James Meredith

James Meredith is the **first African American to attend University of Mississippi in 1962** who was also a civil rights activist.

Born: James was born in Kosciusko, Mississippi on June 25 in 1933.

- Raised on a farm with nine other siblings
- Joined military after high school
    1. Spending nine years in the Army Air Force before enrolling in Jackson state College-an all-black school- in Mississippi.

First encounter with Racism: riding a train on his way home from Chicago with his brother.
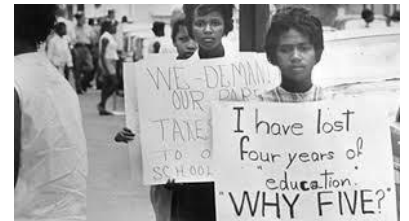
- Riding a train home from Memphis, Tennessee Meredith was ordered to give up his seat and move to the back of the bus, the section of the train for blacks. Where they had to stand for the rest of the way home.
- Later he vowed to himself that he would dedicate his life to making sure there was equal treatment for African Americans.

James was the very first African American to attend an all white college, the University of Mississippi, in 1962.

- Having difficulties getting it. Was First accepted then when the registrar discovered his race was withdrawn. Causing **Brown vs. *Board of Education* ruling in 1954's.**
- Graduated with a law degree and became involved in politics
- Continues to be active in civil rights and lives in Jackson, Mississippi.

   Brown vs. *Board of Education* ruling in 1954's.

- Meredith filed a suit against UM for discrimination.
- After the district court ruled against him the case made its way to the US Supreme Court, which ruled in his favor.
- On October 1st, 1962 James Meredith became the first black student to enroll in University of Mississippi.

March against Fear: Stared in 1966

- Went from Memphis to Jackson to protest against racism.
- Shot and was hospitalized Martin Luther King and Stokely Carmichael was determined to finished the march on Meredith's behalf.
- Reached target on June 26th 1966 in Jackson, Mississippi.

Sources

- http://www.biography.com/people/james-meredith-9406314
- http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/james_meredith.htm