



Linda Ann Gillespie-Murakata, M.D.

Senior Hepatic Pathologist
 Department of Hepatic Pathology
 Armed Forces Institute of Pathology
 Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Air Force (Retired)

Washington, DC

Dr. Linda Ann Gillespie-Murakata dreamed of helping others. But as a teenage mother on welfare, she knew her first priority was to take care of her child.

When the time was right, she decided to enlist in the military. She knew that in return for her service, she would be able to get an education.

"I wanted to be more, and I wanted better for my child. The Air Force was the only way I could reach my dream," said Gillespie-Murakata.

She took college courses at night while training during the day. As a top student, she felt compelled to pursue a medical degree. Her focus quickly fell on pathology. As specialty-trained physicians, pathologists diagnose and characterize diseases.

"I wanted to go into a field where I could serve those in need. The work of pathologists is very necessary in the field of medicine," said Gillespie-Murakata.

She now is senior hepatic pathologist at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology. She works on providing expert consultation in diseases of the liver to help health care professionals better diagnose and treat illnesses. In her efforts to give back, Gillespie-Murakata helps pathologists around the world through training, consultation and research.

A long way from her less fortunate days, Gillespie-Murakata offers simple advice: "Do what you enjoy and what is in your heart. Don't stop until you succeed. Never say 'I can't,' only 'Yes, I will.'"



1979
 Edward William Brooke III retires as Massachusetts senator after serving for 12 years. Prior to becoming senator, he served in the Army for five years, reaching the rank of captain.



1983
 Lt. Col. Guion Stewart Bluford Jr. becomes the first African American to travel in space.

SEPTEMBER 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 1993: Condoleezza Rice named provost at Stanford University, becoming the youngest person and first black to hold this position.	2 1958: Frederick M. Jones patents control device for internal combustion engine.	3 1979: Robert Maynard becomes first African American to head a major daily newspaper, <i>Oakland Tribune</i> in California.	4 1957: Arkansas Governor Orval Faubus calls out the National Guard to bar black students from entering a Little Rock high school.
5 1960: Leopold Sedar Senghor, poet and politician, elected president of Senegal.	6 1848: Frederick Douglass elected president of National Black Political Convention in Cleveland, Ohio. Labor Day	7 1954: Washington, D.C., and Baltimore, Maryland, public schools integrated.	8 1981: Roy Wilkins, executive director of the NAACP, dies. Rosh Hashanah Begins (sundown)	9 1968: Arthur Ashe, Jr. wins men's singles tennis championship at U.S. Open.	10 1855: John Mercer Langston elected township clerk of Brownhelm, Ohio, becoming first black to hold elective office in the U.S.	11 1959: Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington wins Spingarn Medal for his achievements in music.
12 1992: Dr. Mae C. Jemison becomes first African American woman to travel in space.	13 1886: Literary critic Alain Locke, first black Rhodes Scholar, born.	14 1921: Constance Baker Motley, first black woman appointed federal judge, born.	15 1963: Four black girls killed in Birmingham, Alabama, church bombing.	16 1923: First Catholic seminary for black priests dedicated in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.	17 1983: Vanessa Williams becomes first African American crowned Miss America. Yom Kippur Begins (sundown)	18 1895: Booker T. Washington delivers famous Atlanta Exposition speech.
19 1893: Albert R. Robinson patents electric railway trolley.	20 1830: First National Convention of Free Men agrees to boycott slave-produced goods.	21 1998: Florence Griffith Joyner, Olympic track star, dies.	22 1862: Emancipation Proclamation announced.	23 1863: Civil and women's rights advocate Mary Church Terrell born.	24 1957: Federal troops enforce court-ordered integrations as nine children integrate Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.	25 1974: Barbara W. Hancock becomes first African American woman named a White House fellow.
26 1962: Sonny Liston knocks out Floyd Patterson to win heavyweight boxing championship.	27 1912: W.C. Handy publishes <i>Memphis Blues</i> .	28 1991: National Civil Rights Museum opens in Memphis, Tennessee.	29 1910: National Urban League established in New York City.	30 1962: James Meredith enrolls as first black student at University of Mississippi.		