



Clifton Mason Quick was born in Hamlet, North Carolina, June 29, 1915, the son of James Clifton Quick of Bennettsville, South Carolina and Edna Covington Quick of Hamlet, North Carolina. His early years were spent in Hamlet with great-grandparents—The Reverend and Mrs. G. B. Mason, as his father had died of tuberculosis just 10 days after his birth. When he was 5 years old, Clifton joined his mother, who had married Robert L. Taylor (son of Demus Taylor, who founded Taylortown), in Pinehurst, North Carolina. He spent his early years attending school in Taylortown, where his mother taught school. When his school was destroyed by fire, he moved to Washington, DC to attend Dunbar High School, and subsequently, Howard University. In 1934, he joined Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, and in 1936 earned the Bachelor of Science degree.

During college, C. Mason (as he was called by friends) worked in the college dining hall to pay for his expenses. After graduation, he worked at many jobs and workplaces, including the Social Security Board and the U.S. Post Office. In 1940, he became ill with tuberculosis (which had been the cause of his father's death), and spent 12 months in the North Carolina State Sanatorium in Moore County. After his discharge from the Sanatorium, C. Mason returned to Taylortown to spend some time at

home with his mother, Edna B. Taylor, stepfather, Robert Taylor, and younger sister, Dorothea. There he met Beulah Melchor who was the new teacher at his mother's school. In 1943, C. Mason Quick and Beulah Melchor were married at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church in Fayetteville. They began their life together in Washington DC, where C. Mason started his own taxi service to finance his return to Howard University for medical school.

In 1949, after his graduation from Howard University Medical School and the birth of their daughter, the Quicks returned to North Carolina. Dr. Quick continued his medical training at Kate Bitting Reynolds Hospital in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. In 1950, Dr. Quick opened his office for the general practice of medicine in Fayetteville, North Carolina. After six years of general practice, he returned to Washington, DC, where he completed a 3-year residency in Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat at Freedman's Hospital.

During his 40 years of medical service, Dr. Quick spent 22 years as Director of the Student Health Service at Fayetteville State University (FSU). While in that position, he helped finance the education of many students and helped start a golf team at the university.

Dr. Quick was a founding member of Operation Sickle Cell, in 1971, and served on several community boards, including the Cumberland County Mental Health Board, the University of North Carolina Student Health Board, and the Fayetteville Branch of Habitat for Humanity. As a member of the Old North State Medical Society, he served as its representative on the President's Committee for the Handicapped. He was a member of the National Medical Association, the Howard University Medical Alumni Association, the NAACP, the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, the National Guardsmen, Inc., the Nomads Golf Association and the Pinehurst Country Club.

Playing golf was C. Mason's passion. Having been forbidden as a child, by his mother, to caddie at the Pinehurst Country Club, he eventually learned to play the game and became one of its first Black members. He was especially proud of having taught his grandson to play. One of his great-grandsons, is now learning the game and recently competed in a tournament for children.

Clifton Quick died January 26, 2008.