

MLK Daughter Remembered

Eldest child pursued father's dream of peace

A public memorial service will be held in Atlanta on Thursday at Ebenezer Baptist Church Horizons Sanctuary -- across Auburn Avenue from Ebenezer's historic sanctuary where Yolanda King's father Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once preached. Another service will be held in Los Angeles.

Yolanda King, 51, died May 22 in California where she appeared in numerous films, including "Ghosts of Mississippi," and played Rosa Parks in the 1978 miniseries "King." She also ran a production company.

Her death came less than a year and a half after Coretta Scott King died in January 2006 after battling ovarian cancer and the effects of a stroke.

She was the civil rights couple's eldest child and had pursued her father's dream of racial harmony through drama and motivational speaking.

Former Mayor Andrew Young, a lieutenant of her father's who has remained close to the family, said King was going to her brother Dexter's home when she collapsed in the doorway. Relatives think her death was related to a heart problem.

"Yolanda was lovely. She wore the mantle of princess, and she wore it with dignity and charm," said the Rev. Joseph Lowery, one of her father's close aides in the civil rights movement. He added she was "thoroughly committed to the movement and found her own means of expressing that commitment through drama."

The Rev. Jesse Jackson, who also worked with her father, said: "She lived with a lot of the trauma of our struggle. The movement was in her DNA." The Rev. Al Sharpton called her a "torch bearer for her parents and a committed activist in her own right."

Yolanda Denise King — nicknamed Yoki by the family — was born Nov. 17, 1955, in Montgomery, Ala., where her father was then preaching. Her brother Martin III was born in 1957; brother Dexter in 1961; and sister Bernice in 1963.



Yolanda Denise King



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his wife Coretta Scott King with three of their four children in their Atlanta, Ga. home on March 17, 1963. From left are Martin Luther King III, 5, Dexter Scott, 2, and Yolanda Denise, 7.

She was just two weeks old when Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a bus there, leading to the Montgomery bus boycott spearheaded by her father.

When she was 10 weeks old, the King family home was bombed in Jan. 30, 1956, as her father attended a boycott rally. Neither she nor her mother was injured when the device exploded on the front porch.

In 1963, when she was 7, her father mentioned her and her sib-

lings at the March on Washington, saying: "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

She was 12 when her father was assassinated in Memphis, Tenn., in 1968.



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Murder Suspect Wanted

A person who could have broken a leg in a fall to escape police is wanted in connection with a murder at the Cascadian apartments at 5700 N. Kerby Ave., located across the street from the Portland Community College Cascade campus.

Police said David Wayne French, 48, a transgendered person also known as Zalias Critza or "Z" is accused of killing his 51-year-old roommate Frank Johnson during a dispute over living arrangements and then jumped



David Wayne French

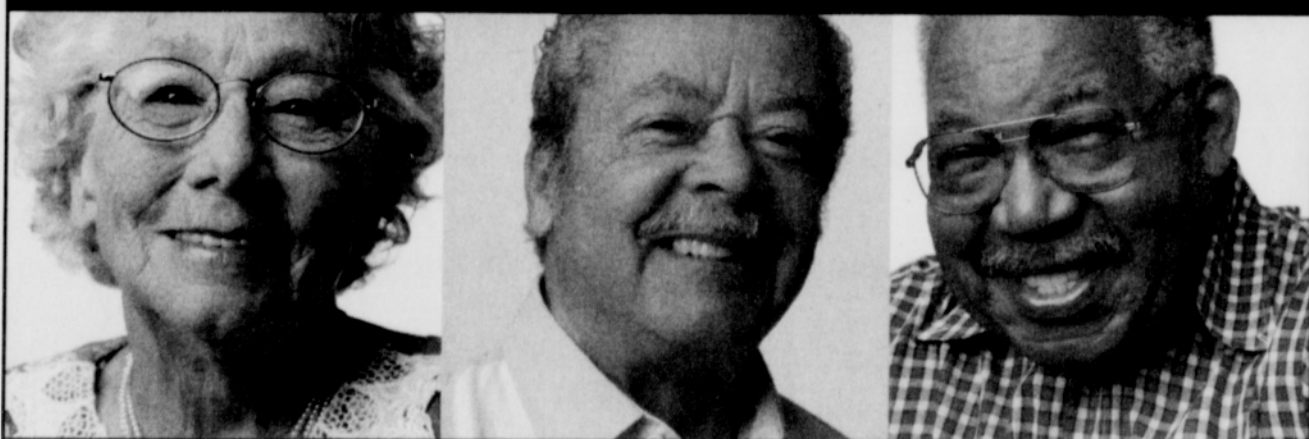
from his third story window to the ground below as police came knocking on the door.

Johnson died of blunt force trauma to the head. Police aren't sure what injuries French may have suffered.

French is described as 5 foot 6 inches tall and 130 pounds with shoulder-length brown hair. Any-

one with information is asked to call Detective Molly Daul at 503-823-0991 or Detective Barry Renna at 503-823-0255.

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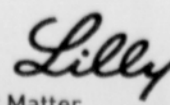
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Answers That Matter.

Student Stabbed at Roosevelt High

A 15-year-old Roosevelt High School student was stabbed in the back by a fellow student at the north Portland school around 9:30 a.m. Monday.

The victim sustained multiple non-life threatening stab wounds and was treated at Legacy Emanuel Hospital.

Portland Police Sgt. Brian Schmautz said they caught the suspect, 17-year-

old Mychal Green, after determining he stabbed the victim during a physical altercation in a school hallway because of a pre-existing problem. Green was charged with one count of Attempted Murder and was taken to the Juvenile Detention Hall in Portland.

Schmautz said the rest of the school was not placed in danger.

Church Questions Police Action

continued ▲ from Front

church dealing with the subject of modern-day refuge among key faith leaders, city officials and interested community members.

Church workers were additionally disturbed by the lockdown of the area and the operation's scale. The size of the SERT trucks and the number of officers involved

especially frightened Sam Earle, the site's preschool teacher.

"I was worried that some of the parents would ask me to put up a larger fence, but we don't want to shut out the community," she says.

The issues brought up by the incident "will remain high in our consciousness in the coming weeks," according to Joyce Kindschuh, secretary to Rev. Knutson.