

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Curtis T. Jewell

PERSON

Jewell, Curtis T., 1943-

Alternative Names: Curtis T. Jewell;

Life Dates: September 8, 1943-

Place of Birth: Richmond, Virginia, USA

Residence: Columbus, OH

Work: Columbus, OH

Occupations: Entrepreneur

Biographical Note

Entrepreneur Curtis T. Jewell was born on September 8, 1943 in Richmond, Virginia to Thelma Jewell and Fletcher Jewell. Jewell attended 18th Avenue Elementary School in Newark, New Jersey and Manakin Elementary School in Manakin, Virginia. After graduating from Central High School in Goochland County, Virginia, Jewell enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1961, and served as a hospital corpsman. In 1975, Jewell earned his B.S. degree in social psychology from Park University in Parkville, Missouri.

Following his discharge from the military, he pursued a career as a physician. In 1966, Jewell began working as a technician at Harvard Teaching Hospital while taking pre-med courses at Northeastern University and Boston University. However, he returned to Richmond, Virginia in 1969 without completing his medical degree. In 1972, he was hired as the executive director of Uhuru, a substance abuse treatment center in Columbus, Ohio. Following his college graduation, Jewell became the President and CEO of Intercontinental, Inc. After four years with the company, he left in 1979 to join Nationwide Insurance as a sales agent. In 1985, he became a partner at Praxis, where he remained for four years. Then, in 1989, Jewell founded EXCEL Management Systems, Inc. and established the Jewell Group, LLC, a property holding company, in 1994. In 2004, he became the majority stockholder of J.B. Chart Development Company, LLC.

From 1990 to 2008, Jewell served on the board of the National Black Programming Consortium. He also served as a member of the Columbus State Community College Development Foundation, Inc. and the Advisory Council for the Center of Science Industry Columbus.

Jewell was awarded the Minority Small Businessman of the Year Award by the U.S. Small Business Administration in 1994, and named Businessman of the Year by the Black Presidents' Roundtable. The following year, the Greater Columbus Chamber named him Small Business Person of the Year, and the Ohio Association of African American Business Owners named him African American Male Business Owner of the Year. In 2015, Jewell was inducted into the Central Ohio Business Hall of Fame.

Jewell and his wife, Beverly Jewell, have six children: Neonu, Nia, Sisi, Curtis, Clay, and Leah.

Curtis T. Jewell was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on November 15, 2017.

Related Entries

Central High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Northeastern University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Boston University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Virginia Commonwealth University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Park University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

B.S. Degree

Harvard Teaching College [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1966 to 1969]

Technician

Rubicow Drug Program [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1969 to 1972]

Utturu Drug Program [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1972 to 1975]

Executive Director

Intercontal [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1975 to 1979]

Owner

Nationwide Insurance [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1979 to 1985]

Agent

Praxis [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1985 to 1989]

Partner

Excel Management Company [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1989 to ?]

Owner

COSI [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

First Tee [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]

Junior Achievement [MEMBEROf]
[from ? to ?]