

Family Tree

A limb has fallen from the family tree

I hear a voice that whispers, "Grieve not for me"

Remember the best times, the laughter, the songs

The good I lived while I was strong

Continue my heritage, I'm counting on you

Keep on smiling, the sun will shine through.

My mind is at ease, my soul is at rest

Remembering all... how I was truly blessed

Continue traditions, no matter how small

Go on with your lives, don't stare at the wall

I miss you all dearly so keep up your chin

Until that fine day we're together again.



Acknowledgements

During times like this we realize how much family & friends means to us. We deeply appreciate your kind expressions of sympathy. Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent those beautiful flowers, that are sitting there.

Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say. Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts we thank you so much for whatever your part. Love, Peace, and Blessings from the family of Alvin T. Baker Jr. gracefully known as Papa.



Known for Excellence. Trusted for Value.

Celebrating the Life of



Alvin T. Baker Jr.

April 6, 1944 - May 23, 2025

June 14, 2025

Visitation: 2:00 pm - Funeral Service: 3:00 pm

Walker - Walnut Hills

2625 Gilbert Avenue | Cincinnati, Ohio 45206

Minister Dave Mizell, Officiating

Obituary

Today we are here to honor the legacy of Alvin T. Baker, Jr., known affectionately as “Papa,” who left us on May 23rd at the age of 81.

Papa was born on April 6, 1944, in Cincinnati, Ohio, to Alvin Baker Sr. “Buddy” and Cora Mae Baker - Dawson, and his stepfather, Albert Dawson Jr., who has all preceded him in death. Papa was raised in a home that valued love, respect, hard work, and carried the values that would define his life: strength, loyalty, and love of family.

After graduating from Central High School, he chose a path of courage and service by enlisting in the United States Navy, where he served with honor in the Vietnam War. After his service, he continued his education at the University of Cincinnati, where he studied business. He was a lifelong student of the world, especially drawn to history, politics, and any good book he could get his hands on.

Papa was a Master Freemason, a title that speaks to his integrity, loyalty, and commitment to community. He worked for General Electric, Cincinnati Bell, the Cincinnati Public Library, Union Baptist Cemetery, and Cincinnati Public School Systems. He was a true jack of all trades and bootleg. If it was broken, Papa could fix it. If it needed building, he could build it. Whether working on cars, wiring a light fixture, or crafting something by hand, he brought pride to everything he did.

Every now and then he loved to play a good game of “Call of Duty” online with his loved ones. And when Sunday came around, you could bet Papa was rooting for his team—the Bengals.

Papa shared a life of love and partnership with his beautiful wife, Brenda Hall-Baker, who loved him dearly. Together, they lovingly raised three exceptional children: Terrance Baker, Yulanda Hall “Pookie” (Dwayne), and Tiffany Laffitte (William “BJ”). To them, Papa was a source of wisdom, stability, and unconditional love. In each of them, you can see a piece of him.

He adored his eight grandchildren—Terrance Jones “TJ”, Nina Hall “Nina Bena”, Jurnee Laffitte, William Laffitte III “Tre”, Taylor Laffitte, Isaiah Baker, Olivia Buckley, and Madison Baker. He gave them not just memories, but values, laughter, and a deep sense of belonging.

Continued Obituary

He was also a cherished sibling—bonded to his sisters and brothers: Barbara A. Startkey, Gloria J. Ford, Alfreda Dawson, Reginald E. Dawson (Robin), Albert Clayton Dawson (Cynthia), and his sister who preceded him in death Beverley Dawson - Phillips. Their memories together span decades of shared joys, challenges, and unbreakable bonds.

Papa leaves behind seven nieces and nephews, five great-nieces and nephews, and eight great-great-nieces and nephews, each of whom knew the joy of having an uncle who listened, supported, and loved without condition.

So today, as we say goodbye, we also say thank you. Thank you, Papa, for the life you lived, and for the lessons you taught us. We will remember not just the man who has left us, but the man who valued family above all else. You were, and always will be, the heart of this family.



Order of Service

Musical Prelude	
Military Honors	United States Navy Honor Guards
Prayer	Minister Dave Mizell
Scripture	Minister Dave Mizell
Poem	Juanita Montgomery
Acknowledgements	Taylor Laffitte
Remarks	2 Minutes Please
Obituary	Read Silently with a Musical Selection
Memorial Video	Nina Hall
Poem	William Laffitte III “Tre” "Family Tree"
Eulogy	Minister Dave Mizell
Benediction	Minister Dave Mizell
Recessional	Clergy, Family & Friends



Repast

6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Fraternal Order of Eagles
4815 Tower Ave., St. Bernard, Ohio 45217