



Meet the  
Real Dr. Belton  
(Sister/  
Dr. Ruby/Dr. B)

*May 17, 2018*

**12:00PM – 1:30PM**

**Boulé Awards Luncheon  
at Hyatt Regency  
Rochester, New York**

Co-Founder and President:  
Douglas Belton, MD, MBA  
Co-Founder:  
Ruby L. Belton MD

This lifetime achievement  
award is dedicated to my mother,  
Mrs. Sarah Geneva Hilliard Sturgis  
a.k.a. "Granny"



## In Honor of My Mother:

*Mrs. Sarah Geneva  
Hilliard Sturgis*



Understanding my mother will help you understand why I exist. Knowing my mother, through my words and actions, should let all know, I exist not for me, but for you and all others like you.

I was born to serve, care, give, help and teach.

Granny (my mother) was one of 14 children born to Mr. Daniel Hilliard and Mrs. Callie Mae Rogers Hilliard in the deep South (Mississippi) during times of segregation. She never finished high school because of "the times."

The schools were segregated. Local schools for African-Americans only went to the 11th grade. She would have needed to travel from Crystal Springs Miss. to Hazelhurst, Miss. to earn that degree. She had no transportation.

My mother married at a young age and gave birth to 9 children. She lost 1 at term due to a cord death, because she could not afford to take the time to get the prenatal care she needed.

My mother traveled from Crystal Springs Mississippi to Rochester, New York, on a bus, to "watch me" (at age 26, 46 years ago) walk across the stage as the first African American female to graduate from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in 1972. She rode that bus 1400 miles alone. She did not have the money to fly.



My mother was obese, vitamin D deficient, calcium deficient, diabetic, hypertensive, malnourished and never exercised except for an occasional walk to town once a week to buy \$20.00 worth of groceries to feed 8 children for a week, because we had no transportation.

She died at the age of 70 from complications of obesity. I am saddened because I did not know enough in her lifetime to help her. However, my family (with my son "at the helm" leading the way) and I are happy, we have learned enough to help this community and people in other communities in the United States, in Honor of My mother.

Although I have provided service to this community, at some level for 50 years, I now know there is a big difference between serving using the "tools of a learned trade" and serving using one's "God Given Gift." Someone asked me in 2017. "Where have you been?" I replied, "I have been here working and serving the entire time. I further answered it is said "this or that person just found themselves, but the self is not something one finds, it is created." We all inherit gifts from our parents. Find and develop the "gift" given to you at birth.

Much good has come from my mother's death including the desire to give back to all, including the sick, needy. I have a special love for all, but especially the under-served and under-represented of which my mother and I are lifetime members.

Granny, rest in peace. I serve, love, help any in need, teach and will continue to do my best to preserve life using the "tools and knowledge of my trade" and my "God Given Gift", teaching.

We hope to see many of you at the Upcoming PLEA of GRNY 10/10/2018 Annual Multidisciplinary City Wide Breast Cancer Seminar at Locust and 2019 First Annual Multidisciplinary City Wide Spring PLEA of GRNY Health Seminar in the Inner city.

I exist to care, love, help and serve.

Care, Love, Teach, Help Others and Serve:  
Thank you, God Bless and Keep You.

*Dr. Ruby L. Belton*

Daughter of Gibson and Geneva Sturgis