



VIOLA WATKINS STEPHENS (1904-1984)

Mrs. Stephens was a very successful business woman. She said, "If you make a dollar save a dime." She taught school for 30 years before starting her first business in 1956. She started taking care of two elder women from her church. As more people came to her for help she moved to bigger buildings. On July 23, 1970, Mrs. Stephens opened Watkins Skyview Nursing Home in Oklahoma City. The 13,644 sq. ft. new building had 68 beds and was the largest African American business owned by a woman in Oklahoma.