

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Shirley Hughes

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Hughes, Shirley, 1945-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Shirley Hughes,
Dates:	August 9, 2002
Bulk Dates:	2002
Physical Description:	4 Betacame SP videocassettes (1:38:52).
Abstract:	Corporate executive Shirley Hughes (1945 -) is the senior vice president of Ceridian Corporation in Minneapolis and is a member of the Minnesota Women's Economic Roundtable. Hughes was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on August 9, 2002, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2002_141
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

A corporate executive, compensation specialist and technology expert, Shirley J. Hughes is Senior V.P. of Human Resources at Minneapolis-based Ceridian Corp. of Minneapolis, a \$1.2 billion information services company serving human resources and transportation markets. Born on December 6, 1945 in Minneapolis, Hughes was one of four children. Her father, a skycap at what became Northwest Airlines also worked as a professional golfer. Her sister, Joyce Hughes, is a law professor at Northwestern University School of Law.

Hughes graduated from Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa with a B.A. in Political Science in 1966. She began her corporate career in 1967 as a compensation administrator and systems integrator at Control Data. Leaving in 1989 as V.P. of Human Resources, she spent a year at Seagate Technology. She returned in 1991 to the company that had now been reformed as Ceridian Corp., as V.P. of Human Resources and Information Services. She then headed up Trinity Health (formerly Mercy Health Services) in Bloomington Hills, Michigan, a \$2.3 billion integrated health care provider, returning to Ceridian in 1998.

Civic-minded and dedicated to the idea of giving back to the community, Hughes is active in many civic and business organizations. She is on the National Association of Manufacturers' Board of Directors and sits on the boards of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Twin Cities, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Minnesota and Minneapolis Downtown Council. She is a member of the Minnesota Women's Economic Roundtable. Hughes also has been a member of the Drifters, an African American women's civic organization and the Minneapolis Urban League.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Shirley Hughes was conducted by Larry Crowe on August 9, 2002, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and was recorded on 4 Betacame SP videocassettes. Corporate executive Shirley Hughes

(1945 -) is the senior vice president of Ceridian Corporation in Minneapolis and is a member of the Minnesota Women's Economic Roundtable.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Persons:

Hughes, Shirley, 1945-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Hughes, Shirley, 1945---Interviews

African American women executives--Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Corporate Executive

HistoryMakers® Category:

BusinessMakers

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Shirley Hughes, August 9, 2002. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Shirley Hughes, Section A2002_141_001_001, TRT: 0:28:10 ?
Shirley Hughes describes her family background. Her mother, Bessie Cunningham, was born in Birmingham, Alabama in 1911. Cunningham's father was a carpenter, and supervised the distribution of a Birmingham newspaper. Cunningham met Solomon Hughes while working as a teacher in Gadsden, Alabama. Solomon Hughes was born in Turkey Town, Alabama in 1907. When he met Cunningham, he was working as a professional golfer and golf instructor. He taught Charlie Sifford, who integrated the Professional Golfers' Association of America, as well as Joe Louis. Cunningham and Solomon married in the mid-1900s and settled in Minneapolis, Minnesota. They had four children,

including Shirley Hughes on December 6, 1945. During Hughes' childhood her mother was a homemaker, and her father worked various jobs, including a skycap for Northwestern Airlines and a Pullman Porter. At Minneapolis Central High School, Hughes was a cheerleader, and member of the Student Council and Spanish Club. She also dreamt of becoming a psychologist.

African American women executives--Interviews.

Video Oral History Interview with Shirley Hughes, Section A2002_141_001_002, TRT: 0:30:30 ?

Shirley Hughes graduated from Minneapolis Central High School in 1962, and enrolled at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. She majored in biology, but changed her major to political science. Hughes was a cheerleader, a member of Student Encampment and a member of Delta Chi Beta Sorority, which was chartered at Coe College so she could join a sorority as black student. Hughes graduated in 1962 with her B.S. degree in political science, and enrolled in a graduate program in urban affairs at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, which she left. Hughes worked for the State of Wisconsin and the Model Cities Program in Minneapolis, Minnesota before she was hired to write training contracts for Control Data Corporation (CDC) in 1967. She matriculated into CDC's human resources department, and became the Vice President of Human Resources by the time she left in 1989. CDC restructured in the 1990s, becoming Ceridian Corp. In 1991, Hughes returned as its Vice President of Human Resources and Information Services.

Video Oral History Interview with Shirley Hughes, Section A2002_141_001_003, TRT: 0:26:10 ?

Shirley Hughes became the Senior Vice President of Human Relations for Ceridian Corp. in 1998. Her career with the company spanned a little over thirty years cumulatively, making her one of the most senior African American women in Corporate America at the time. Hughes retired from Ceridian Corp. in 2005. She reflects upon her success, and describes her human resources philosophy, which includes treating others with dignity and respect. Hughes also explains how healthy work environments increase productivity. Hughes comments on organized labor, how labor agitation has changed over time, and minorities in Corporate American. Hughes' is involved civically, and sits on the Board of Directors of Big Brothers, Big Sisters, mentors youth, and participates in programs that aid senior citizens. Hughes closes the interview by talking about her family, legacy, and how she would like to be remembered.

Video Oral History Interview with Shirley Hughes, Section A2002_141_001_004, TRT: 0:14:02 ?

Shirley Hughes narrates her photographs.