



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Obituary:

DOROTHY GRAY DEVELOPED MTA'S LIBRARY INTO ONE OF NATION'S BEST TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH RESOURCES

Dorothy Gray, who served as the Los Angeles County MTA's Library Services manager for 13 years, died Oct. 19 at her home in Los Angeles. A native of Winterville, Miss., who grew up in Yazoo City, Miss. she was 58.

Gray had suffered for some time from a lung condition and had been on a leave of absence since July from the MTA. A wake will be conducted, Friday, Oct. 26, in Yazoo City, with burial the following day in Jackson, Miss. A memorial service is planned for the following week in Los Angeles.

A graduate of Southern Illinois University with a degree in sociology, Gray earned a master's degree in library science at Columbia University. She moved to Los Angeles in the mid-1970s and worked as a legislative analyst in city government before joining the Southern California Regional Transit District (SCRTD), predecessor agency of the MTA, in August 1988 as librarian.

At the SCRTD, Gray greatly expanded the library and the collection of transit memorabilia. She computerized the library catalog and made the Internet available to employees. Under her guidance, the library became a federal repository for transportation manuscripts and documents.

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When the MTA's new headquarters building opened in September 1995, Gray oversaw the development of a modern corporate library that now is recognized as one of the best transportation research resources in the industry.

The MTA library – which is open for use by the public – fields information requests from all over the world. It is one of the few corporate libraries that can make catalog entries directly into the Library of Congress.

Dorothy Gray is survived by her son, Nkosi, and a granddaughter, of New York City, and her father, four brothers and four sisters, all of Mississippi.

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EDITORS: MTA Media Relations can e-mail you a color photo of Dorothy Gray. To arrange for a photo, contact Gayle Anderson at 213-922-2702 or by e-mail at andersonga@mta.net.

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