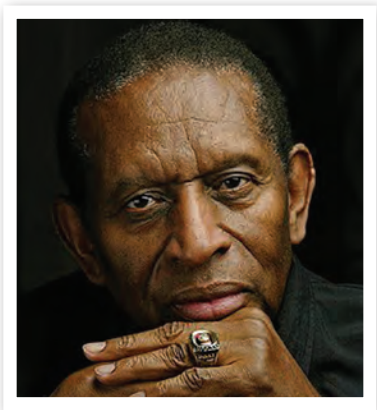


A Street Named *Earl*



On October 17, 2020, the Alexandria City Council approved the Alexandria African American Hall of Fame request to name the 1000 block of Montgomery Street in honor of Alexandria native Earl F. Lloyd.

Before the glitz, the glamour, and the glory, before Michael Jordan, before Earvin [Magic] Johnson, before Julius [Doctor] Erving, before Kareem Abdul Jabbar, before Bill Russell, and Wilt Chamberlain, before basketball as we know it today there was a pioneer, a man who paved the way for all of today's stars, a man who helped knock down the barriers of racism in the NBA, showing the rest of the world that African Americans know how to play the game of basketball on the highest level

Earl grew up in Alexandria, Virginia, near the Potomac River, a product of the lower-middle class segregated community called "The Berg," that consisted of public and sub-standard housing for African American families. It was a very close-knit community.

Earl received his elementary and secondary education in Alexandria's segregated public schools. Earl graduated with honors in 1946, and would become one of Parker-Grays most celebrated athletes. He was a respectable student athlete and role model, not only for his fellow student athletes, but also for an unlimited number of kids in the neighborhood community and future NBA players as well.

In the fall of 1946, Earl accepted a basketball scholarship to West Virginia State.

While Earl was at West Virginia State he earned the nickname "The Moon Fixer," because of his great size at 6'6. He was a CIAA star, and in the 1948-1949 seasons, Earl led his team to two CIAA Championships, and was named to the Black College All American First Team.

In 1950, Earl was one of three African Americans drafted into the NBA: Earl was selected by the Washington Capitals, Nat "Sweetwater" Clifton, went to the New York Knicks, and Chuck Cooper, to The Boston Celtics.

In 1960, Earl finished his playing career with the Detroit Pistons, and would become the first black coach in the NBA and in 2003 he was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

Earl F. Lloyd was inducted into the Alexandria African American Hall of Fame, June 22, 2013, housed in the Charles H. Houston Recreation Center in Alexandria, Virginia. This historical event was recorded in the Congressional Record, on July 10, 2013 by the Honorable James P. Moran of Virginia.

Earl often spoke of the unconditional support and wisdom that was passed on to him by his parents, his elementary school teacher Mrs. Helen Day, his high school coach Mr. Louis R. Johnson, his college coach Mr. Mark Caldwell, and last, but not least, his extended family – the Parker-Gray High School Community.

Earl's legacy has stood the test of time and we can be assured that his undeniable handprints and indelible mark of resilience and perseverance will be remembered for generations hereafter.

**Robert N. Dawkins, Founder
The Alexandria African American Hall of Fame**

Street name unveiling date to be determined