

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Carlton L. Guthrie

PERSON

Guthrie, Carlton Lyons, 1952-

Alternative Names: Carlton L. Guthrie;

Life Dates: September 15, 1952-

Place of Birth: Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Residence: Chicago, IL

Work: Detroit, MI

Occupations: Entrepreneur

Biographical Note

Entrepreneur Carlton L. Guthrie was born on September 15, 1952, in Atlanta, Georgia, to Mary and Willie Guthrie. He received his B.A. degree in economics in 1974 from Harvard University, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and his M.B.A. degree in general management in 1978 from Harvard Business School, in Boston, Massachusetts.

Guthrie joined Philadelphia National Bank as a credit analyst in 1974 and Procter & Gamble as a sales associate in 1975. In 1978, he moved to Chicago, Illinois, and became an internal management consultant at Jewel Companies, a food, drug and general merchandise distributor, and, in 1980, a senior consultant at McKinsey & Company in their Consumer Group specializing in strategic planning and mergers and acquisitions. Guthrie became executive vice president and chief operating officer at the general management consulting firm James H. Lowry & Associates in 1982. In 1985, Guthrie and his older brother, Michael, purchased the Lansing, Michigan-based metal stamping companies Trumark, Inc., and Uplift, Inc. In 1998, the Guthries formed the Detroit-based chassis assembly company TruMack Assembly, of which Guthrie served as co-chair and president. In 2002, TruMack Assembly became Detroit Chassis LLC. The Guthries established Detroit Custom Chassis in 2005. Guthrie serves as co-chair of Detroit Chassis LLC and its parent company, SPECTRA LMP LLC, of which Detroit Chassis Avon, based in Avon, Ohio, also is a subsidiary. Guthrie is a co-owner and the CEO of HealthCure LLC, a provider of infectious disease mitigation, prevention, consulting, and remediation services and products for health and patient care facilities founded in Charlotte, North Carolina, in 2007.

Guthrie founded the Single Parent Family Institute in Lansing, Michigan, and co-

founded the Runners' Club in Chicago, Illinois, both of which he has chaired. Guthrie became chair of Concerned Christian Men in 2006, HealthCure LLC in 2009, and Gary Alumni Pathway to Students (GAPS) in 2016. He has served twice as president of the National Association of Black Automotive Suppliers and on the boards of the Joyce Foundation, in Chicago; the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City, in Boston, Massachusetts; Centers for New Horizons, in Chicago; the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, in Washington, D.C.; and Shorebank, in Chicago. In 2020, the Guthrie family established the Guthrie Family Scholarship fund, which is awarded to graduates of West Side Leadership Academy in Gary, Indiana, and South Haven High School, in South Haven, Michigan.

Guthrie, his brother Michael, and their businesses have been recognized as Supplier of the Year by the National Minority Business Development Council and by On Wheels, Inc.; Black Business of the Year by the National Business League; Michigan Manufacturer of the Year by Impressions 5 Museum of Lansing; and on the Quality Leadership 100 list by Quality Magazine. The Greater Lansing Business Monthly named the Guthries Entrepreneurs of the Year and Ernst & Young named them Entrepreneurs of the Year for Southeast Michigan. Guthrie received the Chivas Regal Entrepreneur of the Year Award for social entrepreneurship.

Guthrie and his wife, Dawn-Marie Guthrie, live in Chicago, Illinois. He has two children, Carille and Adam.

Carlton L. Guthrie was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on March 2, 2022.

Related Entries

Alain L Locke Elementary School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

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

Thomas A. Edison High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

West Side Leadership Academy [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Harvard University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

B.A. (with honors)

Harvard Business School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

M.B.A.

Philadelphia National Bank [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1974 to 1975]

Credit Analyst, Real Estate

Procter & Gamble [EMPLOYEEOf]

[from 1975 to 1976]

Sales Associate

Jewel Companies [EMPLOYEEOf]

[from 1978 to 1980]

Internal consulting/store management

McKinsey & Company, Inc. [EMPLOYEEOf]

[from 1980 to 1992]

Senior Associate

James H. Lowry and Associates [EMPLOYEEOf]

[from 1982 to 1985]

VP and COO

TruMark [EMPLOYEEOf]

[from 1985 to 2001]

Co-Owner/Co-Chair/CEO

Spectra [EMPLOYEEOf]

[from 1985 to ?]

Co-owner/co-chair

Detroit Chassis [EMPLOYEEOf]

[from 1998 to ?]

Co-Owner/Co-chair/President

HealthCure [EMPLOYEEOf]

[from 2007 to 2020]

Co-Cowner/CEO

Single Parent Family Institute [MEMBEROf]

[from ? to ?]

Founder and Chair

Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies [MEMBEROf]

[from ? to ?]

Advisory Board

National Association of Black Automotive Suppliers [MEMBEROf]

[from ? to ?]

Co-Founder, former Board chair (2 stints)

Initiative for a Competitive Inner City [MEMBEROf]

[from ? to ?]

Board Member

The Runner's Club [MEMBEROf]

[from ? to ?]

Co-founder and board chair

Center for New Horizons [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Board member

Shorebank [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Board member

Joyce Foundation [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Board member

Concerned Christian Men [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Board Member

Gary Alumni Pathway to Students (GAPS) [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Founder, Board Chair