

# Judith Mudd-Krijgelmans



Born in Louisville, Kentucky, after World War Two, **Judith Mudd-Krijgelmans**, after graduating Ursuline Academy high school in 1964, she went to Morgan State College in Baltimore where she obtained a BA in English in 1968. Awarded a Fulbright, she went to India to teach English and study the songs of Tagore. She earned her MA in South Asian Language and Area Studies from American University's School of International Service in 1974.

During that time, she was appointed speech writer to the Assistant Secretary of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity at the Department of Housing and Urban Development, where she was active in the women's caucus and helped set up HUD's first child care center. Sworn into the Foreign Service's United States Information Agency in 1975, she embarked on a three-decade career in public affairs—in India, Delhi and Bombay; Bangladesh, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Brussels, Gabon and Burundi. At State's Foreign Service Institute she gained fluency in Hindi and proficiency in French and Mandarin Chinese.

From Washington, she directed the public affairs programs of eight countries in French Speaking Africa. When USIA was folded into State in 1999, she served as the first Public Affairs Officer in the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration. Earlier in Washington, she was Special Assistant to USIA Director; and coordinator to the first US civic education project in race free South Africa. She ended her career serving as Spokesperson for the American Institute in Taiwan, where she was director of a wide cultural and information program.

On leaving the foreign service and settling in Northern Virginia with her Belgian writer husband Claude Krijgelmans, she led memoir writing courses from 2007 to 2022. Following *Flowers for Brother Mudd*, *Chocolates for Mary Julia* is the second of a three-part memoir on her incredible life. **Find out more on [Judithstory.com](http://Judithstory.com).**