

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Charles O. Stewart

PERSON

Stewart, Charles O., 1949-

Alternative Names: Charles O. Stewart;

Life Dates: February 27, 1949-

Place of Birth: Sweet Home, Arkansas, USA

Residence: Little Rock, AR

Work: Little Rock, AR

Occupations: Bank Executive

Biographical Note

Bank executive Charles O. Stewart was born on February 27, 1949 in Sweet Home, Arkansas to Ola Stewart and Frank Stewart. He graduated from Horace Mann High School in Little Rock, Arkansas and received his B.A. degree in sociology and political science from the University of Arkansas, Little Rock in Little Rock, Arkansas, his graduate certificate in business from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana in 1979, and his certificate in lending from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Arkansas.

Stewart worked in accounting for the Teletype Corporation from 1968 to 1971 before being hired at First Commercial Bank as a financial officer. In 1981, he was promoted to senior vice president. In 1997, he left First Commercial Bank and joined Regions Financial Corporation as senior vice president and corporate director of community development and served there for ten years. In 2007, he was promoted to executive vice president of Regions Bank and then he became interim chief executive officer of Heifer International in 2009. In 2014, he founded Stewart Real Estate Development and served as its chief executive officer.

Stewart was a founding board member of Little Rock Preparatory Academy and also served on the board of Heifer International as chair and vice chair as well as on the boards of the Federal Small Business Advisory Council, the Arkansas Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts (IOLTA) Foundation, Arkansas Repertory Theater, Philander Smith College, the Health Policy Board of the Arkansas Center for Health Improvement, and the Arkansas State Police Commission. He was also an advisory board member of the National Institutes of Health of Washington, D.C, and on the

boards for the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ), the Governor's Blue Ribbon Committee on Higher Education. He also served as the founder and chair of the Arkansas Black Hall of Fame.

Stewart has earned many honors including the NAACP Black Corporate Executive Award, The Empowerment Award from the African Women's Health Project International, the Mrs. David Terry Humanitarian Award, the Outstanding Young Executive Award from the Greater Little Rock Chamber of Commerce, the President's Award from the University of Arkansas, Little Rock, the National Conference for Community and Justice Humanitarian Award, and in 2006, the executive conference room at Heifer International was named in his honor.

Charles O. Stewart was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on September 18, 2017.

Related Entries

Booker T. Washington Elementary School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Dunbar Magnet Middle School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Horace Mann High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

University of Arkansas at Little Rock [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Louisiana State University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Arkansas State University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Teletype Corporation [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1968 to 1971]

Accountant

First Commercial Bank [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1971 to 1997]

Senior Vice President

Regions Financial Corporation [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1997 to 2007]

Senior Vice President

Regions Bank [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 2007 to 2008]

Executive Vice President

Heifer International [EMPLOYEE OF]
[from 2009 to 2010]

CEO

Stewart Real Estate Development [EMPLOYEE OF]
[from 2014 to ?]

CEO