



# PanCanal Alumni Association

*Where Panamanians Unite*

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## Our Alma Mater

### Paraiso High School



**A Tribute to  
PHS School Faculty**  
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**School Memories  
Class of 1978 & 1979  
High School Memories**

To view Album  
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**School Memories  
#2**

**NEW!!** photo Album  
coming soon.

### Balboa High School



## Genealogy Links

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## Alumni Newsletter

### *Noteworthy People*

**The Profile of Mr. Cecil F. Haynes**  
**Recognized Globally for his 72 years of Service as**  
**"Longest Worker & Retiree of the Panama Canal"**

Interviewed by Ms. Mireya Brooks, VP of Alumni



are making plans for Mr. Cecil Haynes and his wife to be in attendance at our 2<sup>nd</sup> All Class Gala. All those that are planning to be in attendance will have the honor to meet him as well. Read on to learn more about this REMARKABLE individual.

PanCanal Alumni Association, recently had the honor to interview Mr. Cecil F. Haynes. He still holds the record as the Longest Worker & Retiree of the Panama Canal an AMAZING "72 Years of Service". Mr. Haynes was indeed very excited and honored to be interviewed by Ms. Mireya Brooks, VP of Alumni, PanCanal Alumni Association and to share his story with us. We would like to thank Mario Haynes, VP of Programs of PanCanal Alumni Association for arranging the interview with his uncle. We are making plans for Mr. Cecil Haynes and his wife to be in attendance at our 2<sup>nd</sup> All Class Gala. All those that are planning to be in attendance will have the honor to meet him as well. Read on to learn more about this REMARKABLE individual.

Mr. Cecil F. Haynes was born in Gatun, Colon on Aug. 7, 1913. His wife Margarita Haynes was born on Jan. 20, 1913 in Panama City. Margarita was raised in a convent. They got married in Ancon in 1940. Cecil and Margarita has no children. Cecil's parents are from Barbados. His father worked on the Construction of the Panama Canal. His mother was a school teacher in St. Lucia islands. Realizing what education meant, Cecil's mother taught him at home. Over the years he was able to acquire as much as two years of college. He emphatically recalls himself as a man filled with ambition. Working and going to college in La Boca on the former Canal Zone. He also recalls being forced to use a typewriter and a computer because he held an office position. He stated that he hated typing because he always thought that typing was for women. He started working at the tender young age of 15. Times were difficult and hard. His father was working for \$47.50 a month for a family of eight (mom, dad, 6 children). He felt that he had to help his dad and pursued a job in a store house. He was told that he was too young to work. He insisted to the interviewer that he

## GUESTBOOK



Network & Share  
Thoughts

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## Alumni Views

[An article about the Former  
Panama Canal Zone School  
Experience click here](#)

By Mr. Victor L. Harewood  
Alumni of La Boca High  
School Class of 1949.

## Prior Noteworthy People

[Captain Earle Hubert Holder  
Hunte "First Black Master Pilot  
of West Indian Descent" of the  
Panama Canal.](#)

[Mr. Kenneth A. Joseph Sr.  
"Avid World Travel of More  
than 60 Countries" and more...](#)

## Prior Alumni Spotlight

[July '08 - Ms. Yolanda C. Kelly](#)

[Aug '08 - Law Enforcement &  
Fire Safety - Series 1](#)

[Nov '08 - Law Enforcement &  
Fire Safety - Series 2](#)

**Ancestor in the Panama Canal Zone 1904-1914 by Robert Ellis** ([click here](#))

**Death Records Gorgas Hospital Mortuary Panama, 1906-1991** ([click here](#))

**Panama Canal Census Tract database dated back to 1930** ([click here](#))

was sure that there was something that they could find for him to do. He was employed as the Office Boy (Store House Division). The duties of the Office Boy were to distribute the mail daily from one desk to another for 8 hours. His monthly starting salary was \$22.50. He then got another position as a Messenger and increased his salary to \$47.50 monthly. He worked Monday to Saturday without rights to any overtime. At one time the silver role employees could only aspire to earn the highest of \$97.50 a month. He was gradually promoted over the years at the same job until his retirement.

In 1999, the Panama Canal treaty was ratified and he became a Panamanian government employee. At this time he was ready to retire and the President of Panama, Mireya Moscoso asked him to give the Panamanian government one year of service before he retires. He decided to grant her, her wishes.

After 72 years of service, he then retired from the Panama Canal as an Inventory Management Specialist for the Purchasing of Materials for the Canal. The celebration began and he was recognized and interviewed all over the world as the longest working employee of the Panama Canal Commission Services.



In keeping with our mission to educate and commemorate the work and beliefs of our ancestors and their descendants that relocated their families from many parts of the world to dig, build, and maintain the Panama Canal; is with this spirit that we **SALUTE** Mr. Cecil F. Haynes for his tremendous tenacity, loyalty, and dedication to work for more than 7 decades for the Panama Canal under the U.S government management and and 1 year under the Panamanian government management. Mr. Haynes is indeed worthy of our **NOTEWORTHY PEOPLE** recognition.

**Below are some pictures of his Noteworthy Recognition:**



**Cecil F. Haynes, President Bill Clinton, Margarita Haynes at the White House with other relatives**

## YEARBOOKS:

[Balboa High School Class of 1979](#)

[Paraiso/Balboa High School Class of 1978](#)  
(yearbook missing)

[Paraiso/Balboa High School Class of 1978](#)  
Graduation List

[Paraiso High School Class of 1976](#)

[Paraiso High School Class of 1973](#)

[Paraiso High School Class of 1963](#)

to add yearbooks to our site email us at [info@pancanalalumni.com](mailto:info@pancanalalumni.com)

## Alumni Directory:

An Alumni Directory of Former Canal Zone Graduates is under development.  
Release Date: TBA

## Alumni Information LINKS

### Former Canal Zone Records

Birth, Marriage, Divorce  
[Click Here](#)

### Transcripts For:

Paraiso High School  
Balboa High School  
Rainbow City High School  
Cristobal High School  
Canal Zone College  
[Click Image](#)





**Cecil F. Haynes and Mireya Moscoso, President of Panama  
Inauguration of the Presidency**



**Cecil F. Haynes is presented with medal by King Juan Carlos I of Spain when the Canal was being turned over to Panama. On the left is Martineli. Martineli is currently running for President in Panama. He encouraged Cecil to work one more year for Panamanian government.**



**Togo D. West Jr., U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs during President Clinton Administration and Cecil F. Haynes**



**In 1999, a tugboat was named after Mr. Cecil F. Haynes in honor of the longest working employee of the Panama Canal. 71 years – 6 months – 30 days and 1 year for the Panamanian Government. His wife Margarita had the honor to break the champagne bottle at the inauguration.**

**-end-**

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