

# Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Winston Pittman

PERSON

**Pittman, Winston, 1950-**

**Alternative Names:** Winston Pittman;

**Life Dates:** August 31, 1950-

**Place of Birth:** Grenada , Mississippi, USA

**Residence:** Louisville, KY

**Work:** Louisville, KY

**Occupations:** Automobile Sales Entrepreneur

## Biographical Note

Automobile sales entrepreneur Winston Pittman was born on August 31, 1950 in Grenada, Mississippi to Mary Purnell Pittman and W.C. Pittman. Pittman attended Montgomery County Vocational High School in Kilmichael, Mississippi and Mary Holmes Junior College in West Point, Mississippi before he transferred to Jackson State College. He left Jackson State College during his senior year to accept a position with the United Parcel Service. From 1972 until 1975, Pittman worked as a hub manager for the United Parcel Service in Jackson, Mississippi. He then sought a career in the automotive industry and became a car salesman at Capital Dodge in 1975. Pittman quickly rose through the ranks of the company and worked as a used car manager, a new car manager, and, in 1981, a finance and insurance manager. In 1983, he was promoted to the position of general manager of Capital Dodge. Then, after completing the Chrysler's dealer development program, Pittman purchased his first dealership in 1988. He purchased Cardinal Dodge, Inc. in Louisville, Kentucky and founded Pittman Enterprises, where he served as president and chief executive officer. Pittman Enterprises grew to include dealerships in Kentucky, Ohio, Georgia, and South Carolina.

Pittman was named Black Enterprise's Dealer of the Year in 2002 and, from 1994, was consistently listed on the magazine's "Auto Dealer 100" list. Pittman also received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Association of Minority Automobile Dealers in 2006, was named a legendary and exemplary leader by the African Methodist Episcopal Church in 2010, and was the recipient of the Isaac Murphy Businessman of the Year Award in 2013.

Pittman served as president of the Toyota/Lexus Minority Dealers Association and as chairman for the National Association of Minority Automotive Dealers. He was also a member of the Dodge National Dealer Council, the Lexus National Dealer Council, and the DaimlerChrysler Minority Dealers Association. Pittman volunteered his time as a board member of Fifth Third Bank, the University of Louisville's Board of Overseers, the Lake Forest Country Club, Duquesne University Boy Scouts of America, and Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church.

Pittman and his wife, Alma Dent Pittman, have three children: Winston, Misty, and Jabari.

Winston Pittman was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on August 14, 2017.

## Related Entries

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

**Pittman Enterprise** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1988 to ?]

**President and CEO**