



Christopher C. Bell Jr., Ed.D.; Major, U.S. Army Retired; Educationist, Novelist, Essayist, and Poet

Christopher C. Bell Jr. was born and raised in Campostella, a small, Negro community in a rural section of Norfolk, Virginia. Early in life he learned to love reading and poetry.

Chris attended Virginia State University and majored in chemistry. He enrolled in ROTC and upon graduating he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

After 20 years of military service, twelve and one-half of which were served overseas; including Korea (1955-57) and Vietnam (1967-68), Chris retired as a major. During active duty service, Chris earned a master's degree (M.Ed.) from Fitchburg State University in Massachusetts. Chris has written in a book of poems titled "Soldiers Do Reason Why . . ." to re-call many of his feelings and experiences while serving in the army.

Chris went back to graduate school and earned a Certificate of Advance Study (CAS) from Harvard University Graduate School of Education and a Doctor of Education degree (ED.D) from Boston University Graduate School of Education.

Professionally, Dr. Bell managed, analyzed, and evaluated educational training and motivational programs in the U.S. Dept of Labor, the District of Columbia Public School System, and the U.S. Dept of Education.

Dr. Bell became an active member of the American Muslim Community at Masjid Muhammad in April 1994. In 1996, he began working with two other Muslim brothers, who were veterans, to form and incorporate the Muslim American Veterans Association (MAVA). The primary missions of the MAVA were to serve the Muslim community and fellowship with other veteran organizations in ways to extend the American Muslim community's outreach and recognition into other communities.

Dr. Bell is now retired and he now writes or lectures on race relations, sociology, and Black history.