

# Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Augustus Colson

PERSON

Colson, Augustus, 1936-2017

**Alternative Names:** Augustus Colson;

**Life Dates:** May 25, 1936-November 11, 2017

**Place of Birth:** Chaires, Florida, USA

**Residence:** Tallahassee, FL

**Occupations:** Publishing Chief Executive

## Biographical Note

Evangelist Augustus Colson was born to Minnie and Willie Colson in Chaires, Florida on May 25, 1936. He was the eldest of seven siblings and grew up in a religious family of four ministers. Determined to be in journalism, he practiced lettering art and graphics. Multi-talented, Colson graduated from Lincoln High School in 1955, with numerous awards in art. Colson's interest in journalism was finally realized at Alabama State College in Montgomery, under the tutelage of art professor Howard L. Oubre. In 1966, Colson graduated with a B.S. from Florida A & M University and turned his full attention to writing and art.

After several attempts to break into the media in Los Angeles, California without any success, Colson then returned to Tallahassee and started his own advertising production company. The company's resulting in-house publication, Church Times, was an instant success in showcasing local ministries. Furthermore, it provided a vehicle for the professional and personal growth and expansion of other graphic artists, illustrators, journalists, poets and photographers in the Georgia/Florida area. Church Times has been cited for its commitment to inspire and promote the rich traditions of Tallahassee's religious community since 1983.

Colson passed away on November 11, 2017 at the age of 81.

## Related Entries

**Lincoln High School** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

## **Diploma**

**Alabama State University** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

## **B.S.**

**University of Southern California** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Florida A&M University** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 198711 to ?]

## **Painter**

**U.S. Army** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 195812 to 196011]

## **Artist and Specialist Four**

**Hughes Aircraft Corp.** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1968 to 1970]

## **Technical Illustrator**

**Self Employed** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1980 to 1987]

## **Commercial Artist**

**Lively Technical School** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 198609 to 198709]

## **Commercial Instructor**

**Mt. Sinai A.M.E. Church** [MEMBEROF]  
[from 1986 to 2002]

## **Evangelist (Youth)**