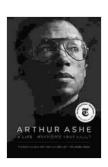
# **Arthur Ashe: A Life of Courage and Triumph**

Arthur Ashe was an African-American tennis player who became the first and only black man to win the singles title at Wimbledon, the US Open, and the Australian Open. He was also a vocal activist for social justice and a role model for millions of people around the world.



#### Arthur Ashe: A Life by Raymond Arsenault

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.6 out of 5 Language : English File size : 32343 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled : Enabled X-Ray Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 785 pages



Ashe was born in Richmond, Virginia, in 1943. He began playing tennis at the age of seven, and by the time he was 16, he was the top-ranked junior player in the United States. In 1963, he became the first African-American to play on the US Davis Cup team. He went on to win three Grand Slam singles titles and was ranked as the world's number one player in 1975.

In addition to his tennis career, Ashe was also a vocal activist for social justice. He spoke out against racism and discrimination, and he worked to promote equality and opportunity for all people. In 1975, he founded the Arthur Ashe Foundation for the Defeat of AIDS, which has raised millions of dollars to support research and education about the disease.

Ashe was diagnosed with AIDS in 1988, and he died from the disease in 1993. He was 49 years old.

Ashe's legacy is one of courage, triumph, and activism. He was a pioneer in the world of tennis, and he used his platform to speak out for social justice. He was an inspiration to millions of people around the world, and his work continues to make a difference today.

### **Early Life**

Arthur Ashe was born on July 10, 1943, in Richmond, Virginia. He was the youngest of three children born to Arthur Ashe Sr. and Mattie Cunningham Ashe. His father was a railroad worker, and his mother was a homemaker. Ashe's family was poor, but they were close-knit and supportive. Ashe's parents instilled in him the importance of hard work, education, and social justice.

Ashe began playing tennis at the age of seven. He quickly showed a natural talent for the game, and by the time he was 16, he was the topranked junior player in the United States. In 1963, he became the first African-American to play on the US Davis Cup team.

### **Tennis Career**

Ashe's professional tennis career began in 1966. He quickly became one of the top players in the world, winning his first Grand Slam singles title at Wimbledon in 1975. He went on to win the US Open in 1975 and the Australian Open in 1970. Ashe was also a member of the US Davis Cup team that won the championship in 1970 and 1975.

In addition to his Grand Slam titles, Ashe also won numerous other tournaments, including the US Open doubles title in 1967 and 1968 and the French Open mixed doubles title in 1970. He was ranked as the world's number one player in 1975.

#### Social Activism

Ashe was a vocal activist for social justice throughout his life. He spoke out against racism and discrimination, and he worked to promote equality and opportunity for all people. In 1975, he founded the Arthur Ashe Foundation for the Defeat of AIDS, which has raised millions of dollars to support research and education about the disease.

Ashe's activism was not limited to tennis. He also worked with other civil rights leaders, such as Martin Luther King Jr. and Jackie Robinson, to fight for equality. In 1963, he was arrested for participating in a sit-in protest in Richmond, Virginia. He was also a vocal critic of the Vietnam War.

#### **Personal Life**

In 1977, Ashe married Jeanne Moutoussamy-Ashe. The couple had one daughter, Camera. Ashe was diagnosed with AIDS in 1988, and he died from the disease in 1993. He was 49 years old.

## Legacy

Arthur Ashe's legacy is one of courage, triumph, and activism. He was a pioneer in the world of tennis, and he used his platform to speak out for social justice. He was an inspiration to millions of people around the world, and his work continues to make a difference today.

The Arthur Ashe Stadium at the US Open is named in his honor. The stadium is the largest tennis stadium in the world, and it is the site of the US Open final.

The Arthur Ashe Foundation for the Defeat of AIDS continues to support research and education about AIDS. The foundation has raised millions of dollars to help fight the disease.

Arthur Ashe was a true American hero. He was a pioneer, a champion, and a role model. He used his platform to make a difference in the world, and his legacy will continue to inspire people for generations to come.



Source: https://www.arthur Ashe.org

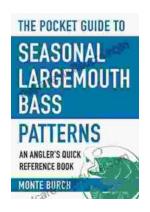


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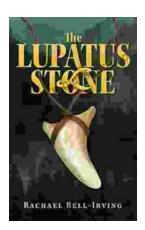
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