Celebrating
THE LIFE OF

ALTHEA WASHINGTON

AUGUST 13, 1931 - AUGUST 25, 2025

Funeral Service:
Tuesday September 9, 2025, 11:00 am

McCoy & Harrison Funeral Home, Inc
4918 Martin Luther King. Blvd.
Houston, Texas 77021

Obituary

Althea Alice Butler Washington was born on August 13, 1931, in New Orleans, Louisiana, the second daughter of Althea Landry Butler and Washington Butler, Sr. She was educated in the New Orleans public school system, graduating from McDonogh 35 High School, and later earned her undergraduate degree from Southern University in Baton Rouge.

Althea devoted more than 30 years of her life to teaching 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade students. A dedicated educator, she shaped young minds with patience, love, and discipline, leaving a legacy of learning and faith.

Her life took a dramatic turn 20 years ago during Hurricane Katrina, when she was forced to evacuate to Houston. Though she lost her husband in the aftermath, she was reunited with her children and held fast to her faith. Even in grief, she leaned on God's strength and carried on with resilience.

A gifted singer and orator, Althea poured her soul into hymns, spirituals, and poems. She lifted her voice with songs like "By and By" and "His Eye Is on the Sparrow", bringing comfort and inspiration to all who listened. She often recited her favorite poem, Invictus, from memory, declaring with conviction: "I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul."

Through every trial, Althea remained faithful, resilient, and unshaken in her belief in God's promises. She leaves behind a testimony of unwavering faith, a voice that will echo in the hearts of many, and a life well-lived in service to her family, community, and the Lord.

Althea finished her earthly journey and now rests in the eternal peace of God.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Althea Alberta Landry Butler, Washington Butler, Sr. Husband: Bertrand Lawrence Washington, Jr; Sister - Joyce Elaine Butler Williams, brother - Washington Butler, Jr.

Althea leaves to cherish her - Children: Bertrand Lawrence Washington, III, Wayne Bretwick Washington, Sylvia Washington Cobbs, Terry Cobbs (Son-in-law); Sister - Grace L. Butler, Ph.D, Grandson - Nathan Cobbs, Granddaughter - Madison Washington, nieces/greats - Linda Durril, Olethia Chisolm, Lia Butler, Yvette Hayes-Edwards, Roseanne Durril, Crystal Durril, Makayla Williams, nephews/greats - Landry Butler, Luthuli Butler, Marcus Williams, Pompia Durril, Wayne Edwards, Kenneth Durril, cousins & friends.

Order of Service

Musical Prelude

Pastoral Greeting/Welcome
Pastor Leslie Grant

Opening Prayer

Musical Selection/Hymns
Sterling Overshown - Musician

Scripture readings
Old Testament-Proverbs 31:30-31
Ecclesiastes 3:1-2,4-5, 7,22
New Testament. John 14: 1-7

Reading of Obituary

Brief Informal Tributes
by Family & Friends (3 minutes or less)

Minister's reflections/Homily

The Lord's Prayer

Musical Selection/Hymns

Thank you and Acknowledgements
Benediction Blessings

OAK RIDGE

Acknowledgment

We are especially grateful to those who traveled, prepared meals, opened their homes, sent cards and flowers, and offered helping hands in so many ways.

A heartfelt thank you and appreciation for the love, prayers, and support shown during this time of loss. Your presence, words of comfort, and every act of kindness have brought us peace and strength.

Though our hearts are heavy, we rejoice in knowing that Mrs. Washington was truly loved and will be remembered always. May God richly Bless each of you for your compassion and care.

With Heartfelt Appreciation & Love,
The Family of Althea Washington

Honorary Pallbearers

Terry Cobbs	Nathan Cobbs
Pompia Durril	Marcus L. Williams
Wayne Edwards	Leslie Grant
Buffalo Soldiers MC	Kenneth Durril

Committal

Houston Memorial Gardens
2426 Cullen Blvd
Pearland, Texas 77581

Katrina: The Untold Story by Barry Yeoman, Originally Published in AARP Magazine, Article & Audio Documentary, featuring Althea Washington
https://barryyeoman.com/2007/09/katrina-the-untold-story/