



## John L Southall

March 27, 1929 - December 20, 2020

John Lee Southall, son of the late John and Mary Southall, was born on March 27, 1929 in Portsmouth, Virginia. After a brief illness, he departed this life on December 20, 2020. His early education was in public schools in Portsmouth, Virginia. He loved his family and sought out an opportunity for learning and development by joining the United States Air Force where he served his country. After his military service, he went on to earn advanced degrees at Morgan State University and a MBA at Atlanta University. Lovingly known as “Dr. Southall “by his colleagues and students, John had a passion for education and teaching Business Law. He served over 42 years as a tenured professor at Morgan State University’s School of Business Administration where he made countless friends and inspired generations of students before retiring. He was determined to make a difference by using his god given ability to teach. In his early teaching years, he taught incarcerated youth college courses in a program to help them earn a college degree at Patuxent Institution in Jessup, MD. John was an avid reader, writer, and motivational speaker. He set a tremendous example for his

peers and family by being a lifetime learner. Shortly after his retirement in 2019, he earned his real estate and insurance license and continued to mentor junior professors. He was married to the late Betty F. Southall for over 25 years and resided in Baltimore, Maryland for more than 50 years where they raised their 3 children: Noriyuki, Christina, and Romonda. He loved all his kids so much. His baby boy, Noriyuki, was his groomed protégé. “Uncle John,” as he was affectionately called, loved his family dearly. He was the patriarch of the family and a God-fearing man who loved reading his bible. He gave his life to Christ and accepted Him as his Lord and Savior. He loved the Lord with all of his heart and soul. He also instilled his love of God in his family by leading the way each Sunday just down the street from their home to Christian Life Church when his kids were young. He later joined his church family at New Shiloh Baptist Church where he praised God at both service and Sunday school. He was a natural social butterfly who loved spending time with his family and friends. He could make friends anywhere and with anyone. He was known to write poetry, recite bible verses, and share “pearls of wisdom” with his dearest friends and colleagues. John lived with the purpose of giving, sheltering others, and loving God. He was very understanding, kind, generous, and his loyalty was steadfast. To his family, he was the Dad, brother, and Uncle John who always loved unconditionally, was funny, hummed songs, loved heckling during action movies or westerns, and demonstrated a

respectful virtuous life.

To his friends and colleagues, he was a great support, helpful listener, and a confidant. John was there

for so many people and always happy to lend a helping hand. He always had advice on rainy days.

He cherished and appreciated all that God gave him and protected it to a fault.

Even until the sunset of

his life, he rose each day with a magnificent spiritual light ready to head out and start his day with the

purpose to accomplish something, help someone, or take care of something.

From sunrise to sunset,

John's life was lived to the fullest, and he inspired greatness, pride, and humility. He was dutiful in all

things, humble, and a joyful giver who gave more than he ever asked.

To all who knew him, his life narrative was one of perseverance, faith, joy, courage, sacrifice, excellence,

endurance, and unconditional love. His life was full, well lived, and he led his family by setting an

exemplary example. His goal wasn't to be perfect but to learn perfectly from all life's lessons.

He leaves to cherish his memory and celebrate his life; 3 children: Noriyuki, Christina, and Romonda,

nieces and nephews: David and Frances Outland, Arnold and Nancy Smith, Charles (Cookie) and Barbara

Johnson, Lawrence Johnson, Evelyn Jones, Sandra Lewis, Joyce Martin, Ellwood Johnson, Brenda

Cornish, Briana Robinson, 2 sisters-in-law: Irene Robinson and Sheila Crosby, 1 brother-in-law: Calvin

Robinson, 2 daughters-in-law: Ciera Southall, Su Chong Southall, 4 grandchildren: Cia, Ciu, Cirae, and

Raeden Southall, and a host of other close relatives and dear friends including: Dr. Anita Pandey, Joan and Terrence Mathews.

This amazing husband, brother, dad, uncle, grandfather, colleague, and friend will forever be loved, missed, and remembered. He set the example of a lifetime by living each day on purpose with divine meaning and love. We cherish him always, and we are grateful for our cornerstone, John L. Southall. We thank God for the safe shore he stewarded tirelessly, the joyful spirit he kept for all the days of his life, and the legacy he inspired.

(3 John 1:4, Exodus 20:12, Proverbs 4:1-2, 17:6, 20:7, 14:26, 22:6, 23:22-24, Deuteronomy 6:6-7, Thessalonians 2:11-12, Joshua 24:15, Ephesians 6:1-4, 2 Samuel 7:14-15)

# Cemetery Details

## Garrison Forest Veterans

11501 Garrison Forest Road  
Owings Mills, MD

# Previous Events

## viewing

JAN 5. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore  
4300 Wabash Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215  
(410) 542-2400  
info@marchfh.com

## Wake

JAN 6. 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore  
4300 Wabash Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215  
(410) 542-2400  
info@marchfh.com

## Service

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JAN 6. 12:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore  
4300 Wabash Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215  
(410) 542-2400  
[info@marchfh.com](mailto:info@marchfh.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ To view the service of Mr. Southall please click the link below.



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**March Funeral Homes** - January 06, 2021 at 11:47 AM



“ *John L Southall*

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October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ Dr. John Southall was like a father and Chief Advisor to me. Even my sister in Alabama would always ask about him; he was part of our MD family. Whenever we met and even when we talked on the telephone, like when we were confined to our respective homes during this long pandemic, he never ceased to surprise me with his profound words of wisdom. He always remembered to call on my birthday and on our children’s birthdays. I am so glad that I still have his most recent voice mail messages saved and I will continue to listen to them. One is from Sept. when he was taking out the garbage, and two are from July 16, 2020, my oldest daughter’s birthday. Dr. Southall called three times that day and he left two messages because he wanted Sarika to know that she mattered and he hadn’t forgotten her. Here is one of those special messages he left. I’d like you to join me in hearing his soothing and hopeful voice again (available by contacting 443.422.5923). Yes, Sarika and Sahara loved to watch movies with "Uncle Southall." I remember how they would talk endlessly about *The Transformers*, *Mission Impossible* and even *Hunger Games*. When “*Black Panther*” came out, he paid for several less fortunate children to see this inspiring movie in the theater, so that they would feel motivated. The success of the next generation was always on his mind.

Whenever he joined us for lunch or dinner, we would have him sit at the head of the table, and he would say grace and those meals were always special. He was well read and enjoyed reading, learning, and meeting people from all walks of life. He spoke with conviction and people enjoyed listening to him. I remember the day that my sister Anjali and her husband Matthew met him. They were so impressed. Dr. Southall was always encouraging, and patient. I never saw him get wound up; he would take everything with a stride, and he never once complained. Dr. John Southall touched countless lives, and I know that he was family to more than me. Teaching at Morgan was his life; he was a world-class educator. My biological family and I learned so much from him--about cultivating peace, showing kindness, generosity, and love! For example, he would bring smiles to faces when he would pay for meals for men

*and women that he would meet and inspire along the way and almost every day--usually at his favorite restaurant near Morgan, Hibachi's. He was so thoughtful and considerate. As most of you know, when I taught ENG357 (Business Writing) and other courses on the other side of campus at Morgan State University, Dr. John Southall practically gave me his office. I would happily use his computer and his microwave, and he would force me to enjoy his comfortable office chair, even when he'd return from class and find this permanent fixture stationed there. I can't list all the times over the last 18 years that he picked me up from BWI, and all the times he drove me--always with a BIG smile on his face, while offering advice--to conferences in downtown Baltimore and in DC. . . . He knew the streets like the back of his hand. He was always "Morgan proud," and will be sorely missed.*

*Most recently, in Nov. 2020, he took time out to drive 30 minutes each way to join us for what ended up being two hours at our Outdoor Bilingual English Language Academy in Ellicott City, MD. He inspired five children, three teens, and five adults that day. His final hand-written note to me (from last month) will light our days ahead: "Don't let the past define who you are. Plan for the future, but live in the present. That is what I intend to do signed "John."*

*I will cherish every memory; from watching Coco with him on my birthday (Dec. 25) to learning from him. I feel so blessed and honored to have had him in my life. Please join me in sending his beautiful immediate family love and peace during this difficult time. Rest in peace, Dr. John Southall. . . . You will always be unforgettable.*

*Respectfully,  
Anita Pandey*

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**Anita Pandey** - January 06, 2021 at 11:56 AM

AP

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**anita pandey** - January 06, 2021 at 11:44 AM

AP

“ *Anita Pandey lit a candle in memory of John L Southall*



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**Anita Pandey** - January 06, 2021 at 12:29 AM

“*Dr. John Southall was my family from the moment I met him some 18 years ago. He touched countless lives, and he was family to more than me. Teaching at Morgan was his life; he was a world-class educator. My biological family and I learned so much from him--about cultivating peace, showing kindness, generosity, and love! For example, he would bring smiles to faces when he would pay for meals for men and women that he would meet and inspire along the way and almost every day--usually at his favorite restaurant near Morgan, Hibachi's.*

*He was so thoughtful and considerate; he had a Gandhi demeanor and spirit. As most of you know, when I taught ENG357 (Business Writing) and other courses on the other side of campus at Morgan State University, Dr. John Southall practically gave me his office. I would happily use his computer and his microwave at least thrice a week, and he would force me to enjoy his comfortable office chair seat, even when he'd return from class and find this permanent fixture stationed there. I can't list all the times over the last 18 years that he picked me up from BWI, and all the times he drove me--always with a BIG smile on his face, while offering great advice and presentation tips--to conferences in downtown Baltimore and in DC. . . . He knew the streets like the back of his hand. He was always "Morgan proud," and will be sorely missed.*

*His final hand-written note to me (from last month) will light our days ahead: "Don't let the past define who you are. Plan for the future, but live in the present."*

*I will cherish every memory; watching Coco with Dr. Southall on my birthday (Dec. 25), learning from him about civics and interpersonal success, and having him share his wisdom with my students as a guest speaker. Rest in peace, Dr. John Southall. . . . You will always be unforgettable.*

*Respectfully,  
Anita Pandey*

**Anita Pandey** - January 06, 2021 at 12:27 AM

AP

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



**Anita Pandey** - January 06, 2021 at 12:20 AM

TO

“ *I extend our sincere condolences to the family and may the beautiful memory you have of Uncle John live in your hearts forever. I remember Uncle John as being kind and always having a smile, and willing to help anyone. He was a wonderful and caring brother to my mom, Willetta S. Outland. He will truly be missed. May the love of God provide peace and comfort to the family.*

*Love,*

*Teddie, Leonia, and Morgan Outland*

**Teddie Outland** - January 05, 2021 at 04:22 PM

TO

“ *Teddie, Leonia, and Morgan Outland purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of John L Southall.*



**Teddie, Leonia, and Morgan Outland** - January 05, 2021 at 04:03 PM

PK

“ *My condolences to the Southall family. Professor Southall's pleasant and generous spirit will be missed at Morgan State.*

*Sincerely,  
Phyllis Keys*

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**Phyllis Keys** - January 05, 2021 at 11:22 AM



“ *We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.*

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**March Funeral Homes** - December 22, 2020 at 10:19 AM