

Biography

I am a native of the Motor City Detroit, Michigan, and was born in Women's Hospital on November 17, 1959. I watched my mother return to Wayne State to receive her degree and began teaching in the Detroit system. A single mother of four, she always encouraged us to strive for greatness. She was able to send myself and my twin sister to Immaculate High School.

I began my college career at Oakland Community College majoring in Emergency Medical Technology in 1978, Wanted more, I joined the Michigan Air National Guard in 1979. I loved to serve my county, I was able to serve 16 years and achieved the rank of Staff Sergeant. My term I received numerous awards which included life-saving awards, Air Force Commendation medal, Meritorious Service medal, Bronze award, Unit Citation, Leadership Management Certificate, Noncommissioned Officer certificate and Administration Specialist certificate.

Working several jobs, I joined the Detroit Police Department in 1986. I poured my heart and soul into my chosen profession. I married and later divorced and taught my daughter Jessica the values I hold. During my career on the department, I received several Meritorious awards, Perfect Attendance award, Officer of the Quarter, Department Citation award and Four Lifesaving awards. The highest award I received from the police department was a Citation for Valor after I climbed into a crashed aircraft to free the pilot to eliminate further injuries.

I returned to Oakland Community College in 1993 majoring in Aviation Technology which I received many certificates and a FAA license for Single Engine Airplane while making the Dean's List. I was one of three officers chosen to develop a Community Policing Program for the Tenth Precinct in Detroit. This Program became very successful and is still used today.

Knowing my love of flying, my friend, Benny Napoleon transferred me to the Aviation Unit the same day he became the Chief of Police. Chief Napoleon always encouraged his officers to achieve high every day. That transfer Chief Napoleon made that day made history. I became the first female helicopter pilot for the City of Detroit Police Department. I also became the First African American Helicopter Pilot in law enforcement for the entire country. That transfer gave me the opportunity to meet Jerome who also had the love of flying and we have been together ever since. The achievements I made produced The Spirit of Detroit Award and Testimonial Resolution awarded from the Detroit City Council. During my career at Detroit, I received Certificates for Community Policing, Executive Protection, Advanced Executive Protection, Breath Test Operator, Defensive Operation, Auto Theft Investigation, Field Training Officer. In 2002, I received an Award of Recognition Salute to Women of Excellence of the Detroit City Council.

I retired from the Detroit Police Department and immediately joined the Wayne County Sheriff Department. I began working the jail at Division One patrolling the inmates. I later was transferred to Frank Murphy Hall of Justice. I continued to

achieve as a deputy to receive Meritorious Recognition, Sheriff Citation, and several additional certifications. In 2007, I was injured in a vehicle accident and was told I would not be able to return to law enforcement. While in rehabilitation I received my certificate in culinary becoming a chef. Several surgeries later and aggressive rehabilitation, I was able to return to the career I loved for many years. In 2015 I was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. I continued to work at Division One and strived to earning the respect from my Officers and Inmates I was supervising. In 2021 I resigned from Wayne County to run for the position of Sheriff to attempt to correct many of the problems of the Department.