

ScoopUSA Black History Corner

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SAGITTARIUS - November 22 - December 21



SAGITTARIUS – The Happy-Go-Lucky One

Good-natured optimist. Doesn't want to grow up (Peter Pan syndrome). Indulges self. Boastful. Likes luxuries and gambling. Social and outgoing. Impatient. Fun to be around. Having lots of friends. Flirtatious. Does like rules. Dislikes being confined – tight space or ever-tight clothes. Doesn't like be doubted. Beautiful inside and out.

Turquoise was the stone for the month of December in ancient Mexico, turquoise was reserved for the gods and could not be worn by mere mortals. In the 13th century, turquoise was thought to protect its wearer from falling especially from horses. Legend says tears of joy combined with rain seeped into mother earth to become sky stone or turquoise. Native Americans believe that attaching turquoise to a bow would help the arrows hit their mark. In Tibet today, turquoise was by far the most popular of all materials used for personal adornment; it also plays an important part in religious ceremonies. Turquoise was discovered by the Egyptians around 3000 B.C. and was used in their finest jewelry and ornaments.

December 13

You are bold, fearless, venturesome and impetuous, make decision quickly and act on them immediately. You have the respect and esteem of all and your opinions are always desired and respected. You have many friends and your home life will always be happy.

1895 Sonny Greer, jazz drummer and vocalist, is born in Long Branch, NJ.

1898 C.R. Richey is awarded patent 615,907 for combined hammock and stretcher.

1903 Ella Baker, executive director for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, is born in Norfolk, VA.

1916 (Archibald Lee Wright) Archie Moore, professional boxer, is born in Benoit, MS.

1923 (Lawrence Eugene) Larry Doby, first African American Major League Baseball player in the American League, is born in Camden, SC.

1925 Ozell Sutton, one of the first African American to serve in the US Marine Corps, is born in Gould, AR.

1931 (Wycliffe Nathaniel) Bubba Morton, Major League Baseball player, is born in Washington, DC.

1935 (Joseph O'Neal) Joe Christopher, Major League Baseball player is born in Frederiksted, US Virgin Islands.

1942 (Ferguson Arthur) Fergie Jenkins, Major League Baseball player, is born in Chatham, Ontario Canada.

1942 Robert Robinson Taylor, first accredited African American Architect, dies in Tuskegee, AL.

1943 Maurice Hines, actor, singer and choreographer (first African American director at Radio City Music Hall), is born in New York, NY.

1945 Herman Cain, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City and candidate for the 2012 US Republican Party presidential nomination, is born in Memphis, TN.

1950 Afemo Omilami, actor (The Blind Side), is born in Petersburg, VA.

1952 (Sylvester Ritter) Junkyard Dog, professional wrestler, is born in Wadesboro, NC.

1957 Morris E. Day, musician, composer and lead singer of The Time, is born in Minneapolis, MN.

1958 Lurrie C. Bell, blues guitarist and singer (Everybody Wants to Win), is born in Chicago, IL

1958 (Phillip Gregory) Phil Hubbard, National Basketball Association player, is born in Canton, OH.

1958 Tim Moore, actor (Kingfish Stevens on Amos 'n Andy), dies in Los Angeles, CA.

1959 Charlie 'Fess' Johnson, jazz bandleader and pianist dies, in New York, NY.

1960 (George Arthur) Rusty Cundieff, director and actor (This Is Spinal Tap), is born in Pittsburgh, PA.

1964 (Judge Kenneth Peterson) Lucky Peterson blues and gospel guitarist and keyboardist, is born in Buffalo, NY.

1965 Eslanda 'Essie' Goode Robeson, anthropologist and wife of Paul Robeson, dies in New York, NY.

1967 (Linnethia Monique Johnson) NeNe Leakes, socialite (The Real Housewives of Atlanta) is born in Queens, NY.

1967 (Eric Marlon Bishop) Jamie Foxx, comedian and actor is born in Terrell, TX.

1969 Spencer Williams, producer and actor (Andy in Amos 'n Andy), dies in Los Angeles, CA.

1976 Barry Allan Gardner, National Football League player, is born in Harvey, IL.

1979 Nellie Pratt Russell, incorporator of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., dies in Lawrenceville, VA.

1981 (Dewey) Pigmeat Markham, African American entertainer, dies in The Bronx, NY.

1983 John Ayers Merritt, head football coach at Jackson State University and Tennessee State University, dies in Nashville, TN.

1986 (Donald Weems) Kuwasi Balagoon, member of the Black Liberation Army and defendant in the Panther 21 case, dies in prison.



Cindy Birdsong

1986 Henry M. Winston, Marxist civil right activist, dies in the Soviet Union.

1992 Elbert Wilkins, singer with The Dramatics (Whatcha See is Whatcha Get), dies.

2003 Webster English Young, jazz trumpeter and cornetist, dies in Vancouver, WA.

2006 Homesick James, blues slide guitar player dies in Springfield, MO.

Birthday: Austin Lander, singer with New Birth

December 14

You have a logical mind and hold firmly to your opinions and ideals. You are positive and aggressive, sometimes domineering, sarcastic and critical. You are serious and studious, although somewhat vain and enjoy witty and intellectual society.

1829 John Mercer Langston, first African American elected to US Congress from Virginia, is born in Louisa County, VA.

1882 Lavinia Norman, one of the original founders of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., is born in Montgomery, WV.

1892 (James Edgar) Jimmy Claxton, first African American to play organized white baseball in the twentieth century, is born in Wellington, British Columbia Canada.

1898 (Castello) Lillian Randolph, (younger sister of Amanda Randolph), actor (It's A Wonderful Life), is born in Knoxville, TN.

1899 Deford Bailey, country music star and the first African American performer on the Grand Ole Opry, is born in Smith County, TN.

1906 Elizabeth Evelyn Wright, founder of the Denmark Industrial Institute in Denmark, South Carolina, dies in Battle Creek, MI.

1915 Jerry Daniels, singer (tenor) with The Ink Spots, is born.

1917 Martha Davis, pianist and singer (Daddy-O), is born in Wichita, KS.

1920 Clark Terry, trumpeter and flugelhorn player, is born in St. Louis, MO.

1924 (Melinda Helen Matthews) Linda Hopkins, actress and singer is born, in New Orleans, LA.

1925 (Samuel) Sam Jones, Major League Baseball player is born in Stewartsville, OH.

1930 Fred David Gray, first African American President of the Alabama State Bar, is born.

1931 Phineas Newborn, Jr., jazz pianist is born in Whiteville, TN.

1934 (John Alfred Moore) Johnny Moore, singer with The Drifters, is born in Selma, AL.

1937 Warren Ryanes, singer with The Monotones (Book of Love), is born in Newark, NJ.

1939 Clarence M. Mitchell, III, Maryland State Senator, is born in St. Paul, MN.

1939 (Ernest) Ernie Davis, National Football League player and the first African American to win the Heisman Trophy, is born in New Salem, Fayette County, Pennsylvania.

1940 Carolyn Rodgers, poet and founder of Third Word Press, is born in Chicago, IL.

1942 Constance A. Howard, member of the Illinois House of Representatives, is born in Chicago, IL.

1945 Stanley Crouch, columnist and author (Don't the Moon Look Dark), is born in Los Angeles, CA.

1946 Joyce Vincent Wilson, singer with Tony Orlando and Dawn, is born in Detroit, MI.

1954 Maurice Surrell, Sr., singer with the Jackson Southenaries, is born in Jackson, MS.

1960 Kevin David Corlette, professor and Chair of the Department of Mathematics University of Chicago, is born.

1960 Don Franklin, actor (seaQuest DSV), is born in Chicago, IL.

1963 Dinah Washington, singer 'The Queen of the Blues,' dies in Detroit, MA.

1965 (Kenneth) Ken Wade Hill, Major League Baseball player, is born in Lynn, MA.

1968 (Roger McBride) King Tee, rap artist (Act a Fool), is born in Compton, CA.

1968 Madaline A (Worthy) Williams, first African American woman elected to the New Jersey Legislature, dies in Glen Ridge, NJ.

1970 Corey James Hodges, preacher and columnist (The Salt Lake Tribune), is born in St. Petersburg, FL.

1971 (Richard Ihetu) Dick Tiger, professional boxer, dies.

1975 Brian Dalrymple singer with Soul for Real, is born in Wheatley Heights, NY.

1980 (Samuel) Sam Aiken, National Football League player, is born in Clinton, NC.

1980 Elston Gene Howard, the first African American NY Yankee Major League Baseball player, dies in New York, NY.

1983 Johnny D. Bright, Canadian Football League player, dies in Edmonton, Alberta Canada.

1998 Aloysius Leon Higginbotham, Jr., author and federal appeals court judge, dies in Boston, MA.

2006 (Michael Jones) Mike Evans, actor (All in the Family and The Jeffersons), dies in Twentynine Palms, CA.

December 15

You are reserved and unobtrusive and, in your own quiet way, accomplish a great deal. You have a retentive memory, lean readily and impart your knowledge easily to others. You would make an excellent teacher. You are bright, witty and very entertaining, fond of fun and traveling.

1883 William Augustus Hinton, bacteriologist, pathologist and the first African American professor at Harvard University, is born in Chicago, IL.

1924 Henry Madison Eldridge, mathematician and Associate Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs at Fayetteville State University, is born in Montgomery, AL.

1929 Barry Doyle Harris, pianist and educator, is born in Detroit, MI.

1932 Murphy Pace, Jr., gospel singer (father of the Pace Sisters), is born in Fulton County, GA.

1932 Jesse Lorenzo Belvin, singer (Goodnight My Love), is born in San Antonio, TX.

1934 Maggie Lena Walker, first African American female bank president, dies in Richmond, VA.

1934 Curtis Fuller, trombonist with the Jazztet, is born in Detroit, MI.

1936 Donald Goines (Al C. Clark) author (Dopefiend), is born in Detroit, MI.

1939 (Cynthia Ann) Cindy Birdsong singer with Patti LaBelle & the Bluebells and The Supremes, is born in Mount Holly Township, NJ.

1943 (Thomas Wright) Fats Waller, pianist composer and singer (Ain't Misbehavin'), dies in Kansas City, MO.

1946 Carson Ross, first African American mayor of Blue Springs, Missouri, is born in Warren, AR.

1946 Harry Ray, singer (The Moments and Ray, Goodman & Brown), is born in Long Branch, NJ.

1950 Doug(las) McHenry, film director and producer (New Jack City), is born in Oakland, CA.

1954 (Oscar) Papa Celestine, singer, bandleader and trumpet player, dies in New Orleans, LA.

1959 Donna Brazile, political analyst and first African American to direct a major presidential campaign is born in Kenner, LA.

1961 Alvin Brown, first African American mayor of Jacksonville, Florida is born in Beaufort, SC.

1961 Reginald Alan Hudlin, film director (House Party), is born in Centreville, IL.

1962 Byron Cage, gospel-recording artist, is born in Grand Rapids, MI.

1963 David Grover Stacey Wingate, Jr., National Basketball Association player, is born in Baltimore, MD.

1967 (Maurice Samuel) Mo Vaughn, Major League Baseball player, is born in Norwalk, CT.

1975 John Scott, Jr., Canadian Football League player and coach for Texas Tech, is born in Omaha, NB.

1979 Jackie Brenston, saxophonist and singer (Rocket 88), dies in Memphis, TN.

1980 Alexandra Wifnield Stevenson, professional tennis player, is born in LaJolla, CA.

1981 George O. Gore, II, actor (My Wife and Kids), is born in Fort Washington, MD.

1985 Desmond J. Bryant, National Football League player, is born in Shorewood, IL.

1986 (William) Will Ford, National Football League player, is born in Travelers Rest, SC.

1986 Andre Brown, National Football League player is born in Baltimore, MD.

1987 Septima Poinsette Clark, 'grandmother' of the Civil Rights Movement, dies in Johns Island, SC.

1995 John Dillard) Johnny Lytle, jazz vibraphonist, dies in Springfield, OH.

1998 Rowena Moore, founder of the Malcolm X Memorial Foundation in Omaha, Nebraska, dies in Omaha, NB.

2000 Derwin Brown police Captain and sheriff-elect is assassinated, in DeKalb County, GA.

2001 Rufus Thomas singer (Walking the Dog and father of Carla Thomas) dies in Memphis, TN.

2007 Julia May Porter-Carson, US Representative from Indiana, dies in Indianapolis, IN.

2008 Geraldine McCullough, sculptor and painter dies in River Forest, IL.

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