

Guide to the Marie and James B. McMillan Photograph Collection

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**University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections
and Archives.**

Box 457010

4505 S. Maryland Parkway

Las Vegas, Nevada 89154-7010

special.collections@unlv.edu

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	McMillan, Marie E., 1926-
Contributor:	McMillan, James B., 1917-1999
Title:	Marie and James B. McMillan Photograph Collection
ID:	PH-00334
Date [inclusive]:	1900-1994
Date [bulk]:	1940-1994
Physical Description:	0.04 Cubic Feet (1 hanging folder)
Physical Description:	0.04 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Marie and James B. McMillan Photograph Collection (1900-1994) contains photographs of Marie and James B. McMillan and their families. The collection also includes photographs of their friends and professional associates, including journalist Hank Greenspun, Nevada civil rights pioneer J. David Hoggard, and entertainer Sammy Davis Jr. Marie McMillan is a former Las Vegas, Nevada flight instructor and one of the first women to work at the Nevada Test Site in Nye County, Nevada. James B. McMillan was the first African-American dentist to practice in Nevada, as well as a prominent Nevada civil rights leader.

Preferred Citation

Marie and James B. McMillan Photograph Collection, 1900-1994. PH-00334. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Pilot and educator Marie McMillan was born Marie Stever in 1926 and was raised in Northern California. She earned her Associate's degree at the University of California, Berkeley before marrying Elisha "Duke" Daly. Daly served as a radio operator on several naval ships during World War II. After World War II, the couple worked at Ernest O. Lawrence's radiation laboratory in Berkeley, California. In 1957, they moved to Nevada and worked at the Nevada Test Site (NTS) and Marie became one of the first women to work there.

While at the NTS, McMillan began learning how to fly planes. In 1978, she decided to challenge several aviation records and over the course of the next decade, she set 657 new records. In addition to flying, she also had an active career in several aviation organizations, including serving as the United States' delegate to several of the Federation Aeronautique Internationale conferences. She also served as the Clark County Department of Aviation public information representative for McCarran Airport and as a member of the Flying Ninety-Nines, a female aviation organization.

In the 1960s, Marie McMillan and "Duke" Daly's marriage ended. In 1964, Marie married dentist and Nevada civil rights leader Dr. James B. McMillan. In 2005, she was given the Distinguished Nevadan Award by the Nevada System of Higher Education.

Source:

"Marie E. McMillan." Nevada Aerospace Hall of Fame. Accessed October 11, 2018. http://www.nvahof.org/hof/marie_mcmillan/

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Biographical Note

Civil rights leader James B. McMillan was born in 1917 in Aberdeen, Mississippi and moved to Michigan in 1931 with his family. He finished his high school education in Hamtramck, Michigan where he was the first African-American captain of the football and track teams. In 1936, he opted to enroll at the University of Detroit rather than the segregated University of Michigan. After graduation, he moved to Nashville, Tennessee to attend Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry.

While at Meharry, McMillan joined the Army Specialized Training Program and was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the Army Dental Corps. He was the first African-American man assigned to the 49th Battalion, which was stationed in Calcutta, India, and he rose to the rank of Captain. In 1946, he was honorably discharged. In 1954, he was recalled to active duty in Indiana and promoted to Major. He received a second honorable discharge in 1955 and moved to Las Vegas, Nevada, where he lived until his death in 1999.

McMillan was the first African-American dentist in Nevada. He served as a member of the State Board of Dental Examiners, the American Board of Dental Examiners, and the American Dental Association. He was also active in the community, serving as Director of the Clark County Boys Club, Director of the Diabetic Society, on the board of directors for the KVBC television station, and as a member of the City of Hope fundraising committee.

McMillan was a prominent civil rights leader and an integral part of desegregation efforts in Nevada. He served as president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Las Vegas branch, chairman of the Economic Opportunity Board of Clark County, and president of the Black Chamber of Commerce (now known as the Urban Chamber of Commerce). In addition, he founded the Las Vegas Human Rights Commission, served on the Clark County School Board, was elected president of the West Las Vegas Democratic Club, and became the first African-American to served on the State Democratic Central Committee. He was also the first African-American from Nevada to run for the United

States Senate and campaign for Las Vegas City Council. In 1960, as local NAACP president, McMillan threatened to march on the Las Vegas Strip to demand desegregation of public accommodations. Later, McMillan threatened another march to force casinos to hire blacks in positions other than porters and maids. In both cases, the casino owners capitulated. McMillan also orchestrated large voter registration drives to encourage minorities to vote.

In 1990, James B. McMillan Elementary School was dedicated in his honor. Weeks after McMillan's death in 1999 the Nevada State Assembly passed Concurrent Resolution No. 49 to honor McMillan's commitment to civil rights and racial equality.

Source:

"Dr. James B. McMillan: Committed to Freedom." Online Nevada Encyclopedia. Accessed July 16, 2014. <http://www.onlinenevada.org/articles/dr-james-b-mcmillan-committed-freedom>

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Scope and Contents Note

The Marie and James B. McMillan Photograph Collection (1900-1994) contains photographs of Marie and James B. McMillan and their families. The collection also includes photographs of their friends and professional associates, including journalist Hank Greenspun, Nevada civil rights pioneer J. David Hoggard, entertainer Sammy Davis Jr., and Nevada business owner Katherine Joseph and her sewing factory. Marie McMillan is a former Las Vegas, Nevada flight instructor and one of the first women to work at the Nevada Test Site in Nye County, Nevada. James B. McMillan was the first African-American dentist to practice in Nevada, as well as a prominent Nevada civil rights leader.

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Arrangement Note

Materials remain in original order.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated periodically from 2004 to 2010 by Marie McMillan; accession numbers 2004-06 and 2011-21.

Processing Note

In 2018, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Christina Lamoureux wrote the finding aid and entered the data into ArchivesSpace.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

The following resources may provide additional information related to the materials in this collection:

Marie and James B. McMillan Papers, 1928-2010. MS-00482. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Marie McMillan oral history interview, 2009 September 15, 2009 September 23, 2009 October 01, and 2009 November 24. OH-01272. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

James McMillan oral history interview, 1999 January 23. OH-01272. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Photographs
- Family life
- African Americans -- Political activity -- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Segregation -- Nevada -- Las Vegas -- History
- Fund raising
- African Americans -- Civil rights -- Nevada -- Las Vegas
- Civil rights

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Marie and Dr. James B. McMillan, 1969 May 31 (0334_0001) (view online)	folder 01
James B. McMillan while in the service, 1940 to 1945 (0334_0002) (view online)	folder 01
James B. McMillan posing by his sports car with a camera, 1963 May (0334_0003) (view online)	folder 01
Jack Daly (Marie's son) holding Jeff McMillan with James McMillan, Jr., 1968 (0334_0004) (view online)	folder 01
From left to right: Michelle Daly (Marie's daughter), Marie McMillan holding her son Jeff McMillan, and Jeri McMillan (James B. McMillan's daughter), 1967 December (0334_0005) (view online)	folder 01
James B. McMillan posing by his sports car, 1963 (0334_0006) (view online)	folder 01
James B. McMillan and a friend at the Carlisle barracks in Pennsylvania, 1945 (0334_0007) (view online)	folder 01
Meeting at the Moulin Rouge Hotel coffee shop to end segregation on the Las Vegas Strip. Clockwise from left: Woodrow Wilson (NAACP), Lubertha M. Warden Johnson, Bob Bailey (NAACP), Clesse Turner (County Commissioner), Butch W.E. Leypoldt (Sheriff), Hank Greenspun (Las Vegas Sun), James B. McMillan (President of the NAACP), Oran Gragson (Mayor), Dr. Charles I. West, Ray K. Sheffer (Chief of Police), Art Olsen (County Commissioner), possibly J. David Hoggard, and Donald Clark (NAACP), 1960 March (0334_0008) (view online)	folder 01
Pastor James B. Empey presenting Sammy Davis Jr. with an award. From left to right: Dr. James B. McMillan, Dr. Charles I. West, Sammy Davis Jr., and Pastor James B. Empey of the St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church., 1962 (0334_0009)	folder 01
The first Freedom Fund banquet at the Las Vegas Convention Center Gold Room. From left to right: James B. McMillan, Tarea Hall Pittman (regional director of the NAACP), and Dr. Charles I. West presenting an award to Woodrow Wilson, 1958 (0334_0010) (view online)	folder 01

Meeting with the City of Las Vegas Recreation Department regarding a new Little League Football program. From left to right: James B. McMillan, Tommy Harmon, Marcus Haynes, and Tony Durham, 1956 (0334_0011) (view online)	folder 01
Portrait of James B. McMillan's mother, Rosalee Gay McMillan (Benning), and her family taken in Hamtramck, Michigan. Rosalee is in the bottom row, second from the right, 1900 to 1920 (0334_0012) (view online)	folder 01
Officers of the Valley View Golf Club. From left to right: Jimmie Gay, Henry Moore, Jim Roberts, Andy Breuner, unknown, and James B. McMillan, 1958 (0334_0013) (view online)	folder 01
Many of the original members of the Valley View Golf Club. From left to right: Willie "Punch" Hughes, Marshall Branch, Mr. Caperton, unknown, Jonas Geran (Barber), Henry Moore, Willie Brewster, Jim Roberts, unknown, Andy Breuner, James B. McMillan, unknown, Lorenzo Calhoun, and Jimmie Gay, 1958 (0334_0014) (view online)	folder 01
Fundraiser at the NAACP Valley View Golf Club. From left to right: James B. McMillan, J. David Hoggard, Herb Mills, Claude Perkins, Sarrann Knight, Willie "Punch" Hughes, and Lorenzo Calhoun, 1972 November (0334_0015) (view online)	folder 01
Links Black and White Ball at Caesars Palace	
From left to right: Bob Bailey, Oran Gragson, unknown, and James B. McMillan, 1987 November 28 (0334_0016) (view online)	folder 01
From left to right: Grant Sawyer, Johnny West, Howard Cannon, unknown, Bob Bailey, Hank Greenspun, Oran Gragson, unknown, and James B. McMillan, 1987 November 28 (0334_0017) (view online)	folder 01
From left to right: Adellair Gay, Joe Williams, Anna Bailey, and Bob Bailey, 1987 November 28 (0334_0018) (view online)	folder 01
From left to right: Greg Morris, Jillian Williams, Joe Williams, James B. McMillan, Marie McMillan, and Hank Greenspun, 1987 November 28 (0334_0019) (view online)	folder 01
From left to right: Teresa Jones, Jeff McMillan, Marie McMillan, and James B. McMillan, 1987 November 28 (0334_0020) (view online)	folder 01
Portrait of James B. McMillan, 1990 (0334_0021) (view online)	folder 01
James B. McMillan behind Al Gore (U.S. Vice President) at the Advance Technologies Academy (ATA), 1996 October 21 (0334_0022) (view online)	folder 01
Alice Key and James B. McMillan, 1994 March (0334_0023) (view online)	folder 01
Marie McMillan and Gloria May at McCarran International Airport, 1981 January 26 (0334_0024) (view online)	folder 01
Katherine Joseph's sewing factory	
Katherine Joseph (right) with an unidentified woman in blue, 1994 April (0334_0025) (view online)	folder 01
Katherine Joseph holding a skirt, 1994 April (0334_0026) (view online)	folder 01
An unidentified woman in blue holding an article of clothing, 1994 April (0334_0027) (view online)	folder 01

An unidentified woman working at a sewing machine, 1994 April (0334_0028) (view online)	folder 01
Sewing materials and thread, 1994 April (0334_0029) (view online)	folder 01
Workspace with Katherine Joseph in background, 1994 April (0334_0030) (view online)	folder 01
An unidentified woman in blue at her sewing machine, 1994 April (0334_0031) (view online)	folder 01
Katherine Joseph and an unidentified man, 1994 April (0334_0032) (view online)	folder 01
Katherine Joseph, 1994 April (0334_0033) (view online)	folder 01
James B. McMillan Elementary School dedication ceremony	
Unidentified woman playing the piano, 1990 November (0334_0034) (view online)	folder 01
Closeup of an unidentified man giving a speech, 1990 November (0334_0035) (view online)	folder 01
Unidentified man giving a speech, 1990 November (0334_0036) (view online)	folder 01
Children's performance, 1990 November (0334_0037) (view online)	folder 01
Attendees giving James B. McMillan (seated) a round of applause, 1990 November (0334_0038) (view online)	folder 01
Marie and James B. McMillan, 1990 November (0334_0039) (view online)	folder 01
James B. McMillan giving a speech, 1990 November (0334_0040) (view online)	folder 01
James B. McMillan giving a speech, 1990 November (0334_0041) (view online)	folder 01
Closeup of Jesse Scott giving a speech, 1990 November (0334_0042) (view online)	folder 01
Jesse Scott giving a speech, 1990 November (0334_0043) (view online)	folder 01
J. David Hoggard giving a speech, 1990 November (0334_0044) (view online)	folder 01