

ScoopUSA Black History Corner



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SCORPIO - October 23 - November 21



SCORPIO – The Intense One
Very energetic. Intelligent. Can be jealous and/or possessive. Hardworking. Great kisser. Can become obsessive or secretive. Holds grudges. Attractive. Determined. Loves being in long relationships. Talkative. Romantic. Can be self-centered at times. Passionate and emotional.

The Opal is the stone for the month of October

Opal has been called the Cupid stone because it reflects the complexion of Eros, the Greek god of love. In the Middle Ages, opal was thought to render the wearer invisible, thus it was recommended for thieves to wear opals. Ancient Arab culture believed opals fell from heaven, acquiring their play of color from flashes of lightning. To the Romans, the opal was the symbol of hope and purity. They called it "Cupid Paederos", a child beautiful as love. The Roman senator Nonius chose to go into exile rather than surrender an opal to Mark Anthony and most opals are 50-65 million years old, dating back to the Cretaceous period when dinosaurs walked the earth.

October 26

Your home is your castle and there are but few things outside of it that interest you. You are intellectual, conservative, and artistic, enjoy reading and have considerable literary ability. You have a magnetic personality, enjoy the admiration of your friends and have no real enemies.

1856 (Kwaku) Walker Lewis, abolitionist a, Freemason and Mormon elder dies in Lowell, MA.

1897 G.W. Kelley is awarded patent 592,591 for a steam table.

1897 C.V. Richey is awarded patent 592,448 for a railroad switch

1899 (William Julius) Judy Johnson, Negro League Baseball, player, is born in Snow Hill, MD.

1910 Ruth Wright Hayre, first African American high school teacher in Philadelphia is born in Atlanta, GA.

1911 Mahalia Jackson, gospel singer, is born in New Orleans, LA.

1914 Claude A. Jeter, gospel singer (The Dixie Hummingbirds), is born in Montgomery, AL.

1916 (Solomon Charles) Crown Prince Waterford, jazz and blues singer (All Over But the Shoutin), is born in Jonesboro, AR.

1919 Edward William Brooke, III, former US Senator, is born in Washington, DC.

1926 (Robert) Bob 'The grinder' Baker, heavyweight professional boxer, is born in Canonsburg, PA.

1935 Gloria Conyers Hewitt, third African American woman to receive a doctorate degree in mathematics, is born in Sumpter, SC.

1938 John 'Jabo' Starks, funk and blues drummer with James Brown, (Sex Machine) is born.

1944 Emanuel Cleaver, II, US Representative from Missouri, is born in Waxahachie, TX.

1951 (William Earl) Bootsy Collins, bassist, singer, songwriter and member of Parliament-Funkadelic, is born in Cincinnati, OH.

1952 Hattie McDaniel, first African American actress to win an Academy Award, dies in Woodland Hill, CA.

1954 Stephen L. Carter, law professor, novelist (The Emperor of Ocean Park), is born.

1954 James Pickens, Jr., actor (Grey's Anatomy), is born in Cleveland, OH.



State Senator Vincent Hughes

1956 Vincent Hughes, member of the Pennsylvania State Senate, is born in Philadelphia, PA.

1956 Regina Benjamin, Surgeon General of the US is born in Mobile, AL.

1962 Louise Beavers, actress, (Imitation of Life), dies in Hollywood, CA.

1963 Troy Anthony 'C' Carter, member of the New Orleans, Louisiana City Council, is born in New Orleans, LA.

1971 Pedro Jaime Martinez, Major League Baseball player, is born in Manoguayabo, Dominican Republic.

1976 (Elbridge) Al Bryant, founding member of The Temptations, dies in Flagler County, FL.

1977 Chaz Lamar Shepard, singer and actor (The Game), is born in Philadelphia, PA

1978 Antonio Durran Pierce, National Football League player, is born in Ontario, CA.

1979 Jonathan Chase, actor (One On One), is born in Boca Raton, FL.

1992 Melvin Dixon, professor of literature and author (Trouble the Water) dies.



Dr. Ruth Wright Hayre

1994 Wilbert Harrison, singer (Going to Kansas City), dies in Spencer, NC.

1995 Hamilton E. Holmes, orthopedic physician and one of the first two African Americans to attend University of George and the first African American to Attend the Emory University School of Medicine, dies in Atlanta, GA.

2005 David Townsend, guitarist for the R&B band, Surface dies in New Jersey.

2010 James Phelps, gospel singer and cofounder of the Clefs of Cavalry, dies in New York, NY.

October 27

You are emotional, tempestuous, lose your temper quickly and just as quickly regain control of yourself. You are inclined toward nervousness and like to keep busy all the time. You are affectionate, demonstrative and impulsive I your love and require a steadfast love in return. You should marry young.

1891 P.B. Downing is awarded patents 462,093 and 462,096 for a letterbox and street letterbox respectively.

1896 W. Purdy is awarded patent 570,337 for a device for sharpening edged tools.

1924 Ruby (Ann Wallace) Dee (Davis), actress is born in Cleveland, OH.

1931 Richard B. Spikes is awarded patent 1,828,753 for a method and apparatus for obtaining average samples and temperature of tank liquids.

1933 (Elijah Jerry) Pumpsie Green, Major League Baseball player, is born in Boley, OK.

1937 Rene C. Metoyer, attorney and first African American notary public in Louisiana, dies in New Orleans, LA.

1940 Julius Eastman, composer, pianist and dance minimalist (Evil Nigger), is born in Ithica, NY.

1941 Ernest Everett Just, biologist whose recognition of the fundamental role of the cell surface in the development

of organisms and co-founder of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., dies in Washington, DC.

1943 (Weldon Jonathan Irvine, Jr.) Master Well, pianist, and composer (To Be Young, Gifted and Black), is born in Hampton, VA.

1943 (George Maurice Hopkins) Africa Cain, author (Blueschild Baby), is born in New York, NY.

1944 Joseph Samuel Clark, president of Southern university, dies in New Orleans, LA.

1946 Nathan Francis Mossell, first African American graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, dies in Philadelphia, PA.

1951 (Jayne Harrison) Jayne Kennedy, actress, model and sportscaster, is born in Washington, DC.

1953 U.L. Washington, Major League Baseball player, is born in Stringtown, OK.

1956 Charles Spurgeon Johnson, first African American president of Fisk University, dies in Nashville, TN.

1958 Judy A. Smith, founder, president and CEO of a crisis management firm (Smith & Company) whose work is the inspiration for the television program (Scandal), is born in Washington, DC.

1960 Ron Wayne Shepherd, Major League Baseball player, is born in Longview, TX.

1963 Olivia Larkins Howard, co-founder of Chi Eta Phi



Chaz Lamar Shepard

Sorority, Inc. (nursing sorority), dies.

1963 (Leon Joseph) Bip Roberts, Major League Baseball player, is born in Berkeley, CA.

1965 Charles Spurgeon Johnson, first African American president of Fisk University and author (Shadow of the Plantation), dies in Louisville, KY.

1966 Ray Lathon, professional boxer, is born in St. Louis, MO.

1966 Majora Carter, public radio host, is born in South Bronx, NY.

1977 (Zabdiel) Zab Judah, professional light welterweight and welterweight boxer, is born in Brooklyn, NY.

1981 Louis Metcalf, jazz trumpeter, dies in New York, NY.

1987 John Oliver Killins, author (And Then We Heard The Thunder), dies in Brooklyn, NY.

1987 Andrew Bynum, National Basketball Association player, is born in Plainsboro, NJ.

1988 Evan Marcel Turner, (The Villain) National Basketball Association player, is born in Chicago, IL.

1993 Earl C. Banks, head coach at Morgan State University, dies in Baltimore, MD.

1994 Robert Willie White, guitarist for Motown's in house studio, dies in Los Angeles, CA.

2003 Walter Washington, first mayor of Washington, DC, dies in Washington, DC.

2009 Roy DeCarava, artist (The Sound I Saw), dies in New York, NY.

2010 (James Earl) Jimmy Wall, actor and stage manager (Captain Kangaroo), dies in New York, NY.

October 28

You are a generous, light-hearted and optimistic. You are fond of entertainment and amusement. You are artistic and musical and take a prominent part in the social life of your circle. Although not confiding yourself, other confide in you. You are dependable, trustworthy and sweet-tempered. You will have a happy and quiet life.

1892 (Ollie) Dink Johnson jazz pianist, clarinetist and drummer, is born in Biloxi, MS.

1927 (Clementina Dinah Campbell) (Dame) Cleo Laine, singer and actor (The Mystery of Edwin Drood), is born in Southall, Middlesex England.

1935 (Robert Andrew) Bob Veallie, Major League Baseball player, is born in Birmingham, AL.

1937 (Leonard Randolph) Lenny Wilkens, basketball player, is born in Brooklyn, NY.

1941 Dennis Fowler Hightower, US Deputy Secretary of Commerce, is born in Washington, DC.

1947 Carl Compton Bell, physician, President and CEO of Community Mental Health Council, Inc., is born in Chicago, IL.

1948 Thelma Louise Hopkins, actress (Family Matters) and singer (Tony Orlando & Dawn), is born in Louisville, KY.

1949 Tracy Reed, actor (A Piece of the Action), is born in Fort Benning, GA.

1963 Sheryl Underwood, comedian and panelist on The Talk, is born in Little Rock, AR.

1964 (Leonard Anthony) Lenny Harris, Major League Baseball player, is born in Miami, FL.

1965 Earl Bostic, saxophonist and pioneer of the post-war American Rhythm and Blues, dies in Rochester, NY.

1968 Chris Broussard, sports analyst for ESPN, is born in Baton Rouge, LA.

1975 Oliver Nelson, saxophonist, clarinetist, arranger and composer, dies.

1978 Justin Guarini, actor and singer (first runner up on American Idol), is born in Columbus, GA.

1979 Natina Reed, rap artist and actor (Bring it On), is born in New York, NY.

1980 Helena Andrews, journalist and author (Bitch is the New Black), is born in Washington, DC.

1983 (Antonia) Toya Wright (Johnson), reality television personality (ex-wife of Lil Wayne) and author (Priceless Inspiration) is born in New Orleans, LA.

1985 Troian Bellisario, actor (Pretty Little Liars), is born in Los Angeles, CA.

1987 (Christopher Breaux) (Christopher Francis Ocean) Frank Ocean, songwriter and rap artist (Novacane), is born in New Orleans, LA.

1991 Billy Wright, jump blues singer (Walking the Blues), dies in Atlanta, GA.

2003 Oliver Sain, saxophonist and songwriter (Don't Mess up a Good Things), dies in St. Louis, MO.

2006 Trevor Berbick, heavyweight professional boxer dies in Norwich, Port Antonio Jamaica.

2010 Walter Payton, Jr. jazz bassist and sousaphonist, dies in New Orleans, LA.



Judy A. Smith

Know your History and Culture. If you do not know where you come from, you cannot and will not know where you can go.