

Terry Strother Collection (AC148)

Introduction:

The Terry Strother Collection consists of four high school yearbooks, three paper booklets, one photograph, and one 26-page paper genealogy packet. It also includes the Terry Strother Special Collection in the Black Archives Library.

Descriptive Summary:

Creator: Terry L. Strother

Title: Terry Strother Collection

Date Range: 1956-1990's

Size: 0.417 linear feet (1 box)

Collection Number: AC148

Donor Information:

Ms. Rondalyn Strother-Graham, 6/29/2025 (niece of Terry Strother).

Citation Note:

Terry Strother Collection (AC148), Black Archives of Mid-America, Kansas City, Missouri

Related Collections:

AC72 Kansas City Regional High School Yearbooks Collection

Subjects:

- Tuskegee Airmen
- Local high school
- Genealogy

Administrative Information:

Reproduction Restrictions: no restrictions.

Access Restrictions: no restrictions.

Biographical Sketch:

Mr. Terry L. Strother was born on September 11th, 1941 at the Strother family home in Kansas City, Missouri. He is the ninth offspring of Henry Leonard Strother and Fannie Dell Josephine Swytcher-Strother. He attended high school at the Manual Training Vocational and High School in K.C., MO. He was a Public School Speech-Language Pathologist in Burlington, Iowa. He still resides in Burlington today (2025).

Historical Sketch:

The Manual Training High and Vocational School opened in 1875 on the south side of 51st St. between Forest and Tracy Aves in Kansas City, Missouri. The Manual Training High and Vocational School had a diverse list of course offerings, including sewing, typing, mechanical, and regular academics. However, the vocational classes were gender segregated.

Scope and Content Note:**Series 1: Manualite Yearbooks**

Yearbooks from the years 1956, 1957, 1958, and 1959.

Series 2: Genealogy

An incomplete genealogy of the Strother Family bloodline. It begins with Mr. Strother's maternal and paternal grandparents.

Series 3: The Message of the Negro Spiritual

A booklet describing several historically black hymns and giving a short history on each.

Series 4: Tuskegee Airmen Booklets

From the National Museum of the Tuskegee Airmen. Contains 'Red Tail Captured, Red Tail Freed' a short story about Lt. Colonel Alexander Jefferson, a prisoner of War during World War II.

Series 5: Photographs

One unlabeled photograph of Vester “Brian” Swingle, choir teacher to Mr. Strother at Manual High School.

Collection Inventory:

Series 1: Manualite Yearbooks

- f. 1 Manual Training Vocational and High School Yearbook, 1956
- f. 2 Manual Training Vocational and High School Yearbook, 1957
- f. 3 Manual Training Vocational and High School Yearbook, 1958
- f. 4 Manual Training Vocational and High School Yearbook, 1959

Series 2: Genealogy

- f. 5 Incomplete Strother Family Tree

Series 3: The Message of the Negro Spiritual

- f. 6 The Message of the Negro Spiritual Booklet

Series 4: Tuskegee Airmen Booklets

- f. 7 “Freedom Flyers” The Incredible History of the Tuskegee Airmen

Series 5: Photographs

- f. 8 Vester “Brian” Swingle Photograph

Processed by: Liliana R. Kuttenkuler, Intern Fall 2025, November 2025.

Sources:

“Jerrel Lynn Swingle (1928-2019) - Find a Grave...” 2019. Findagrave.com. 2019.

https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/196070954/jerrel_lynn-swingle.

“FamilySearch.org.” 2015. Familysearch.org. 2015.

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VYTM-586>.

Ray, Mrs. Sam, ed. 1999. Review of *Manual Training High School*. KC History Missouri Valley Special Collections. Kansas City Public Library. 1999.

<https://kchistory.org/image/manual-training-high-school?search=Manual%20High%20School>.