



L·V·H·S·A·A

Las Vegas High School Alumni Association

ROOSEVELT TOSTON (Class of 1961)

Roosevelt Toston graduated from LVHS in 1961. He is originally from Epps, Louisiana. He left at age 16.

Roosevelt is currently CEO of the Toston Group, Inc. a Las Vegas consulting company that he established six years ago. He provides meeting planning and destination management services for regional and national organizations desiring local expertise. He distributes requests for hotel proposals, arranges site inspections, golf tournaments, group transportation, and other convention needs.

Roosevelt has been a resident of Las Vegas for 51 years and has secured a place in Nevada history. He is considered a trailblazer for his many accomplishments. He is the state's first African American Television News anchorman/ reporter. He served five years in broadcast news at NBC and CBS affiliate stations. He also worked in radio news. Roosevelt has traveled the world, visiting six continents, extolling the virtues of Las Vegas to travel planners - in the early years with the LVCVA --and conference coordinators. He held various positions with the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority – where he worked 28 years in executive level position, including Manager of Diversity Marketing.

Because of his work in the broadcast industry and with the LVCVA, he has received numerous awards. Among the many honors Roosevelt has received are:

- 2010 - Las Vegas Black Image Magazine, Nevada's 2010 Black Men of Distinction
- 2008 - Who's Who in Black Las Vegas (Inaugural Edition)
- 2005 - APEX Award presented by Black Meetings and Tourism Magazine
- 2004 - "A Tribute" to Roosevelt Toston hosted by Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, Delta Kappa Chapter
- 2003 - Chairman's Award, National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners
- 2002 - Supplier of the Year Award, National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners
- 2002 - Recipient of Trumpet Award, Saluting African American Achievement
- 2001 - Distinguished Service Award, West Coast Black Publishers Association
- 1998 - Black Pioneers of Nevada Honoree, Walker African-American Museum & Research Center
- 1993 - Pioneer Award, Las Vegas Association of Black Journalists
- 1986 - Founder, and past President of National Forum for Black Public Administrators, Las Vegas Chapter

- 1981 - Who's Who in Black Corporate America
- 1978 - Clark County Community College outstanding Alumnus.
- 1975 - Outstanding Young Men of America.

After graduating from LVHS, Roosevelt attended UNLV, where he majored in Business Administration. He received an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Business Management from the Clark County Community College.

Roosevelt was named to the 10-member Founding Board of the Caucus of African American Nevadans (CAAN), an organization that was established in February, 2004. In 2008, Roosevelt became affiliated with the Professional Meeting Planning Network (PMPN).

Roosevelt received the Supplier of the Year Award from the National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners. Mr. Toston was also the first member, in the 20-year history of NCBMP, to have been awarded both the prestigious Chairman's Award and Supplier of the Year Award - for his contribution to the hospitality industry.

He is a member of Second Baptist Church, attending services weekly.

Roosevelt, in June 2009, published his first book, an autobiography, entitled: "Beating the Odds in Las Vegas and in Life." It is the story of how a child raised in one of America's poorest rural towns, Epps, LA, followed his dream to become a television news anchor. It was a dream that would lead him to the glimmer and lights of Las Vegas, NV where Toston found that realizing his vision in front of the news camera was only the beginning.

Roosevelt has been married to Gertrude Woods for 37 years and has four children. His hobbies include golfing, traveling, exercising, reading, and attending movies.

(As of 12/19/10)

These biographies are based on research and could contain discrepancies.
If there are any excerpts you feel should be changed please feel free to contact dave@lvhsaa.com

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