## EDITH CLARKE



WHO IS EDITH CLARKE?

Edith Clarke was the first female to be professionally employed as an electrical engineer in the United States, and the first female electrical engineering professor in the country. Born in Howard County, Maryland, she was orphaned at the age of 12, and raised by her older sister. She used her inheritance money to study mathematics and astronomy at Vassar College. In 1918, she enrolled at Massachussetts Institute of Technology. The following year she became the first woman to earn a Masters Degree in electrical engineering from MIT. In 2015, Clarke was posthumously inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

February 10, 1883 - October 29, 1959



"There is no better feeling than when you write something you know is a piece of you and that, at some point, is going to communicate with someone else."

## **FUN FACTS**

In 1954, Edith Clarke received the Society of Women Engineers Acheivement Award.

Edith Clarke was the first female engineer to achieve professional standing in Tau Beta Pi.

She worked at AT&T in 1912 as a "computer", (at the time this meant someone who computes data), and while doing so also attended Columbia University by night.