

THE PRIDE of ELIZABETH, NJ

INFO. SOURCE: CHAN, S. (2018)
MARSHA P. JOHNSON, THE NEW YORK TIMES.



MARSHA P. JOHNSON

THROUGHOUT HER LIFE-LONG FIGHT FOR QUEER RIGHTS, MARSHA EXPERIENCED:

- DESTITUTION, + OFTEN, HOMELESSNESS
- MENTAL ILLNESS, WITH REPEATED COMMITMENT TO PSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTIONS
- DRUG ABUSE
- HIV
- OVER 100 ARRESTS + 1 SHOOTING, FOR PROSTITUTION
- ARBITRARY POLICE ENFORCEMENT, IN PERSECUTION OF GAY PEOPLE

MARSHA'S BODY WAS FOUND IN THE HUDSON RIVER ON JULY 6, 1992, THE CAUSE OF HER DROWNING WAS "UNDETERMINED" + THE CASE REMAINS OPEN.



Marsha + Sylvia at the first-ever NYC pride parade, in 1970.

WITH HER CLOSE FRIEND, + FELLOW TRANSGENDER DRAG STAR, SYLVIA RIVERA, MARSHA FOUNDED S.T.A.R. (STREET TRANSVESTITE ACTION REVOLUTIONARIES) IN 1970, AN ADVOCACY GROUP FOR YOUNG TRANSGENDER PEOPLE.

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SCREEN PRINT BY ANDY WARHOL



POLAROID BY ANDY WARHOL



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MARSHA "PAY IT NO MIND" JOHNSON WAS BORN ON AUG. 24, 1945, IN ELIZABETH, NJ. SHE GRADUATED FROM ELIZABETH'S THOMAS A. EDISON HIGH SCHOOL IN 1963 + QUICKLY MOVED TO NYC, WHERE SHE LIVED MOST OF HER LIFE AS:

- ★ A BLACK, QUEER, GENDER NON-CONFORMING, FIGURE OF LIGHT IN NYC'S NIGHT LIFE
- ★ A DRAG PERFORMER IN A GROUP CALLED "HOT PEACHES"
- ★ A MODEL FOR ANDY WARHOL
- ★ A SAINT, SOME HAVE SAID

★ A CENTRAL ACTIVIST IN THE STONEWALL RIOTS AGAINST A DEADLY POLICE RAID ON JUNE 28, 1969, AN UPRISING WHICH INITIATED RIPPLING LGBTQ+ RIGHTS MOVEMENTS.



"as long as gay people don't have their rights all across america, there's no reason to celebrate."
-marsha p. johnson

TO THIS DAY, WE MOURN.

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