



Clara Evans McIlwain

April 5, 1919 - May 17, 2016

Dr. Clara Evans McIlwain

Dr. Clara Evans McIlwain was born April 5, 1919, in Jacksonville, Florida, to Waymon and Jerusha Lee Evans. She was reared in Atlanta, Georgia, where the family lived with maternal Grandparents, Levi and Clarenda Dickson. After attending Kindergarten for two years, her Grandmother put her in school at the age of four (birth certificates were not required at that time). She attended South Atlanta Public School and David T. Howard Junior High and excelled in her studies. They lived near the campus of Clark University, which afforded a place of inspiration and cultural nurturing.

When Dr. Clara was 12 years old, she and her Mother, a Stenographer, who was employed by the National Benefit Life Insurance Company, moved to Washington, D.C., into the cold urban world. She attended Garnet Patterson Junior High School, Paul Lawrence Dunbar Senior High School and graduated from Miner Teachers' College (now the University of the District of Columbia) at the age of 20 years with a Bachelor of Science Degree.

She started to work as an Underclerk (CAF-1) at the Department of the Army, and worked for several government agencies, working her way through a maze of jobs and circumstances to a Professional Economist (Grade 13) in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. At one juncture, she taught History and

Geography at Hugh M. Brown Junior High School, Washington, D.C., eventually returning to the government.

She was a recipient of a Rockefeller Foundation Grant to attend the University of Florida, in Gainesville, at the age of 50 years (30 years after graduating from college), and received the Master of Agricultural Economics Degree.

Dr. Clara returned to work for the Economic Research Service (ERS) and the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO), U.S. Department of Agriculture, where she visualized making a difference in minority participation in agricultural programs. She evaluated the Rural Housing Program, the Rural Electrification Program, etc., traveled extensively, conducting workshops, and published a number of reports.

Dr. Clara married Ivy McIlwain, an inventor, of Lancaster, South Carolina, and is the Mother of Ronald E. McIlwain, Inventor and CEO of FilterSure, Inc., Rev. Dr. Carol McIlwain Edwards, author, Reading With Jesus™ – You Can Teach Your 4 or 5 Year Old Child To Read In 90 Days© and Owner, Rhema Reading Services, LLC, Marilyn Ross-Moody, Retired Principal, New York City Department of Education, Ivy M. Lindsay, President and CEO of Anointed Solutions.

She is Grandmother of Fred D.C. Ross, Jr., Celeste Ross-Barry, Tai White-Johnson, Leigh Ann Penn, and Wayne Lindsay. She is the Great-Grandmother of Audrianna, L'Tisha, Tierra, Wendell, Fred D.C. Ross, III, Alexis and Lillian.

The extended family includes Willie Lindsay, Son-in-law, Alpha Barry, Grandson-in-law, Keisha Ross, Granddaughter-in-law, and Jarrett Penn, Grandson-in law.

Dr. Clara Evans McIlwain, a Jerusalem Pilgrim, Baptized in the Jordan River, President of Evans Unlimited, is a member of the First Baptist Church of Deanwood, Washington, DC, former Governor of Area XXIV, Toastmasters International, The International Platform Association, Omicron Delta Epsilon (Honor Society in Economics), the Southern Agricultural Economics Association, the Research Board of Directors of the American Biographical Institute, Inc., and the American Association of Notaries. She taught Economics at the Washington Saturday College, GTU, "All of the Miracles of the Old Testament" at Miracle Faith Center Bible College, "Steps To Eloquence With The Word Of God" at Christ Kingdom Culture Church, Fort Washington, Maryland, and the First Baptist Church of Deanwood Academy, Washington, DC, Writer, Science Weekly Magazine, Chevy Chase, Maryland, Coordinator and Instructor of Youth Leadership and Speechcraft Programs of Toastmasters International, Washington area, served on Board of Directors and Instructor of the Saturday Tutorial Enrichment Program, Arlington, Virginia, secretary to International Student Exchange, Washington, DC, cited in the World's Who's Who of Women, Business and Industry, and Directory of Black Economists.

She has traveled extensively in the United States, the West Indies, Europe and the Middle East.

At age 86, Dr. Clara received the Doctor of Humane Letters Degree from Breakthrough Bible College, Temple Hills, Maryland.

At the age of 82, Dr. Clara, a born-again, spirit-filled believer, ministered to Senior Citizens at New Life Mission Ministries, Clinton, Maryland, once a month, where Evangelist Dr. Catherine Clark is the Founder, telling them to "Get Over Getting Older", has written a book, Steps to Eloquence with The

Word Of God© and Co-Author with her daughter, Rev. Dr. Carol McIlwain Edwards, Blazing The Trail To The Kingdom Of God©.

An avid reader, she also worked with her son, praying, assisting in strategic business planning for Filtersure, Inc. and with her daughter, praying, writing, editing, planning for workshops for Rhema Reading Services, LLC and other business pursuits.

She has endeavored to stay involved to make a difference for our children. She is a testament of the classic southern upbringing espousing, "You are a child of God," "Take care of your body," "Stand up straight and tall, "Be a lady, if it kills you!," "Get your education, and realize your dreams," "Reach for the stars" (from Mr. McIlwain) and "Persist and persevere until the end!!!"

Cemetery Details

Lincoln Memorial Park

4001 Suitland Road
Suitland, MD

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 31. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

1st Baptist Church of Deanwood
1008 45th St. NE
Washington, DC

Service

MAY 31. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

1st Baptist Church of Deanwood
1008 45th St. NE
Washington, DC

Tribute Wall



“ *I love you Mommie. I miss you.*

Ivy Jean

lmisorich@yahoo.com - May 31, 2016 at 10:07 AM



“ *I love you grandma.... Rest in peace Queen..*



Celeste Ross-Barry - May 28, 2016 at 11:30 PM



“ *The Greater Bronx (NY) Chapter of The Links, Inc. purchased the Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet for the family of Clara Evans McIlwain.*



The Greater Bronx (NY) Chapter of The Links, Inc. - May 28, 2016 at 10:11 AM



“ *Rose Impression Casket Spray was purchased for the family of Clara Evans McIlwain.*



May 26, 2016 at 11:25 PM

LH

“ *Link Gloria Hill-James purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Clara Evans McIlwain.*



Link Gloria Hill-James - May 25, 2016 at 01:35 PM

CN

“ *The Greater Bronx (NY) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated sends our deepest condolences to Marilyn Ross-Moody and her family during this difficult time. "May the angels in heaven send comfort in the days of storm. May the prayers of those you love be with you to give you strength to face the loss."*



Tribute Poem to Dr. Clara Evans McIlwain:

*"She Shall be Praised"
Proverbs 31: 10, 25-31*

*Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.
Strength and honor are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.*

She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness.

She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth no the bread of idleness.

Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.

*Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.
Favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.*

Give her the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.

Cynthia Ngombe - May 25, 2016 at 12:34 PM

CM

“ *Cherrie Maples lit a candle in memory of Clara Evans McIlwain*



Cherrie Maples - May 23, 2016 at 03:21 PM

CM

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Cherrie Maples - May 23, 2016 at 03:20 PM

CM

“ *"Mom McIlwain" your beauty and grace is beyond this world's height, length or depth. How your warm loving smile, intelligence, wisdom and laughter impacted my life to be a better human being, woman, and child of the most high God. Thanks for adopting me in the McIlwain family 30 years ago. You will always be in my heart as the role model who taught how to live and age with perseverance, a desire to learn and never stop learning. You redefined the aging process to pursuit of the adventure of the life span process. You are extraordinary and now you are with our Lord and I have no doubt eager to learn and serving our King who is Jesus!*

Love you, Cherrie Maples

Cherrie Maples - May 23, 2016 at 03:18 PM