



City of Chicago



O2020-815

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	2/19/2020
Sponsor(s):	Harris (8)
Type:	Ordinance
Title:	Honorary street designation as "Rev. Dr. David D. Clay Way"
Committee(s) Assignment:	Committee on Transportation and Public Way

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

SECTION 1. That an ordinance heretofore passed by the city council which authorizes erection of honorary street name signs, the commissioner of transportation shall take the necessary action or standardization of NW corner of 81st St. & Maryland Ave. and NE corner of 81st St. & Cottage Grove Ave., to be known as “**Rev. Dr. David D. Clay Way**”.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force hereinafter its passage and publication.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michelle A. Harris". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

MICHELLE A. HARRIS
ALDERMAN, 8TH WARD

MICHELLE A. HARRIS
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**CITY OF CHICAGO
CITY COUNCIL**

★
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121 NORTH LASALLE STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602
PHONE: 312-744-3075

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS
COMMITTEES AND RULES
(CHAIRMAN)
BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
ECONOMIC, CAPITAL AND
TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT
EDUCATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
FINANCE
HOUSING AND REAL ESTATE
HUMAN RELATIONS AND HEALTH
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WAY

January 27, 2020

Office of Budget and Management
121 N. LaSalle, Room 604
Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:


I, Michelle Harris, Alderman of the 8th Ward, hereby authorize the Office of Budget Management to withdraw the funds associated with the cost of installation for this honorary street designation for **"Rev. Dr. David D. Clay Way"** from my:

x Ward's annual menu program budget

Ward's aldermanic expense allowance

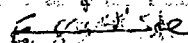
upon passage of this honorary street designation ordinance, pursuant to Section 2-8-040 of the Chicago Municipal Code.

Sincerely,


Michelle Harris
Alderman, 8th Ward

8058 S Maryland Ave

Maryland Avenue Baptist Church



81st St. & Cottage Grove
NE corner - facing East

Chicago, IL 60619



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Photos

Biographical Sketch of Rev. David Daniel Clay

EARLY YEARS -- David Daniel Clay was born on May 19, 1913 in a town about twelve miles east of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, called Denham Springs. He was the eighth child born to Henry and Caroline Williams Clay and he had eight brothers and four sisters. Rev. Isaac Anderson baptized David Clay. He was educated in Louisiana, Texas and Illinois. He attended elementary school in Louisiana, and then moved with his family to Beaumont, Texas where he graduated from Carleton Pollard High School in 1935. He attended Southern University in Baton Rouge, LA from 1935 to 1937 then moved to Chicago, Illinois. He attended Northern Baptist Theological Seminary from 1939 to 1943 and received his Th.B. Degree. He also spent three years at The Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, Illinois. He was licensed to preach the gospel on November 30, 1938 and ordained on July 30, 1939.

A SERVANT OF GOD -- Rev. Clay began his pastorate on July 9, 1939 and pastored successfully until his passing on April 2, 1972. He led congregations of Star Light Baptist Church, Greater Shiloh Baptist Church and Maryland Avenue Baptist Church (formerly Central Avenue Baptist Church) from 1952 - 1972. His years as a pastor marked progress and spiritual growth of the congregations. He showed sympathy for the unfortunate and those in sorrow; had patience, along with Christian advice for all who confided in him. He, along with his wife, offered hope, courage and inspiration as they exemplified the life of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He stood tall among educators and theologians. He was a preacher, teacher, lecturer, educator, counselor, administrator, diplomat and orator. Many souls were saved. His motto was "Every saved soul is saved to help save souls!"

During his lifetime, he traveled throughout the United States and abroad. On a trip to the Orient in Karloon City, Hong Kong in July, 1969, he was invited to preach at the 11:00 a.m. service to the largest Baptist congregation in that city. The membership was two thousand, two hundred people and the church building cost more than one and a quarter million dollars. After returning to the hotel, a church member came with the request from the Pastor for him to preach to the congregation again for the 8:00 p.m. service.

LEGACY OF LOVE - On March 17, 1940, Rev. Clay married Josephine Adrienne Burch, a graduate of DuSable High School and The Chicago Teachers' College; and a teacher with the Chicago Public School System. This union was blessed with eight (8) children:

David Daniel Clay, Jr., February 16, 1941 - December 19, 1968

Lorraine Adrienne Clay Stofer, June 7, 1944 - December 17, 2017

Cynthia Ann Clay Wilbourn (March 5, 1947 - June 6, 2012)

Homer Henry Clay, July 13, 1948 -

Yvonne Inez Clay Federico (Ruben), May 25, 1953 - December 4, 2016

Yvette Irene Clay Muse (Clarence), May 25, 1953 -

JoAnn Clay, 1959 - 1959

Kenneth Raphael Clay, September 26, 1960 -

Grandchildren: Yolanda Wilbourn Green (Joseph), Houston TX; Lynette Renee Clay, San Diego, CA; Alisa Wilbourn Shelby (Derrick), Houston, Texas; Marcia Wilbourn, Houston, TX; Mark Joseph Clay (Maritza), San Diego, CA; Angela Wilbourn (Houston, TX); Carla Wilbourn Brown (Eric), Houston, TX; Harold Wilbourn, Jr. (Deceased, 1980); Mark John Clay, Humble, TX; Tiffany C. Muse, Baton Rouge, LA; Clarissa Muse Russell (Raymond, Sr.), Baton Rouge, LA.

Great-Grandchildren: Carlos Hernandez, Michael Wilbourn, Chelesse McKnight, Derrick Rodell Shelby, Jr., Claressa McKnight, Justice McKnight, Miceala Green, Devann Shelby, Donald Jones, Yvonne Clay, Myles Green, Raymond Russell, Jr.

LEADERSHIP – On April 30, 1961, Rev. Clay led the membership of Central Avenue Baptist Church through the doors of their new place of worship at 8058 S. Maryland Avenue. A motorcade left their old church at 4949 S. Washington Park Court and followed Rev. Clay to the new church for their first worship service. Just a few months earlier many of the members did not believe that it would be possible to put this building back into usable condition because of the limited amount of money they had at the time. However, Rev. Clay was persistent because he could see the need for a new location and a larger place for Kingdom building.

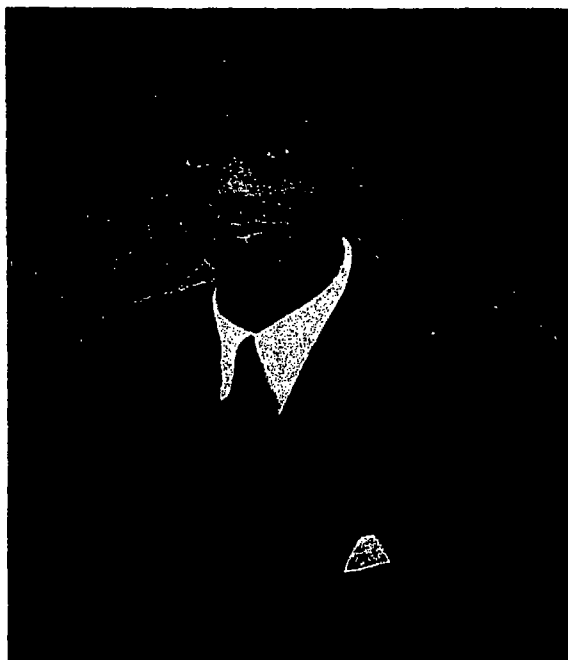
The building had suffered an explosion the year before. The entire basement was burned out; about two feet of water and debris covered the basement area. The front of the building had been blown apart by a blast that shook the entire surrounding area for about two blocks!

A building contractor said he could put the building back into good condition for \$85,000. But under the leadership of Rev. Clay, the building was made usable for less than \$32,000! The purchase price was \$42,000; remodeling costs were \$31,500, so the total cost came to \$73,500.

Later the church voted to change their name to Maryland Avenue Baptist Church. One of Rev. Clay's desires before he died was that the mortgage of the church be paid in full. In November, 1972, Maryland Avenue Baptist Church celebrated a traditional mortgage burning ceremony and the mortgage was burned.

HISTORY OF SERVICE –

- Served as a faculty member of the Chicago Baptist Institute
- Served as a faculty member of Baptist State and National Congresses
- Served as President of the Baptist State Convention of Illinois from 1966 - 1970
- Served as State Director of Christian Education
- Served on Executive Board for the Church Federation of Greater Chicago
- Served as first vice-president for Inter-Church Transportation Council
- Served as Transportation Chairman for the Progressive National Baptist Convention
- Served as a member of the Trustee Board of the Chicago Baptist Institute
- Served as Secretary for the Baptist Ministers Conference of Chicago
- Served as Workshop Leader for Scripture Press Publications



1954



REV. DAVID D. CLAY, Pastor

1962



1970