

Ethel Martin Bolden

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rs. Ethel Martin Bolden, daughter of Thomas and Ethel Sinkler Martin, was born in Charleston, South Carolina, and educated in the public schools of Richland District One. She attended Barber Scotia College in Concord, North Carolina and received her Bachelor of Science degree from Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte. Subsequent to her undergraduate studies, Mrs. Bolden matriculated at Atlanta University where she earned her Master of Science degree in Library Science. Recognized as a pioneer librarian, Mrs. Bolden was employed for 39 years in Richland District One public schools. Dedicated to literary excellence, this honoree advocated the pursuit of knowledge through reading and speaking. She inspired others to a love of books and scholarly materials. To this end, Mrs. Bolden established the first black elementary school library at Waverly Elementary School because of her commitment to ensuring equality of library services for African American students.

Following Mrs. Bolden's service as the W. A. Perry Junior High School librarian and due to her professional competence and interpersonal relations, she was appointed librarian at Dreher High School in Columbia. This represented the successful integration of faculty at Dreher. She was very active in professional associations such as the South Carolina Library Association and South Carolina Education Association. She utilized every opportunity available to her through organizations such as these to study, learn, and share knowledge. As a researcher, Mrs. Bolden explored avenues where she could acquire additional insight into black experiences in South Carolina and the United States. She was instrumental in the donation of thousands of papers and other pertinent material to libraries in the Columbia area.

Mrs. Bolden's active membership on the Board of Trustees of the Richland County Library brought her special recognition to the extent that a tree was planted in honor of her at the RCPL. She worked tirelessly for the 1993 construction of the nationally acclaimed Richland County Public Library in downtown Columbia.

Among her many civic involvements was membership on the South Carolina Human Relations Commission, the South Carolina State Museum Foundation Board of Directors, and the Columbia Community Relations Council. Mrs. Bolden dedicated her life to achieving peace among humanity as she demonstrated a commitment to bringing people of all races together. She was a founding member and elder at Northminster Presbyterian Church, a lifetime member of the NAACP, and a lifetime member of Gamma Nu Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. She was awarded the Order of the Silver Crescent for Volunteer and Community Service, the Order of the Palmetto, and was inducted into the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame.

Mrs. Bolden was married to Charles F. Bolden, Sr., a legendary high school football coach in Columbia. They were the parents of two sons, former U.S. astronaut Major General Charles F. Bolden, Jr., and Warren M. Bolden, Sr. Following a life of dedicated and distinguished service, Mrs. Bolden died on October 20, 2002.



MARCH



2004

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Writer Ralph Ellison was born in 1914.	2 Dr. Jerome H. Holland elected to the board of directors of the New York Stock Exchange in 1972.	3 Carole Gist was crowned first black Miss USA in 1990.	4 Garrett A. Morgan, scientist and inventor, was born in 1877.	5 Blanche Kelso Bruce of Mississippi elected to full term in U.S. Senate in 1975.	6 Dred Scott decision handed down by Supreme Court in 1857.
7 First cadets graduated from flying school at Tuskegee in 1942.	8 Senate refuses to seat P.B.S. Pinchback of Louisiana in 1876.	9 Clifton Wharton is sworn in as ambassador to Norway in 1961.	10 Harriet Tubman died in 1913.	11 Lorraine Hansberry play, "Raisin in the Sun," opened on Broadway in 1959.	12 Andrew Young born in 1932.	13 Fannie Lou Hamer, activist, dies, 1977.
14 Quincy Jones, composer and musician, born, 1933.	15 Los Angeles Sentinel founded by Leon H. Washington in 1933.	16 "Freedom's Journal" founded in 1827.	17 St. Patrick's Day Jackie Robinson made his professional debut as a member of the Montreal Royals in 1946.	18 Charlie Pride, country singer, born in 1938.	19 Nat King Cole was born in 1919.	20 First Day of Spring "Uncle Tom's Cabin" by Harriet Beecher Stowe was published in 1852.
21 Selma march began in 1965.	22 Marcus Garvey, Black nationalist, arrived in America from Jamaica, 1916.	23 NBA star, Moses "The Mailman" Malone was born in 1954.	24 AME Zion Church organized in S. C. in 1867.	25 Poll Tax ruled unconstitutional in 1966.	26 William H. Hastie confirmed as Federal District Judge of the Virgin Islands in 1937.	27 Arthur Mitchell, dancer and choreographer, born, 1934.
28 Slavery abolished in New York in 1799.	29 Pearl Bailey was born in 1918.	30 15th Amendment was enacted in 1870.	31 Jack Johnson, first Black heavyweight champion, born, 1878.			