## Dr. Carlos E. Russell (1934-2018)

This obituary is courtesy of Panama Cyberspace News.

Carlos E. Russell, Ph.D., 84, passed away on July 10, 2018 in the U.S. Carlos was a professor Emeritus of Brooklyn College-CUNY, former Dean of the School of Contemporary Studies at the same University, former Panamanian Ambassador to the U.N. and to the O.A.S., founder of Black Solidarity Day and longtime civil rights and Panamanian activist. He was the author of an insightful and descriptive book that questions



the preservation of people of Caribbean ancestry and culture in Panama. The book is titled: "The Last Buffalo, Are Panamanians of Caribbean Ancestry an Endangered Species?." As a creative individual, he published "Miss Anna's Son Remembers," which is known as the first book of Panamanian-West Indian poems outside of Panama. Russell graduated from the National Institute in Panama and subsequently left Panama in 1955 on a student visa for De Paul University in Chicago, Illinois. He lived and worked on the South Side of Chicago, and worked at the Mary McDowell Settlement House. He moved to New York in 1961 and worked at the Albany Community Center in Albany Projects. He eventually moved on to the Fort Greene Community Progress Center in Brooklyn. He was a member of the Society of Friends of the West Indian

Museum (SAMAAP). In November 1969, Carlos initiated Black Solidarity Day, celebrated annually on the first Monday in November. Among survivors are his sister Gloria Russell, his children, and other loved ones and many friends. Listen to Carlos Russell on Voices from Our America: http://voicesamerica.library.vanderbilt. edu/VfOA/voices\_CRussell.php.

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