

*Congratulations to ROOTS!
From the Family of
HENRY & RUTH JOHNSON*

Daddy HENRY A. JOHNSON, Sr., passed away February 1984. Momma RUTH is doing fair at age 92 in Los Angeles where HENRY, Jr. (Hank), retired Los Angeles Deputy Sheriff, and WILLIAM (Billy), inactive bass fiddler, also live. CHARLES, Seattle resident, passed away November 1984; his twin, CHESTER, retired Air Force jet mechanic, is Wichita, Kansas resident. THOMAS (Tommy), real estate entrepreneur, lives in Las Vegas, Nevada. ROBERT (Bobby), civic servant in Los Angeles 36 years, retires next year to Amway business.

Praise God for many blessings our family has received including 10 grandsons, 3 granddaughters, 9 great grandsons, and 3 great granddaughters.



Charles - Billy - Hank - Chester -
Tommy - Bobby -- circa 1940

DR. HELEN B. STAFFORD - Tacoma, Washington

DR. HELEN B. STAFFORD came to Tacoma in the summer of 1926 to visit her brother, MR. JAMES BECK, and his family. It was during this visit that she met Mr. WENDELL STAFFORD. When Helen went back to Kansas, she terminated her teaching position there, and returned to Tacoma where she and WENDELL were married in December 1926. Dr. Stafford had taught public school in Kansas City for five years, one year at a church school, as well as a year in Virginia State University at Petersburg. One of her daughters, MS. BETTY STAFFORD BUSH, is a Librarian in the Tacoma Library System.

Dr. Stafford has been a member of Tacoma's Allen African Methodist Episcopal Church since December 1926. She served as Superintendent of the Sunday School for 25 years and served on the Trustee Board, Lay Organization and Women's Missionary Society.

She applied for a teaching position in Tacoma in 1927, but was denied employment because of race. Subsequently, Dr. Stafford became the first black employed by the State Department of Public Assistance in Tacoma, working up to the position of Casework Supervisor during her 25 years of service there.

In 1986, Dr. Stafford received an honorary Doctorate from the University of Puget Sound, Tacoma. In 1987 she received the Alumni Medallion from her Alma Mater, Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas, for distinguished service.

Dr. Stafford has led an active life in Tacoma for many years. She has been a long-time member of the Council on Aging and is an active volunteer with the SENIOR SCENE, a local news publication. She is grandmother to four children, and also has four great-grandchildren.