



Gloria Williams, I was born in Chandler, Arizona, the daughter of the late Verdell and Curtis Daniels. My parents then moved to the Okemah Community where my siblings and I were raised. I attended 40th Street elementary School in the Okemah Community, Percy L. Julian Elementary School in Phoenix, I also attended and graduated from South Mountain High in 1960. I decided to further my education so I enrolled at the Arizona State University for two years after high school, I also received an Associate of Arts Degree from Mesa Community College, and in 1985 I earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Management from the University of Phoenix.

In 1966 I applied for an entry level position in Manufacturing Data Services at AiResearch Manufacturing Company in Phoenix, Arizona. I was employed with AiResearch for 33 years, during my many years of service I was afforded the opportunity to hold many positions, I became a lead person, a supervisor, and eventually the manager of my department. I was the first African American woman to hold a managerial position within the company. I retired in 1999 from Allied Signal a division of the Parent Company. After my retirement, I landed my dream jobs as a teacher aide, substitute teacher and teaching reading and math in several elementary schools in Mesa.

My hobbies are reading, volunteering, exercising and playing cards. I am a member of the Jazzy Ladies Page Turners Book club and an active member of the Word Church in Mesa under leadership of Pastor Sherman Fort. I am enjoying roles of a grandmother and a great grandmother, my grandchildren add additional purpose and meaning to my life. I have been a member of the Board of Directors for the Okemah Community Foundation since 1998.