

God's Garden

God looked around his garden
And found an empty place.
He then looked down upon the earth,
And saw your tired face.

He put His arms around you
And lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful,
He always takes the best.

He knew that you were suffering,
He knew that you were in pain.
He knew that you would never
Get well on earth again.

He saw the road was getting rough
And the hills were hard to climb.
So He closed your weary eyelids
And whispered "Peace be thine."

It broke our hearts to lose you
But you did not go alone...
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home.

Author:
D. W. MCCONWAY

Floral & Pall Bearers

Family & Friends

Ushers

Prince Chapel CME Church



"The world has changed so much since we first met and so have we. Today you are still that special man. Although you are no longer by my side, you will be forever in my heart. Forever and a day."
Love your wife, Judy

Acknowledgement

We are grateful for the time we shared with our loved one and wish to thank you for your prayers, thoughts and all acts of kindness. A special thanks to the staff at WakeMed Cary Hospital, Hillcrest Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitative Care and other various medical professionals.

May the blessings from God be upon you and we ask that you continue to pray for us!

-The Family Of
Johnie London Alston

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE ENTRUSTED TO:

Knotts Funeral Home

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Sanford, North Carolina 27330
Phone: (919) 776-4345

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Program Design: Christina Moye - TheChrismoBrand@gmail.com

Celebrating The Life & Legacy Of

Mr. Johnie "London" Alston

February 6, 1945 - May 22, 2022



FUNERAL SERVICE

Thursday, May 26, 2022 - 12:00 PM
Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church
704 Old US 1 HWY
Moncure, North Carolina 27559
Pastor George Headen, Eulogist

Order of Service

Minister Cathy Smith—Presiding

Musical Prelude

Processional

Musical Selection.....Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church Male Chorus

Scripture Readings..... Minister Monica Headen
Old Testament
New Testament

Prayer of Comfort.....Reverend Dr. Sheila Crump

Solo.....Wilbert Reaves
“I Won’t Complain”

Remarks.....2 Minutes Please

Solo.....Arlinda Jennings
“You Are My Strength”

Acknowledgements.....Minister Cathy Smith

Obituary.....Read Silently

Musical Selection.....Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church Male Chorus

Eulogy.....Pastor George Headen

Recessional

Interment

Jordan-Grove AME Zion Church
3106 W 3rd Street
Siler City, North Carolina 27344



Obituary

Mr. Johnnie “London” Alston was born on February 6, 1945, to Johnnie and Ruth Alston in Durham, NC. He departed this life on Sunday, May 22, 2022, at WakeMed Hospital Cary NC, following a brief illness. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister (Lecy), and first wife (Sylvia).

As a youth, London began his spiritual journey at Mitchell Chapel AME Zion Church where he served on the Usher Board and participated in Sunday School Class, and was a loyal member for many decades.

London attended Horton High School in Pittsboro, NC graduating in 1963. He maintained lifelong friendships and enjoyed attending class reunions with his classmates. After graduation, he married Sylvia Jordan in 1966, and to this union, a daughter and son were born, Carla and Bryan Keith.

London was always dependable, timely, and a hard worker. He was first employed at the early age of 14 at Gooze Farm in Pittsboro, NC and continued this strong work ethic throughout his life. He later began a long career with Collins and Aikman Corporation (Mastercraft) in Siler City, NC. After more than 40 years as a maintenance technician, he retired in August of 2008 but continued sharing his valuable skills at various part-time jobs until his recent illness and hospitalization.

On April 18, 2014, he began a new phase of his life when he married Judy Dowdy. Together they embarked on adventures from weekend getaways to cruises, and London discovered a new love of traveling. He also became an active member of the East Chatham Senior Citizen Group where he and Judy enjoyed socializing with friends together. With his green thumb and love of nature, he loved gardening, fishing, hunting, and sightseeing. He also loved laughing and spending time with family, friends, and his dog, Kobe.

Also in 2014, London joined Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church, rededicating his life to Christ, where he was a member of the Male Chorus and the Sunday School Senior Class. He remained active for as long as his health allowed and even after he had to slow down, his relationship with God remained strong throughout his illness.

London was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle, nephew, and friend to many. He leaves to cherish his loving memory: his devoted and loving wife, Judy of the home; two children, daughter Carla A. McCrae of Pittsboro and son Bryan Keith Alston (Sherrice) of Greensboro; stepson Kevin Dowdy of Moncure; three sisters, Elna A. Smith (Danny) of Topsail Beach; and Cynthia A. Suggs and Annette Alston, both of Durham; sister-in-law Shirley Davis (Joseph) of Brandywine MD and brother-in-law Ronell Dowdy of Sanford; grandson Anthony McCrae of Durham; three granddaughters, Deandra McCrae of Chapel Hill, Lauren McCrae of Pittsboro and Sophia Alston of Greensboro; two great-grandchildren, Londyn McCrae of Chapel Hill and Channing McCrae of Durham; niece Kendra Smith of Washington, DC; nephew Karl Jones Jr of Raleigh; uncle Joseph Alston of Durham; Aunt Hazel Mae Alston of Pittsboro; three step-grandsons, Demetrius Wilson of Pittsboro, and Michael Rowe and Tony Rowe, both of Fayetteville; six step-great-grandchildren; and a host of other nieces, nephews, cousins and friends who loved him.