

Roanoke Public Libraries
Gainsboro Library
Alphonzo L. Holland, Sr. Collection

Collection Description

Repository: Gainsboro Branch of Roanoke Public Libraries

Title: Alphonzo L. Holland, Sr. Collection

Physical Characteristics: One (1) record storage box.

Arrangement: Items are arranged in folders in alphabetical order by item-type or subject; items within the folders are arranged chronologically.

Creator: Alphonzo L. Holland, Sr.

Reproduction Restrictions: No known restrictions on publication. Gainsboro Library copy fees apply.

Processor: Megan Koehler Mizak, 12 August 2020.

Biographical Note:

Alphonzo (Al) LaSalle Holland, Sr. was born 27 December 1916 to Gus and Dora (née Saunders) Holland. He was married twice, first to Susie Fishburn Holland until her death and later to Sara Williams Pettigrew. He had four children Al Holland Jr., Carrieoma Brooks, Mary Ann Cummings and Tom Pettigrew.

Holland graduated from Lucy Addison High School in Roanoke, Virginia and later attended Hampton Institute in Hampton, Virginia and LaSalle University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

He served in the Army during World War II and was stationed in the Philippines. Holland later served in the Army Reserves.

Holland was employed at Norfolk & Western, beginning as a janitor and retiring as Assistant Manager for Tariff Compilations in 1985 after 45 years of service.

He was a civic volunteer and community activist and was active in many civic and Christian organizations, including serving as president of the Roanoke Chapter of the NAACP, on the board of trustees at High Street Baptist Church, God's House Baptist Ministry, Big Brothers Big Sisters, YMCA Family Center, League of Older Americans, Virginia Museum of Transportation; he was a Boy Scout Leader and mentor for Lucy Addison Middle School. He was a Freemason and a member of the Delta Nu Alpha Transportation Fraternity and the American Legion. Additionally in 2003, Roanoke City Council gave him the Citizen of the Year award.

Holland died on 12 December 2015.

Scope and Content:

- The Alphonzo L. Holland, Sr. Collection consists of one (1) record storage box.
- The collection includes various documents including correspondence, certificates, programs, pamphlets, news clippings, photographs, a City of Roanoke Proclamation and several audio cassette tapes.
- This collection dates approximately from the 1970s to 2015.

Container List:

Box 1 of 1

Folder 1: Birthday Celebrations

Folder 2: Certificates

Folder 3: City of Roanoke Proclamation

Folder 4: Correspondences 1974 - 1985

Folder 5: Correspondences 1992 - 1999

Folder 6: Correspondences 2000 - 2007

Folder 7: Democratic National Committee

Folder 8: League of Older Americans

Folder 9: Lloyd Hackley

Folder 10: N.A.A.C.P.

Folder 11: National Conference for Christians and Jews

Folder 12: National D-Day Memorial

Folder 13: News Clippings

Folder 14: Noel C. Taylor Learning Academy

Folder 15: Oral History Interview Audio Cassette Tapes 2004

Folder 16: Photographs

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| AH 01 | Al Holland (left) and unidentified man. |
| AH 02 | Al Holland on a charter bus, Nation D-Day Memorial, 6 June 2001. (Mailed to Al Holland from William A. McIntosh, National D-Day Memorial Foundation on 4 September 2001.) |
| AH 03 | Carroll Swain, Dr. Todd Moye (Director of the National Park Service Tuskegee Airmen Oral History Project, Chauncy Spence (96 years old,) and Al Holland. 9 February 2002. |
| AH 04 | Al Holland, 2002. (Mailde to Al Holland from William A. McIntosh, National D-Day Memorial Foundation on 4 February 2002.) |
| AH 05 | Al Holland (left) and unidentified woman. |

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| AH 06 | Al Holland (second from left) and unidentified men. |
| AH 07 | Al Holland and his car on Patton Avenue. |
| AH 08 | Al Holland (second from left) and an unidentified group. |
| AH 09 | Al Holland (fourth from left) and an unidentified group on the gangplank of the Spirit of Norfolk, Norfolk, Virginia. 20 August 1999. |
| AH 10 | Al Holland at the Gainsboro Library. 2004. |
| AH 11 | Al Holland at the Virginia Museum of Transportation. June 2007. |

Folder 17: Programs

Folder 18: Roanoke Valley Regional Conference on Community Relations

Folder 19: Roanoke Valley War Memorial

Folder 20: World War II

Folder 21: YMCA