



Carry On My Children

Carry on my children
And do not weep.
For today is not the end
But instead the beginning.
Carry on my children
You must be strong
For I am home with the Lord
And I am free from all that ails me.
Carry on my children
And keep my memory alive
Remember our laughter
And all the joys we shared.
So until we meet again
Carry on my dear children
For one day we will all be free.

Acknowledgement

The family of the late **Elder Michael Kenneth Alston, Sr.** wishes to thank all of you for your prayers, messages of comfort and the many other acts of kindness shown during our hour of bereavement. May God continue to bless you in a very special way.

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Celebration of Life for



Elder Michael Kenneth Alston Sr., M. Div

Sunrise:
April 12, 1959

Sunset:
November 27, 2021

Saturday, December 11, 2021 - 11:00 a.m.

The Highway Church
371 10th Avenue, Paterson, New Jersey
Bishop Liston Page II, D. Min., Sr. Pastor

Obituary

Elder Michael Kenneth Alston Sr., M. Div, was born on April 12, 1959, in Paterson, New Jersey to Elizabeth Reece and the late Robert Shaw. He hailed from a large family and made sure he carved out his own identity among his siblings. Elder Alston began his education in the Paterson Public School system and graduated from Eastside High School in 1977. Upon graduation, he matriculated at Seton Hall University South Orange and later completed his college education at William Paterson University in Wayne, NJ earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology.

Upon graduating from college, Elder Alston began his career as a Social Worker at Passaic County Juvenile Detention Center. In that role, Elder Alston was able to offer alternative programs for the youth that were potentially facing jail time by referring them to programs that would give them better educational opportunities or employment skills as they entered adulthood. After 25 years of dedicated service, he retired from that position.

Elder Alston loved his community and had a heart for working with the youth, especially young Black men. He was determined to change the direction of their lives by finding options for these young men that would lead them to the road to success. Even after retirement, he continued to work with the youth, such as the YCS Program.

He became a father for the first time with the birth of his daughter Dominique Wilson. In 1987, Elder Alston married Wanda Webb and from this union they had two children, Michael K. Alston, Jr., and Andria L. Alston.

God has always been the center of Elder Alston’s life. At an early age, he accepted Christ and was a member of Community Baptist Church, under the leadership of the late Rev. Floville La Garde. In 1990, he became a licensed minister at Church of Love, under the leadership of the late Rev. Frederick H. La Garde, Sr. Subsequently, he transitioned to becoming a part of the ministerial staff of Kingdom Covenant Church, under the leadership of the late Prophet Sean Monteiro.

In 2003, Elder Alston and his family joined the Highway Church in Paterson, New Jersey, under the leadership of Bishop Liston

Page, II. Michael’s elevation to the eldership in the Church was in July 2007. After serving diligently under the leadership of Bishop Page II, he was elevated to Senior Elder at the Highway Church, where he faithfully performed his ministerial duties, trained new ministers and Elders. Every Wednesday night after Bible Study and Sunday service, you would find Elder Alston welcoming visitors and new members after service, encouraging them to join or participate in our church activities. He also worked on behalf of Highway Church within the larger Paterson Community spearheading food drives, back-to-school backpack giveaways and Thanksgiving drives for those families that were suffering from food insecurity.

Although retired, Elder Alston never stopped learning. At the encouragement of his Senior Pastor, Bishop Liston Page, II, he enrolled in the Master of Divinity Program at Drew University. Through this program, Elder Alston gained firsthand experience through Chaplaincy internships at the State Prisons of New Jersey and Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital, Morris, New Jersey. He completed his studies and received a Master of Divinity degree in May 2020 from Drew University. Upon completing his Master of Divinity, Elder Alston was employed at the Passaic County Board of Health.

Elder Michael K. Alston, Sr. departed this earthly life on Saturday, November 27, 2021, after a short illness. Preceding him in death was his stepfather, Ardell Reece, his father, Robert Shaw, his brothers, Marvin Alston, Bobby Shaw and Stanley Shaw and his Godmother, Frankie Lewis.

He leaves to cherish fond memories three children, Michael Alston, Jr., Andria Alston and Dominique Wilson, his mother, Elizabeth Reece, his brothers, Albert (Eva) Alston, Wilbert Alston, Gerald (Patrice) Alston, James Alston, Dwayne (Lisa) Recce, Quentin Shaw, Nathan Shaw, Cecil Shaw, his sisters, Darlene Brown, Nadine Gurley, Kathleen Bush and Shieanna Shaw, two aunts, Laverne Smalls and Rose Alston, a special cousin, Sharon Brown,, his God-children whom he loved dearly, his beloved Highway Church family, one of his best friends, Rev. Sharrieff Bugg and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Elder Alston a devoted family-oriented person, leading souls to Christ, and community advocacy. His jovial personality, great smile, lively greeting, and humorous jokes will remain in our thoughts.

Order of Service

Rev. Dr. Alan P. Walker, Officiant

Processional	Clergy
Prayer of Invocation	Elder Tracy Thompson
Congregational Hymn	It Is Well with My Soul
Scripture Readings	
Old Testament: 23rd Psalm	Elder Leetwan Snowden
New Testament: John 14:1-6	Elder Taneshia Snowden
Prayer of Comfort	Elder Carlita Singletary
Musical Selection	Highway Praise Teams - Safe In His Arms
Tributes	(2 Minutes)
	Minister Maggie Baker
	Dr. Doreen Byrant-Escobar
	Elder Kimberly Brock
	Elder Iris Whitted
	Elder Frank Adams
Music Selection	Highway Sanctuary Choir
	How Much We Can Bear
Resolutions	Mrs. Krystal M. Williams
Obituary	Rev. Dr. Alan P. Walker
Music Selection	William Moore (Solo) - Marvelous
Eulogy	Bishop Liston Page II., D. Min.
	Sr. Pastor of The Highway Church
Benediction & Recessional	

Final Disposition
Cedar Lawn Crematory
Paterson, New Jersey