

became the first black Democrat elected to the Ohio House. In 1967, he became mayor of Cleveland, serving during a critical time in the history of my home town. After 4 years as mayor, he moved on to a television journalism career in New York City, to election as a municipal judge and finally as U.S. Ambassador to the Seychelles.

The Reverend Jesse Jackson said about Carl Stokes, all that exists now in the political spectrum for African-Americans are seeds from trees that Carl Stokes planted. He has left a proud legacy to his family, to the Cleveland community and to America.

OBITUARY OF U.S. AMBASSADOR CARL B. STOKES

Carl Burton Stokes died on April 3, 1996, at the age of 68, following a battle with cancer. With his passing, America mourned the loss of one of its most famous sons. Ambassador Stokes may be one of America's most vivid examples of how this nation has responded to the drive for success by the members of what was only one hundred and thirty-three years ago an enslaved group of people. Ambassador Stokes' life has been one of a series of "firsts" for African Americans. America's first Black mayor of a major American city became the first African American ever to be elected to all three branches of government—the legislative, the executive and the judicial.

In November, 1962, Stokes became the first Black Democrat in the history of the State of Ohio to be elected to the Ohio General Assembly. He was re-elected in 1964 and 1966. At that time, members of the Assembly were elected county-wide. Cuyahoga County's population was only 14% Black. Stokes remains the only Black Democrat ever elected county-wide to the Ohio State Legislature.

On November 13, 1967, Stokes attracted international attention when he was sworn in as Mayor of the City of Cleveland—the first Black mayor of a major American city, population 810,000. Since Cleveland was only 37% Black at that time, it also marked the first time an African American has been elected mayor of a predominately white major city of this nation.

In that election, Clevelanders selected Stokes, the grandson of a slave over Seth Taft, the grandson of a United States President. Subsequently, Mayor Stokes was asked by the White House to represent the United States on goodwill trips to Europe. As such, he was received by many heads of state, including nations where relations were strained, such as Romania and Yugoslavia. He was also sent to the Caribbean on missions to Puerto Rico, the Bahamas, Barbados, and Trinidad. His visit to Israel resulted in a friendship with Mayor Teddy Kolleck of Jerusalem that endures to this day.

In 1970, the 15,000 member National League of Cities, composed of mayors and city and county officials from throughout the nation, unanimously voted Stokes as president-elect to head their organization—the first Black official ever to hold that office.

Having completed two terms as mayor, Stokes decided to end his political career and begin a new one in broadcast journalism. In April, 1972, Carl Stokes became the first Black anchorman to appear daily on a television news program in New York City. At NBC's flagship station, WNBC-TV, Stokes also served as urban affairs editor and was often assigned to the United Nations where he interviewed many heads of state and other foreign dignitaries. Additionally, as a correspondent, he traveled throughout sev-

eral nations of Africa, including Gambia, Zambia, Uganda, Kenya, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe.

In September, 1980, after eight years as an award-winning broadcast journalist, Stokes returned to Cleveland and to the practice of law. He became the first Black lawyer to serve as General Counsel to a major American labor union—the United Auto Workers, Region 2 and 2A. Stokes also represented Cleveland's largest city labor union—Laborers' Local 1099, among others.

On November 8, 1983, Stokes was elected as Judge of Cleveland Municipal Court, Ohio's largest court. A few weeks later, on December 22nd, his 12 colleagues elected him Administrative Judge of the Court. And on January 9, 1984, his fellow-judges elected him as their Presiding Judge. Never before had a freshman judge been elected Administrative/Presiding Judge of the thirteen-judge Municipal Court. He served two terms as head of the Court.

Ambassador Stokes' election was a benchmark in American history since few Americans—and no other African American—has ever been elected to the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government in our nation.

Carl Stokes was born on June 21, 1927, in Cleveland, Ohio. He was only two years old when his father, Charles, a laundry worker, died. His widowed mother, Mrs. Louise Stokes, supported her two sons by working as a domestic and for a time the family was on public assistance. He and his older brother, Louis, who is now in his 14th term as Ohio's first Black U.S. Congressman, augmented the family income as newspaper carriers for the *Old Cleveland News*, and by working in neighborhood stores. Congressman Stokes is the senior member from the Ohio delegation to Congress and is the ranking minority member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs-Housing and Urban Development-Independent Agencies.

Once a high school drop-out, Ambassador Stokes has received honorary doctorate degrees from 14 colleges and universities around the country. He has been a visiting lecturer at academic universities and business institutions throughout the United States, Trinidad, Haiti, Puerto Rico, the Bahamas, England, France, Germany and Italy.

On Tuesday, November 2, 1993, Stokes was re-elected to a third six-year term as Judge of Cleveland Municipal Court.

On Friday, August 26, 1994, President Bill Clinton appointed then-Judge Stokes as his Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States to the Republic of the Seychelles. In this post, Carl was given the opportunity not only to serve the United States in a diplomatic position, but he also derived the satisfaction of displaying his professional qualifications in an international forum. Carl served as Ambassador to the Republic of Seychelles until the time of his death.

The passing of Carl Burton Stokes brings to close a life of love, commitment and inspiration. He was a leader, a visionary, a role model, and above all, a pioneer. His feat of becoming America's first Black mayor of a major American city changed the landscape of American politics. But above all, Carl was proudest of the fact that he was the first Black American to acquire the political power to break down barriers and open unprecedented opportunities for minorities. This will stand as a legacy and lasting tribute to a remarkable individual.

Left to mourn Carl's passing is his loving wife, Rajia Stokes; two sons, Carl B. Stokes, Jr., and Cordell E. Stokes; a stepson, Sasha Kostadinov; and two daughters, Cordi D. Awad and Cynthia Sophia Stokes. In addi-

tion, he leaves to mourn two granddaughters, Jevonne Larajja Stokes and Cybil Quinn McBee; a grandson, Cordell E. Stokes, Jr., and his brother and sister-in-law, Louis and Jay Stokes. Other relatives include a nephew, Chuck Stokes; three nieces, Shelley Stokes Hammond, Judge Angela R. Stokes and Lori Stokes Thompson. Additionally, Carl leaves to mourn Linton Freeman, whom Carl considered to be a special cousin and dean of the family. He also leaves Wynona Jones, Elizabeth Bowes, Blanche Richards, Katie Walker, and a host of other relatives and friends, all of whom were special to Carl in his lifetime.

SUNDRY MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sundry messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Mr. Sherman Williams, one of his secretaries.

□ 1415

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. SMITH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. SMITH of Michigan addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

TRIBUTE TO HERB CAEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California [Ms. PELOSI] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, they say that a picture is worth a thousand words, and in this visual era that we live in that has never been truer. But words have power, too, and a name, Herb Caen, to our community was worth 1,000 words every single day for nearly 60 years, mostly with the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

Last week we suffered a great loss in our community with the passing of Herb Caen. It was a tremendous loss for the entire Bay area community. Indeed, Herb Caen gave us our sense of community with his sense of humor.

But 1996 was a great year for Herb. It was the year he turned 80, it was the year he got married, it was the year he was awarded the Pulitzer prize, and it was the year that our community recognized him at Herb Caen Day. This special day was put on by Willie Brown, the mayor of San Francisco, and our Chief of Protocol, Charlotte Maillard, and over 75,000 people turned out to pay tribute to Herb Caen and to name an over-3-mile stretch of street in San Francisco Herb Caen Way.

Seventy-five thousand people, joined Walter Cronkite and Joel Grey and