theatre [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Board Member

Wolf Trap [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Board Member

Shakespeare Theatre [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Board Member

Arthritis Foundation of Georgia [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Board Member

Links, Inc., Buckhead Cascade Chapter [MEMBEROF]

[from ? to ?]

Member