

James Roland Clark, M.D.



Medical Doctor and
Sickle Cell Anemia Expert

Dr. James Roland Clark, son of Essex and Emily Clark, was born in Columbia, South Carolina on June 29, 1937. He attended Waverly Elementary School and graduated in 1954 as valedictorian from C.A. Johnson High School where he also was elected Student Council President. Clark received a Bachelor of Science degree from Blackburn College in Carlinville, Illinois. At Blackburn College, he served as president of his senior class and president of the Blackburn Student Council.

Upon graduation from Blackburn, Clark pursued further study in biochemistry at Washington University in St. Louis. Subsequently, he graduated with honors from the Howard University Medical School in 1961. Clark served as a Captain in the Medical Corps of the United States Army from 1964-1967. He completed his residency in Internal Medicine at the University of California Medical Center in San Francisco in 1970.

During 1970 and 1971, Clark directed a free clinic in the Haight-Ashbury District of San Francisco. Following this humanitarian experience, he returned to his hometown of Columbia and established a private practice in internal medicine. He was a member of the Columbia Medical Society, the South Carolina Medical Association, the Palmetto Medical, Dental, and Pharmaceutical Association, the Congaree Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Association and the Columbia Medical Forum. Clark was elected Chairman of the Hypertension Task Force of the South Carolina Heart Association.

In addition to being a lifetime member of the NAACP, he served as a member of the Board of Directors and Vice President-Elect of the South Carolina Heart Association and a member of the Board of Directors of the Family Service Center.

Clark was recognized as an expert on sickle cell anemia and was one of the founders of the Columbia Area Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation (CASCAF), as well as a board member and medical advisor to the organization.



Following his tragic and untimely death in February 1979, the organization's name was officially changed to the James R. Clark Memorial Sickle Cell Foundation.

Today, the agency serves 15 South Carolina counties through its main office in Columbia and satellite offices in Newberry, Winnsboro, Camden, Florence and Sumter. Blackburn College also established the James R. Clark Memorial Scholarship in his memory.

Clark will always be remembered as a model of idealism that translated into the highest level of humanity in giving and caring for others and for his community. He was a physician who gave willingly of his time to help scores of needy patients, providing a standard of excellence in medical care among poor African Americans who had been historically denied access to such services.

"Doctor Jim" had a basic, unshakable, and unyielding trust in his fellow human beings. He was loved and respected by everyone with whom he came in contact because he embodied compassion, empathy, and genuine love for others.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

					<p>April Fool's Day Hampton Institute opened in 1868.</p>	<p>John Thompson became the first African American coach to win NCAA basketball tournament, 1984.</p>
					1	2
<p>Daylight Savings Time Begins Carter G. Woodson, the father of African American history, died in 1950.</p>	<p>Maya Angelou, author, was born in 1928.</p>	<p>Colin Powell was born in 1937.</p>	<p>Robert E. Perry and Matthew Henson reached the North Pole in 1909.</p>	<p>Billie Holliday, blues singer, was born in 1917.</p>	<p>Hank Aaron hit his 715th home run in 1974.</p>	<p>Civil Rights Bill granting citizenship passed in 1866.</p>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<p>Richard Allen was made Bishop of the AME Church in 1916.</p>	<p>Spelman College was founded in 1881.</p>	<p>Free African Society organized in 1787.</p>	<p>Thomas Jefferson's birthday.</p>	<p>The first abolition society in the U.S. was founded in Pennsylvania, 1775.</p>	<p>Jackie Robinson made Major League debut in 1947.</p>	<p>Founding of Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee in 1960.</p>
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<p>Rev. Ralph David Abernathy died in 1990.</p>	<p>Alex Haley won the Pulitzer Prize for <i>Roots</i>, 1977.</p>	<p>Cheyney State College, one of the oldest Black colleges in the US, founded in 1837.</p>	<p>Harriet Tubman started working on the Underground Railroad, 1853.</p>	<p>Pvt. Milton L. Olive, III, was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously, 1966.</p>	<p>Charles Mingus, bassist, composer, pianist and bandleader, was born in 1922.</p>	<p>Granville T. Woods, inventor of over 40 products, was born in 1856.</p>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<p>The United Negro College Fund was established in 1944.</p>	<p>Ella Fitzgerald, singer, was born in 1917.</p>	<p>William "Count" Basie, jazz pianist and musician, died in 1984.</p>	<p>Coretta Scott King, activist and wife of Martin Luther King, was born in 1927.</p>	<p>Samuel L. Gravelly became first African American admiral in the US Navy, 1962.</p>	<p>"Duke" Ellington, musician and composer, was born in 1899.</p>	<p>Wallace Saunders wrote the song "Casey Jones" in 1900.</p>
24	25	26	27	28	29	30