

Sir Clement Athelston Arrindell, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., Q.C.



Sir Clement Athelston Arrindell, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., Q.C., was born in Basseterre, St. Kitts & Nevis on 16th April, 1931. He was the son of George Ernest Arrindell and Hilda Iona Arrindell, deceased (1975). He was educated at Bradley Private School, then at Basseterre Boys Elementary School, where he was head student in his final year, heading a slate of four scholarship winners from the Elementary School. He entered the St. Kitts & Nevis Grammar School, where he consistently topped his classes. He graduated in his final year as top Scholar, not only of this particular School, but also of all other graduates in the other Secondary Schools throughout the colony of St. Kitts & Nevis-Anguilla as it then was, narrowly missing the Leeward Island Scholarship, won that year by Montserrat.

In 1950, he entered the Treasury Department of the Civil Service, and at the end of 1954 he left for studies in England. In April 1956, he entered Lincoln's Inn, London, and was called to the Bar in June 1958 after setting a record for completion of the Bar Finals. Following Postgraduate Studies, he returned to St Kitts & Nevis in December 1958.

His career spanned the following: Private Practice as a Barrister-at-Law and Solicitor (1959-1966); Acting Magistrate (1964-1966), Magistrate (1967-1972), Senior Magistrate (1972-June 1978) (serving both at home in St Kitts and in the Territory of the Virgin Islands); Puisne Judge of the West Indies Associated States Supreme Court (July 1978-November 1981). He was appointed Governor, St. Kitts & Nevis November 1981, and Governor General at Independence, on 19th September 1983, thus making him the last Governor of the Colony of St. Kitts & Nevis and the first Governor General of the newly independent Nation. He was first knighted in 1982.

He married Evelyn Eugenia O'Loughlyn, a prominent music teacher and church organist of Basseterre, in 1967.

Sir Clement retired from active public life in 1996. His hobbies included gardening and piano playing ... he had a passion for classical music.