

Hazel Winifred Johnson, America's First Black Woman General

The small brochure at the military induction center said "travel and see the world." As she read the words, young Hazel Johnson had no idea her journey would lead her to become the first African American military general in the history of the United States.

Five years after finishing her nurse training at the Harlem Hospital, Hazel joined the army. She would be sworn in as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Nursing Corps in 1960. That same year, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act. The very month that Johnson would put her life on the line as a commissioned officer in the Armed forces, the biggest civil rights battles erupted in our country's history.

In spite of the socio-political upheaval of the times, Hazel Johnson said she loved her country and was ready to fight for the freedom it guaranteed men and women of all races.

By taking advantage of the educational opportunities the military offered, Johnson earned a bachelor's degree in Nursing from Villanova University, a Master's degree in Nursing Education from Columbia University and a Ph.D. in Education Administration.

As a result of all of her drive and schooling, Johnson was promoted as the first African American woman chief of the Army Nursing Corps. She would be the first black female brigadier general in the U.S. military history.

Although her list of accomplishments are lengthy, some of them include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Meritorius Service Medal, and an Army Commendation Medal with an oak leaf cluster.



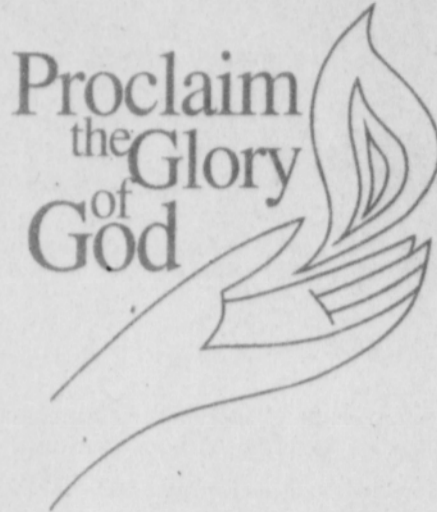
Hazel Winifred Johnson is the first African American military general of this country. She set high aspirations for serving her country and getting a higher education.

Hazel Johnson used hard work and education to pave her road to success. While holding down high-level military rankings over the years, she never gave up on her schoolwork and dreams of getting a higher education.

By giving up her normal civilian life for a military career, she stood by her belief that America would stand behind her.

Maranatha Church celebrates Black History Month

Building Divine Unity in the Community

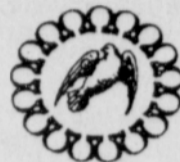


T. Allen & Daphne Bethel

Service Times

Sunday Morning ~ 10:30am
 Sunday Evening ~ 6:00pm
 (except 4th & 5th Sunday and Holidays)

Wednesday Night ~ 7:00pm
 (Activities for the whole family)



All services at:
 Maranatha Church
 4222 NE 12th Avenue (12th & Skidmore)
 503-288-7241

Dr. T. Allen Bethel, Senior Pastor
 Rev. Cynthia Brathwaite, Associate Pastor

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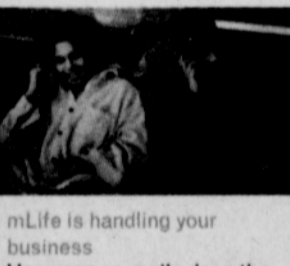
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