



## Alvin A. Alston

August 8, 1951 - March 20, 2023

Alvin Albert Alston was born on August 8, 1951 to the late Alonzo Alston Sr. and Sarah Leak. He passed away after a brief illness on March 20, 2023. He grew up in West Baltimore where he was raised by his beloved aunt, the late Corrine Dunn. Alvin was the oldest of 4 children. He is predeceased by his brother Alonzo Jr. and sister, Barbara. Alvin graduated from Baltimore City College and afterwards enlisted in the United States Navy. Alvin was proud to serve his country.

After his years of service, Alvin attended Morgan State University, where he graduated summa cum laude in 1982. He continued his education at the University of Maryland Law School and earned his Juris Doctorate in 1987. Alvin loved being an attorney. He worked for the Honorable Henry L. Rogers of the District Court of Maryland and subsequently launched a successful private practice. He earned a reputation for being a fierce, passionate advocate for his clients.

Coupled with his tailored suits and trademark bowties, Alvin had a commanding presence in the courtroom. In 2001, he joined the Maryland Office of the Public Defender in Baltimore County, where his reputation for tenacious advocacy continued. Clients made requests for Alvin to be assigned to their cases, aptly referring to him as “The Bowtie Bandit”. Alvin retired from practicing law in 2020. Once retired, Alvin enjoyed vacations with his wife,

Elizabeth.

They traveled to her home country of Panama and most recently, on a cruise to New England and Canada. An avid reader, he also enjoyed reading books on American presidents and military history.

Throughout his accomplishments, Alvin was most proud of these two memorable events in his life: the birth of his only child, daughter Vedis on January 15, 1972, and his marriage to his beloved Elizabeth on June 19, 1986. Alvin was an exceptional human being.

He always made you feel like you were an old friend he was so glad to see, greeting you with a big hug and that infectious smile. Alvin is survived by his wife Elizabeth Alston, his daughter Vedis Alston, brother O'Berry Alston, stepsons, Gerald, (Tina) and Gary Pratt, granddaughters, Ima and Jade Pratt, cousins, nieces, nephews and a host of other relatives and friends.

# Previous Events

## Viewing

APR 10. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

March Life Tribute Center - Randallstown  
5616 Old Court Road  
Windsor Mill, MD

## Wake

APR 11. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

March Life Tribute Center - Randallstown  
5616 Old Court Road  
Windsor Mill, MD

## Service

APR 11. 10:30 AM (ET)

March Life Tribute Center - Randallstown  
5616 Old Court Road  
Windsor Mill, MD

# Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

---

**March Life Tribute Centers** - April 19, 2023 at 12:58 PM



“ *March Funeral Homes created a Webcast of funeral for Alvin in memory of Alvin A. Alston*



---

**March Life Tribute Centers** - April 06, 2023 at 09:45 AM



“ *Alvin was a good friend of mine in law school. I'll never forget his huge smile and warm hug. He lit of the room whenever he went and it was a joy to be around him and hear his infectious laugh. He will be missed.*

---

**Kim Muentner** - December 21, 2023 at 06:30 PM

DO

“ My family and I met Alvin through a mutual friend. He and my son became exercise club buddies and a much needed mentor to him. That was Alvin’s way. If I needed a ride to the grocery market he would run me over in his little red sports car with the hood down. That car was his means of making people smile and laugh no matter how short or long the ride. If you had to take a walker with you he’d toss it in the back seat laughing the whole time. He helped any one that needed just a little advice on legal matters no matter how big or small; he was there.

---

**Donna** - April 30, 2023 at 02:56 PM

KW

I just saw this today. This morning, my husband and I were discussing bowties, and told him about Alvin's love of bowties and his impeccable style. I met Alvin in 1989 at Travelers Insurance Co. After the conversation with my husband, I Googled Alvin and learned of his passing. I am so sorry. Your husband, dad, pop-pop had a tremendous heart for people. I pray your memories bring you comfort and that we all embrace his giving spirit.

*Karen Moody Williford*

---

**Karen Williford** - May 21, 2023 at 08:55 PM

JR

“ We just learned of Alvin’s passing. He was a bright light among us with a smile that would light up your soul. Both John and I will miss him very much. He was gentle and kind. We are honored to have shared a bit of this lifetime with him. Our heartfelt sympathy to his family. John & Laura Robinson

---

**John & Laura Robinson** - April 27, 2023 at 07:18 PM

BA

“ To all who mourn for  
Alvin A. Alston,  
the Officers and Board of the  
Baltimore City College Alumni Association  
extend their condolences.

---

**Baltimore City College Alumni Association** - April 23, 2023 at 01:53 PM

BA

“ To all who mourn for  
Alvin A. Alson,  
the Officers and Board of the  
Baltimore City College Alumni Association  
extend their condolences.

---

**Baltimore City College Alumni Associatio** - April 23, 2023 at 01:43 PM

LW

“ Butchie, Ur our Family, Rest easy Ur up there with my mom Rosetta  
Wright and the Idella Clan .party On until we meet again.., ❤️

*Lia Wright and Family*

---

**Lia Wright** - April 19, 2023 at 08:37 AM

KW

“ Big Cousin Butchie, You will surely be missed. Your warm presence  
and beautiful smile always was well known and definitely felt. Thank  
you for all you have done and having the biggest heart ever. Tell my  
mom and brother they are missed as well. Until we all meet again.  
Rest in paradise big cus ❤️

---

**Katrice Whitaker** - April 16, 2023 at 11:16 PM

TA

“ Our condolences to the Alston family. Butchie was a great attorney, wonderful friend and a loving father to Vedis. Vedis you are in our prayers and in my heart always. Love you sis



---

**the Shipley family- Angel** - April 13, 2023 at 10:00 AM

SO

“ never forget you Alvin love you 🥺🥺🙏 Ríp

---

**solanlly** - April 12, 2023 at 10:22 AM



“ Dear Elizabeth, I am so sorry for your loss. I would have said something today, but I don't do well at funerals. This is what I would have said: I met Alvin at the start of his first year of law school, as one of his small section's upper-class advisors. Our job was to make him and his classmates feel welcome, at home. Little did we know that Alvin was far better at that than we were. I recall clearly that seeing him during my second and third years made \*me\* feel more at home. Alvin always led with his love and his smile. And when I saw him after law school, the passage of time had no effect on the warmth of his greeting. A true gentleman.

---

**Andrew Gendron** - April 11, 2023 at 07:47 PM

KW

“ When I was meeting with the various Bar Associations in my quest to be a Judge on the District Court of Baltimore County, I first met Alvin and his beautiful wife. Alvin was also in pursuit of the bench. Alvin was always dressed to the nines and always accompanied by his wife who would drive him from interview to interview. I became so enamored with our conversations that I would look for them at each interview. Alvin would always greet me with a warm smile and a great conversation. When I was appointed to the bench, nothing changed. Alvin would still meet me with same warm smile and great conversation. Alvin was a consummate gentleman and I don't know of anyone who thought otherwise. He will be missed. My condolences to his family.

Kevin Wiggins - April 11, 2023 at 10:44 AM

DW

“ Mama Liz, I am praying for you. I am at a loss for words. Mr. Al stole my whole heart during our time at District Court for Parole and Probation. Our many endless phone conversations to couch conversations in the office, to our many lunch convos. Mr. Al, I miss you more than words can convey. It was an honor to be in your presence and learn so much from you. Your daughter will always keep you in her heart and thoughts. I love you! Mama Liz I am always here for you.

Danielle Whitmore - April 11, 2023 at 10:20 AM

CK

“ Court Liaison Josephine Kennedy sent a virtual gift in memory of Alvin A. Alston



Court Liaison Josephine Kennedy - April 11, 2023 at 09:28 AM

SW

“ When I became a judge about thirteen years ago I had the distinct pleasure of having Alvin in my courtroom on many occasions. We had known each other for many years as defense attorney's, and I always enjoyed his company and respected his advice. One day Alvin walked into my courtroom with a bow tie in his hand. We spent an hour together with Alvin trying to teach me how to tie it. He made it look simple, but many years later, I have still not mastered the art, and wear the clip on or pre tied versions. Alvin was truly one of the nicest people that I have ever met, and he served his clients well. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Steve wyman - April 11, 2023 at 09:08 AM

AJ

“ Anthony Johnson lit a candle in memory of Alvin A. Alston



Anthony Johnson - April 11, 2023 at 08:41 AM

SH

“ Sandra Holmes lit a candle in memory of Alvin A. Alston



Sandra Holmes - April 10, 2023 at 07:22 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Alvin A. Alston.*



---

April 10, 2023 at 02:04 PM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Alvin A. Alston.*



---

April 10, 2023 at 02:01 PM



“ *We had a good laugh when I told Alvin I was coming to Law school. His advice was to always look good and always smell good. Alvin loved the law and would talk about it constantly. We had some good times together and he liked his Jack Daniels. Alvin you will be sorely missed.*

---

**Harriet** - April 09, 2023 at 04:39 PM

LT

“ We come from a place of sadness for a friendship recently lost due to an unexpected death, To a place of muted happiness for the times we experienced. when we were with him, He touched each of us and made us feel welcome; We experienced his love and his joy to be with each of us. There were no barriers to Alvin's love. His arms opened wide enough to include all of us. The world is a much better place because of the time he spent getting to know and love us all. May his memory always be for a blessing. Linda and Larry Trope

---

**Lawrence H Trope** - April 08, 2023 at 02:59 PM

JC

“ Alvin was my Sugar. He was my son’s Uncle Alvin. Everyone loved Alvin. He was a walking Christian in the evil sense. He was my generation’s Will Rogers; he never met a person he couldn’t like and the reverse was true. As he was mentored by Henry Rogers, he delighted in passing it on to Henry’s Grandson Matt. Judges adored him. Dana Levitz invited him to chambers for tea and the mere mention of his name put a huge smile on Norris Byrnes’ face. Dapper, kind, decent and a scholar of Lincoln and great literature, Alvin could bring quotes and philosophical observations to legal discussions as well as explanations of his client’s behavior. He was a perfect gentleman, a veteran of the Navy, a wonderful Husband and Father. There is nothing he wouldn’t do for his Elizabeth.

Driving to work at 4:30am due to failing eyesight, he taught the new public defenders what you don’t learn in law school: dedication, hard work and sacrifice.

We retired at the same time, a joint decision. We shared a love and devotion for the Constitution, motions practice and representing the people. Oh, and we loved milkshakes. We understood loyalty.

He brought out the best of us and he was the best of us.

God had Heaven’s Gates wide open for you Alvin and a host of Angel and not do angelic judges, lawyers and clients were there to greet you. Miss you? Words are inadequate to express how much. I adored you and am grateful for every minute we shared.

Sally Chester, Nicky and William

---

**Judge Sally C Chester** - April 08, 2023 at 02:41 PM

BH

*Awesome tribute Judge Chester*

---

**Bill Hill** - April 09, 2023 at 08:22 AM

GB

*Judge Chester's tribute to Alvin is perfect. Alvin was the MOST wonderful person I've ever met. He greeted you with a smile and laughter. You looked forward to seeing Alvin if you knew you were going to be in the same courthouse. He was a champion for his clients and did it with intellect and charm. Everybody loved Alvin and he was a man that absolutely made the world a better place. A world without Alvin Alston is a lesser world. Rest in Peace my friend.*

Gary

---

**Gary S Bernstein** - April 09, 2023 at 09:05 PM

TE

*Well said, Judge Chester. I am so saddened to hear of Alvin's passing. He always gave a big hug when we ran into each other in the courthouse or around Towson. His smile and positive energy were infectious and I will miss him tremendously. Sending my prayerful condolences to his family and friends.*

---

**Terri Evans** - April 14, 2023 at 11:58 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Alvin A. Alston.*



---

April 08, 2023 at 08:55 AM

MS

“ Alvin Alston, my dear friend, affectionately known to us as Butchie. I met him when he first came out of the Navy. I watched him fulfill his dreams of being an attorney. He never gave up!!! He was a kind ,funny, loving and a giving person. My family loved him. He had a smile and laughter that could light up the world. I think you for your friendship, thank you for my memories. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord...rest on my dear friend. Love Marchelle.

Marchelle Simpson - April 06, 2023 at 06:48 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Alvin A. Alston.



April 06, 2023 at 06:33 PM

TS

“ I knew Mr. Alston from working as a courtroom clerk in Circuit Court, he was always a pleasant, stylish Gentleman with a smile. My condolences to your family.

TRACY SNOWDEN - April 06, 2023 at 02:04 PM

GL

“ My heart goes out to Alvin's wife, daughter and extended family in this time of mourning. I feel some of that same sorrow. Alvin and I grew up together in a West Baltimore neighborhood full of colorful characters that we never tired of reminiscing about. As it happened, we both became lawyers and some of those characters became our clients. They kept us both humble. Alvin never lost that beaming smile from a deep place that distinguished him as a kid navigating some rough streets. Unlike me, Alvin was never afraid to smile. Indeed, many an icy adversary in court has been melted by that powerful smile. I will miss his stories and his humor but most of all I will miss Alvin's smile. May our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the God of all comfort, bless and keep Alvin's family and friends in this time of sorrow. I know that Alvin would say Amen to that, with a smile.

-----  
**Gregory Lewis** - April 04, 2023 at 03:13 PM

AL

*Alvin was the best. A great person and mentor. A wonderful person, and someone I will truly miss. Very sorry for his loss and my deep condolences to his family. - Adam Lippe*

-----  
**Adam Lippe** - April 06, 2023 at 05:22 PM

CC

*A good Man and a great friend. R.I.P.*

-----  
**Charles Curtis** - April 08, 2023 at 10:36 PM

DW

“ *David Williams purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Alvin A. Alston.*



-----  
**David Williams** - April 03, 2023 at 05:32 PM

DW

“ *Always a class act and always always brightened my day!*

David Williams - April 03, 2023 at 05:30 PM

BH

“ *Bill Hill lit a candle in memory of Alvin A. Alston*



Bill Hill - April 03, 2023 at 10:23 AM

BH

“ *Condolence to the family of Alvin Alston. As a retired Baltimore, County Circuit Courtroom Clerk I had the pleasure of many good times with who I always addressed as Mr. Class.*

Bill Hill - April 03, 2023 at 10:21 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Alvin A. Alston.*



April 02, 2023 at 12:21 PM

NM

“ I met Alvin in law school and was his partner in legal clinic. We were stuck drafting pleadings when I had the bright idea that we could actually try a case if we took on a criminal case. What a ride we had after that, trying our first case in law school before Judge Gerstung. Years later I was admiring a fancy sports car being delivered to its owner at the parking lot next to courthouse East. As luck would have it, it was Alvin's. We shared a good laugh as well as a big hug. I loved Alvin and I am so sorry to hear of his passing. God must need a good man in heaven. Rest in peace my brother, my friend, my partner.

---

**Natalie Magdeburger** - April 01, 2023 at 01:12 AM

DR

“ Dawn Rawls lit a candle in memory of Alvin A. Alston



---

**Dawn Rawls** - March 30, 2023 at 11:44 PM

CR

“ Condolences from a Public Defense colleague. Alvin was always so friendly and warm to his colleagues even those he didn't practice with directly, myself included, so I can only imagine how he felt toward his clients and family members.

---

**Carolyn Ross** - March 30, 2023 at 04:37 PM

LI

“ *Lisa lit a candle in memory of Alvin A. Alston*



---

**Lisa** - March 30, 2023 at 01:59 PM

RS

“ *Dear Alston Family:  
Alvin was my friend. He was a good and gentle soul. He was also a zealous advocate for his clients and for justice. I pray that the time will not be distant when you will remember him with a smile instead of a tear.*

---

**Robert Steinberg** - March 30, 2023 at 11:53 AM

BW

*I worked with Alvin for years, just a wonderful, gentle soul. I'm so sorry I cannot make this. I will be out of town. Prayers and positive energy to all.*

---

**bruce white** - March 30, 2023 at 07:32 PM

E(

“ *Earl (Joe)Davis lit a candle in memory of Alvin A. Alston*



---

**Earl (Joe)Davis** - March 30, 2023 at 10:55 AM