

# The Philosophies And Opinions Of



## Ruby Margaret Rouss

by Wayne “Facts Man” Adams

*“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”  
John 3:16 (of The Holy Bible)*

\*Note: If you have not accepted Jesus Christ, accept Him now.

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## About The Author

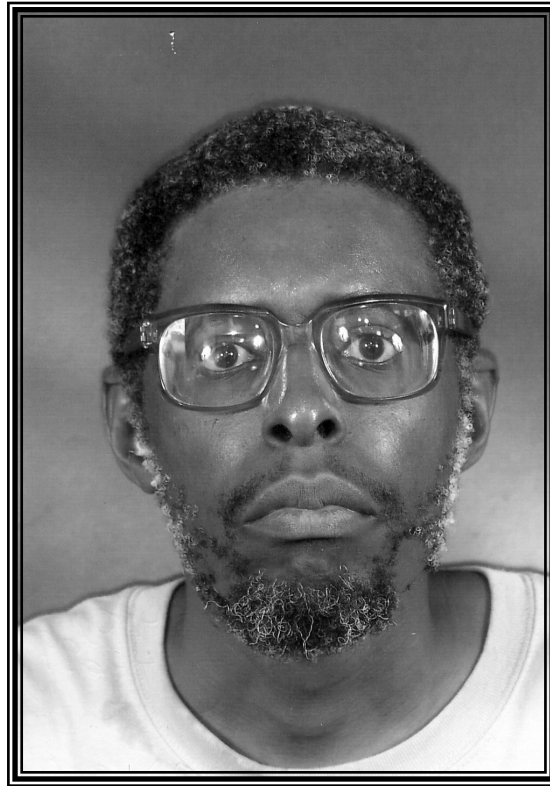


Photo by: Picture Perfect Photo Studio  
St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands  
(340) 774-6998  
Taken on Tuesday, October 18, 2005 at 4:10 p.m.

Wayne “Facts Man” Adams was born in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands on Friday, July 12, 1963 to Mario E. Adams and to Doreen C. (Thomas) Adams. Wayne attended the Jane E. Tuitt Elementary School in Savan, from kindergarten through sixth grades, until 1975, graduated with honors from the Wayne Aspinall (now Addelita Cancryn) Junior High School in 1977 and graduated with high honors, being #4 in his class out of 310 graduates, in 1981. Wayne was chosen from the Charlotte Amalie High School by his classmates as the most studious male in his graduating class. All three schools are in St. Thomas.

Wayne, between 1982—1989 inclusive, wrote editorials within *The Virgin Islands Daily News*. In 1982 and in 1983 respectively during the summer, Wayne worked for St. Thomas/St. John District Senator Iver A. Stridiron (1982) and for St.

Croix District Senator Adelbert M. “Bert” Bryan (1983). In 1984, Wayne, at 21, ran for the Legislature from the St. Thomas/St. John District, thus becoming the youngest person in the history of the U.S. Virgin Islands to run for the Legislature.

Between 1986—1992 inclusive, Wayne, on WSTA 1340 AM Radio in St. Thomas with Andrew “The Funky Man” Shachove, Reginald “Ras Regg” Martin and Simeon “Nesah” Thompson, on different occasions, did musical tributes to the international reggae artists Jacob Matthias “Killer” Miller, Robert Nesta “Bob” Marley, O.M. and Peter Tosh. In early, 1992 to late 1993, Wayne hosted a talk show program called “Awareness” on WVWI 1000 AM Radio in St. Thomas. In August, 1987, Wayne visited Jamaica to attend Reggae Sunsplash 10 and, while there, met such international

reggae artists as David R. Hinds, the lead singer and the leader of the Grammy-award winning, British-based group Steel Pulse, the dub poet Mutabaruka and Judith “Judy” Mowatt , who sang in the female vocalist group The I-Threes of the group Bob Marley and The Wailers.

Wayne, in April, 1988, visited the Southern African nation of Zimbabwe for over two weeks for Zimbabwe’s 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of independence. In Zimbabwe, Wayne, in the official’s office, spoke to Dr. Nathan Shamuyarira, Zimbabwe’s Foreign Affairs Minister. And for one-half hour in the official’s office, Wayne spoke to Mr. Edmond Garwe, Zimbabwe’s former Ambassador to the United States. Before arriving in Zimbabwe, Wayne passed through the African nations of Liberia and Zambia. In March, 1989, Wayne visited Grenada. While there, Wayne saw Grenada’s Parliament in session and met Mr. George Brizan, the opposition leader in its Parliament. Wayne, in Grenada on Monday, March 13, 1989, attended ceremonies in Grenada’s capital St. George’s for the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Grenadian Revolution and heard a 33-minute speech by, and then met, Attorney Bernard Kendrick Radix, the Attorney General under Grenada’s Prime Minister Attorney Maurice Rupert Bishop.

Wayne, in May, 1990, visited Mexico and the United States. While in California, Wayne met Dr. Maulana Karenga, the creator of the African-American celebration known as Kwanzaa, heard him give a speech and toured his office in Los Angeles, California. In November, 1992, Wayne visited St. Maarten/St. Martin. While there, Wayne met Mr. Wycliffe Smith, the president of the University of St. Martin and was interviewed on PJD2 Radio in Philipsburg. In 1992, 1995, 1997 and 2001 respectively, Wayne led the successful international fights to prevent Britain, France and Japan from transshipping

deadly, nuclear waste through the Caribbean region. Between 1999—2001 inclusive, Wayne hosted a regular one-half hour program on WSTA 1340 AM Radio in St. Thomas.

Wayne is a historian who specializes in Black History and a licensed publisher since Friday, September 16, 1988, owning a publishing company called Historic Institute. Wayne published seven historical booklets namely *Awareness* (1986); *The Philosophies And Opinions Of Cyril Emmanuel King* (1988); *100 Amazing Facts Involving The American Virgin Islands* (1988); *The Virgin Islands Question And Answer Booklet* (1989); *Hurricanes In St. Thomas, St. John and St. Croix, 1697-1932* (1990)-Wayne’s best-seller to date; *Julian Alexis Jackson: Our Champion* (1992); and *Black Facts From The Facts Man: January 1-June 10* (1994). Wayne, between 1996—2005 inclusive, published twelve historical posters. Wayne also published two historical tapes and two historical compact discs. Wayne also published a musical tape in 1998 and a musical compact disc in April, 2005 entitled *The 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage*.

Wayne has 71 credits from the University of the Virgin Islands and 16 credits from Jacksonville University in Jacksonville, Florida.

Wayne credits his being a Christian for his success to date.

## About The Lady



*Ruby* Margaret Rouss was born on Saturday, December 3, 1921 in Christiansted, St. Croix to William and Emmeline Rouss. At the age of 17, Rouss became the first U.S. Virgin Islands' female to serve in the United States Armed Services when she enlisted in the Women's Army Corps. Later on, Rouss received her Associate Degree from the United States Armed Forces Institute. During the 1940's during World War II when she was in the U.S. Army, Rouss was selected to serve as a secretary to General Dwight David Eisenhower in his Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) office in Paris, France, thus becoming the first Black woman assigned to Eisenhower's command.

Rouss, being energetic and concerned, soon became active in the political life of the U.S. Virgin Islands after serving for 22 years in the U.S. Army, retiring as a Master Sergeant. Rouss served on the 1<sup>st</sup> Constitutional Convention of the U.S. Virgin Islands which was in existence from 1964-1965 and was then, in 1972 from the District of St. Croix as the top vote getter with 3,816 votes, elected to the 10<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the U.S. Virgin Islands which was in existence from 1973-1975. Rouss has since served from the District of St. Croix in the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Legislatures of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Rouss, in 1974, ran unsuccessfully for Lieutenant Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands and became the first woman in the territory's history to do so. In 1982, Rouss ran for Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands and, though unsuccessful, became the first woman in the history of the territory to run for that position. Rouss, from 1981-1983, served as the Senate President of the 14<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the U.S. Virgin Islands, thus becoming the first woman to serve as the president of a legislative body in this territory. Rouss, again, from Monday, January 12, 1987 —Monday, March 9, 1987, served as the Senate President of the 17<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Ruby Margaret Rouss died at age 66 in Estate Diamond Ruby, St. Croix in the hospital (now the Governor Juan F. Luis Hospital and Medical Center) on Sunday, May 8, 1988, being on Mother's Day. She died while serving her 5<sup>th</sup> term in the legislature, being the 17<sup>th</sup> Legislature. Rouss lay in state at Government House in St. Croix on Thursday, May 12, 1988 from 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m., and funeral services were held at the Beulah

A.M.E. Zion Church in Estate Bethlehem, St. Croix, beginning at about 3:00 p.m. that same day. Senator Ruby Margaret Rouss (1921-1988) was laid to rest on Thursday, May 12, 1988 in the Kingshill Cemetery in St. Croix. A memorial service was held for Rouss on Friday, May 13, 1988 at the U.S. Virgin Islands Legislature's Building in St. Thomas, beginning at about 4:00 p.m.. The 17<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the U.S. Virgin Islands on Tuesday, May 10, 1988, passed Bill No. 17-0292 (being Resolution No. 1325) to posthumously honor Senator Ruby Margaret Rouss.

May she rest in peace.

**Bill No. 5769:** To amend Title 20, Chapter 35, Virgin Islands Code, pertaining to the obtaining of motor vehicle operator's license (no co-sponsors)

**Bill No. 5787:** To provide an appropriation to the Virgin Islands Housing Authority for the home for the elderly at Estate Whim, St. Croix (no co-sponsors)

**Bill No. 5914:** To fix and establish the powers and duties of the Lieutenant Governor of the Virgin Islands (no co-sponsors)

### **Some Legislation Sponsored By Senator Ruby M. Rouss In The 13<sup>th</sup> Legislature (1979-1981)**

**Bill No. 13-0086:** To amend Title 19, Chapter 17, Virgin Islands Code, pertaining to approval by the legislature of the schedule fees for medical care provided by the Department of Health (6 co-sponsors)

**Bill No. 13-0108:** To amend Title 15, Virgin Islands Code by adding thereto a new Chapter 52, pertaining to the appointment of public guardians, and for other purposes (8 co-sponsors)

**Bill No. 13-0139:** To amend Title 3, Chapter 7, Virgin Islands Code, pertaining to disability pay for certain government employees (7 co-sponsors)

**Bill No. 13-0145:** To amend Title 33, Chapter 1, Virgin Islands Code, pertaining to the inheritance tax (5 co-sponsors)

### **Some Legislation Sponsored By Senator Ruby M. Rouss In The 10<sup>th</sup> Legislature (1973-1975)**

**Bill No. 5752 (Act No.3378):** To amend Title 18, Chapter 1, Virgin Islands Code, pertaining to leaves of absence by government personnel while candidates for public office (no co-sponsors)

**Some Legislation Sponsored By Senator Ruby M. Rouss In The 14<sup>th</sup> Legislature (1981-1983)**

**Bill No. 14-0005:** To authorize \$1 million dollars for the acquisition of lands for public use, to appropriate certain amounts, to create a Virgin Islands Commission and for related purposes (6 co-sponsors)

**Bill No. 14-0014:** To recognize the outstanding public service of Dr. Ralph Andrew de Chabert, to designate the St. Croix Hospital at Estate Diamond Ruby as “The Ralph Andrew de Chabert Hospital” and for other purposes (7 co-sponsors)

**Bill No. 14-0016:** To amend Title 12A, Virgin Islands Code, to prohibit the advertising of non-existent merchandise or merchandise available only in specified quantities not expressly stated in the advertisement (7 co-sponsors)

**Bill No. 14-0019:** To provide that District Superintendents and Assistants be appointed by the Board of Education (2 co-sponsors)

**Some Legislation Sponsored By Senator Ruby M. Rouss In The 16<sup>th</sup> Legislature (1985-1987)**

**Bill No. 16-0051:** To amend Title 3, Chapter 23, Virgin Islands Code, relating to procurement provision and for other purposes (8 co-sponsors)

**Bill No. 16-0533:** To restructure the Government Development Bank of the Virgin Islands (8 co-sponsors)

**Bill No. 16-0537:** To prohibit candidates from filing for more than one elected office (no co-sponsors)

**Bill No. 16-0541:** To require the administration of psychological drug and alcohol abuse tests to candidates for public office (no co-sponsors)

**Some Legislation Sponsored By Senator**

**Ruby M. Rouss In The 17<sup>th</sup> Legislature (1987-1989)**

**Bill No. 17-0008 (being Resolution No. 1273):** To commemorate the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the transfer of the Danish West Indian Islands to the United States of America (3 co-sponsors)

**Bill No. 17-0025 (Act No. 5367):** To establish a common filing period for nominating petitions and papers for all candidates for public office (7 co-sponsors)

**Bill No. 17-0170 (being Resolution No. 1316):** To honor and commend Sylvester Ivan McIntosh, Sr. on receiving the National Endowment for the Arts’ National Heritage Fellowship (proposed, along with Senator Rouss, by 11 other Senators; co-sponsored by 3 Senators)

**Bill No. 17-0171 (being Resolution No. 1317):** To honor and commend Ethy Cills Brazier for 20 years of exemplary service to the Legislature of the United States Virgin Islands (proposed, along with Senator Rouss, by 10 other Senators and co-sponsored by 4 Senators)

\*(Died in office in 1988)







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## References

‘In Memoriam, Senator Ruby Margaret Rouss (1921—1988)’ - (funeral booklet)

Session Laws Of The Virgin Islands (1973, 1979, 1982, 1986, 1987 editions)

The St. Croix Avis (Tuesday, May 10, 1988, pps. 1 and 19)—a newspaper

The Virgin Islands Daily News (Monday, May 9, 1988, p. 16)—a newspaper

Photos on front cover and on page 3 are the courtesy of The History Of The Legislature Of The United States Virgin Islands (14th Legislature—January, 1983) compiled by Mr. John Collins

Photos of Ruby Margaret Rouss (1921-1988) on pages 6 and 7 are from her funeral booklet and were retaken on Thursday, September 1, 2005 by Mr. Orlando Peters.

\*This booklet is dedicated to the memory of Jessica Tutein Moolenaar (1924—2002), the Mayor of Gallows Bay, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, and a close friend of Ruby Margaret Rouss.





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