

The Comfort and Sweetness of Peace

After the clouds, the sunshine,
after the winter, the spring,
after the shower, the rainbow,
for life is a changeable thing.
After the night, the morning,
bidding all darkness cease.
After life's cares and sorrows,
the comfort and sweetness of peace.

Repast

Union Missionary Baptist Church
1360 Riverside Drive
Barstow, California 92311

Acknowledgements of Gratitude

The family of Alvin Kenneth Holden, Jr., would like to thank you for your kind expressions of sympathy, support, and attendance during our time of bereavement. Your kindness has allowed me to be distracted from sadness and pain and focus on the many great blessings and memories.

Special thanks to Loma Linda University Medical Center -Doctors and Staff, Loma Linda Transplant Team, Imperial Home Health, Barstow Community Hospital, Wound Care Staff, Desert Cities-Dialysis, Dr. Arash Milani, Dr. Jamal, Dr. Kumar Medical Center, Dr. Gregory Carlson of St. Joseph Hospital, Riverside Community Hospital, and so many other outstanding health care professionals who helped to make Alvin's journey more bearable.

— **THE HOLDEN FAMILY** —

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CELEBRATING THE LIFE, THE LOVE & Legacy



TUESDAY, JULY 22, 2025
10:00 A.M.

UNION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
1360 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
BARSTOW, CALIFORNIA 92311



ALVIN KENNETH
HOLDEN, JR.

DECEMBER 15, 1955 - JULY 6, 2025

REMEMBERING ALVIN K. HOLDEN, JR.

Alvin Kenneth Holden, Jr. transitioned from this Life on Sunday, July 6, 2025. He was born to Linnie Atkins and Alvin Kenneth Holden, Sr. at Lallie Kemp Medical Center- LSU- Independence, Louisiana. He was a welcomed addition after five girls. With pride he was named Alvin Kenneth Holden, Jr. and affectionately called AL by many.

Alvin received his religious/ spiritual foundation from Isrealite Baptist Church of Independence, Louisiana as a young child. He was baptized by Reverend E.M. Booker. One of Alvin's earliest church assignments was to help pull electrical wires through the building. Alvin had no skills or training, so he was brave, bold, and not afraid even then.

AL went to West Side Elementary School, Independence Boys' School, and he graduated from Amite High School. Alvin shared that this was a rough time filled with a great deal of social discord and Little time for studies. He said he spent most of that year fighting. However, somehow, he made up for what he missed, and it showed up all throughout his Life.

Like most teenaged boys, AL hung with a few wild, and crazy friends who all stayed on the right side of the Law. Alvin was fresh out of high school and enrolled in Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond, Louisiana. However, AL slipped too close to the wrong side of Miss Linnie, his mother when he didn't keep curfew. He was Locked out of the house. That is when he decided to move into adulthood. The next day he met a recruiter, and he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He was trained in Communications, and as a Military Police Officer.

Alvin came home from boot camp on Thursday, June 5, 1975. Alvin and Cheryl met that day, and the sparks fired in both of their hearts. They dated and he proposed. A short time Later, he was assigned to Okinawa, Japan. The Long Distance relationship ended, and they got married on August 12, 1978. The couple then decided to make Barstow their home.

In 1979 Alvin was ready to transition to the civilian world, so he was honorably discharged from the Marine Corps as a Lance Corporal (LCpl). Alvin was also looking for work. He got a job at H&E Hardware Store after searching for only a few hours. Within the next thirty days he was hired at U.S. Borax Chemical Corporation in Boron, CA. That came to be his 2nd home for the next 36 years. In the meantime, they started their family.

They became proud parents of three children: Alvin III in 1980, Cherhonda in 1984, and LaTisha in 1989. While Alvin was busy working, providing for the family, he made time for college, the Masonic Order, and for hobbies.

Alvin graduated from Barstow Community College, Golden Gate University, and from The University of Redlands.

Al had many hobbies. Alvin played football and racket ball. He loved fishing in Louisiana, crawfishing in Bishop, California, grilling, cooking, planting vegetables, tilling the ground, making sausage, raising pigs, cutting wood, socializing, and playing with grandchildren. Cheryl thinks working in general was a hobby of his.



Tributes To

ALVIN K. HOLDEN, JR.

Message to my "Mr. Holden"

Alvin, it's no way to capture fifty (50) years of a relationship in a few loose pages or even in a whole afternoon. Besides, you would get bored.

However, I will thank you for being "THE MAN" in my life. You led, you initiated, you protected and cleared my paths and kept me safe. You gave me freedom to stretch my wings, so I could find my own way.

I watched you suffer and struggle, immensely, and I know it was to prepare me.

Now, you can finally rest!

I will always love you!

Your wife,
Cheryl (Turtle)



Along with cooking, Alvin's other great passion was sharing his cooking with others. I'll bet almost everyone in this room has eaten some of his cooking or had his home-grown crops from his garden. Alvin knew it was all by God's grace and mercy.

He loved and served the Lord diligently. He studied and he comprehended the bible better than many. He served as Sunday School Teacher, Sunday School Superintendent, he facilitated Bible Study, and he sang in the Men's Choir. Alvin was a Joint Board Member, and a Deacon at Union Missionary Baptist Church. He attended his home church- lsrealite whenever he was in town.

Alvin leaves to cherish his loving memories: his devoted wife, Cheryl L. Holden, his children Alvin K. Holden, Ill, Cherhonda D. Holden, LaTisha H. Palmer (Marcus), Siblings: Rose Williams, Brenda Bolden (Herbert), Althea Thompson (Willie), Carolyn Singleton, Debra Holden. Grandchildren: Zuriel J. Thomas, Nicolette J. Palmer, Norri M. Palmer, and Nehemiah M.P. Palmer, and many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and countless numbers of friends.

Alvin is preceded in death by his sister Annie H. Lewis and his parents Alvin K. Holden, Jr. and Linnie Holden.

Alvin's Life as a Mason

Alvin traveled through the Masonic order under Hiram of Tyre. He went from the 1st degree to the 33rd Degree. He served in many capacities, holding many stations, if not all stations in his forty-year span as a Mason. He was his lodge's instructor, secretary, and Master to name a few. He was so serious and dedicated to his craft that he gladly traveled 150 miles round trip to attend meetings several times a month.

Alvin held the Shriner Degree as well. He was a member of Golden Poppy Grand Chapter where he worked with Golden Star Chapter #33. There he served several positions. They included a Worthy Patron, Past Patron, as well as an officer in the upper houses. We cherish all that Alvin brought to the Order and he will be sorely missed.

Alvin's Favorite Sayings

- Get up and put your boots on (go to work)
- Bye, bye box (coffin)
- I don't want to rust out. I want to wear out.
- If you understand me, then it's effective communication
- "Brother teacher"
- I'm gonna go catch these mules (Going to work)
- He called every little boy "rooster"
- Bald mouth -when the kids lost their teeth
- Remember who you are and whose you are
- "You want yo cornbread?" from a scene in the movie "Life"
- Madea's "Hellur!"

Scripture:

Animal:

Colors:

Food:

Plants:

Comedian:

Singers:

TV Shows:

News Station:

Movie:

Mom and Dad's Song

Special Foods to cook

Alvin's Favorites

Ephesians 6: 11-18

Eagle

Tans and Browns

Gravy and Rice

Mustard Greens

Jeff Foxworthy

Bill Withers,

The Winans

All Westerns

MSNBC

Harlem Nights

"For the Love of You" by Isley Brothers

Sweet Potato Pie and Cornbread

ORDER OF SERVICE

ALVIN K. HOLDEN, JR.

MUSICAL PRELUDE PROCESSIONAL OFFICIATING MINISTER, CLERGY & FAMILY

OPENING SELECTION SENDING UP TIMBER- CLELL COURTNEY

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT..... SIS. JANETTE WILLIAMS

NEW TESTAMENT..... SIS. JACQUELINE REEVES

CONGREGATIONAL SELECTION

PRAYER REVEREND LARRY REEVES

MASTER OF SERVICE-----REVEREND RAY DIXON

WORDS OF COMFORT ----- REVEREND RAY DIXON

WORDS FROM ALVIN'S CHILDREN: LATISHA, CHERHONDA, ALVIN III

EXPRESSIONS: LIMIT 2 MINUTES

DEA. CHARLES O'NEAL

BRO. JOSEPH JARAMILLO

GLORIA BASKETT-NYBERG

JOSEPH EVANS, JR.

OBITUARY, ACKNOWLEDGMENT, RESOLUTIONS -----VENITA HAWKINS

READING OF MASONIC RESOLUTION -----ST. ANDREWS LODGE #16

READING OF RESOLUTION -----EASTERN STARS GOLDEN POPPY CHAPTER #33

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF MINISTERS -----VENITA HAWKINS

SOLO -----MY SOUL HAS BEEN ANCHORED-----DEACON AUDIE DIGGS

MESSAGE-----REV. SETH WILLIAMS

PARTING SONG -----HYMN OF CELEBRATION

RECESSIONAL

AFTERGLOW

I'D LIKE THE MEMORY OF ME TO BE A HAPPY ONE. I'D LIKE TO LEAVE AN
AFTERGLOW OF SMILES WHEN LIFE IS DONE. I'D LIKE TO LEAVE AN ECHO
WHISPERING SOFTLY DOWN THE WAYS,
OF HAPPY TIMES AND LAUGHING TIMES AND BRIGHT AND SUNNY DAYS. I'D LIKE
THE TEARS OF THOSE WHO GRIEVE, TO DRY BEFORE THE SUN; OF HAPPY
MEMORIES THAT I LEAVE WHEN LIFE IS DONE

From Alvin

*When you wake up tomorrow
and grief takes your breath away
Know that I am watching over you
and walking with you each day.*

*Though unseen, I stay close by
We're never far apart
The love we shared gives testament
to all that's in your heart*

*I see the way you all are struggling
now to hold your head up high
I'm proud of you because I know
how very hard you'll be trying*

*I wish that I could hold you close
and ease the pain you feel
I want so much to talk to you
and promise that you'll heal*

*One day you will see me again
Once more within your sight
I'll be right here to walk you in
I'll be waiting in the light*

*With all my Love,
Your "Superman"
From Alvin*

Tributes To
**ALVIN K.
HOLDEN, JR.**



Loving Care and Support by Alvin M



He Gave You Wings to Fly

God looked around His garden and found an empty place. He then looked down upon His earth, and saw your loving face. He put His arms around you and lifted you to rest. His garden must be beautiful for He always takes the best. He knew that you were suffering, He knew you were in pain. So God called for His child and a place in Heaven you gained. He saw your path was difficult, He closed your tired eyes. He whispers to you, "Peace be Thine" and gave you wings to fly. When we saw you sleeping, so calm free of pain, We each knew that all will be well for Heaven has won the fight once again.. You've left us precious memories, your love will be our guide. You live on through your children, you will always be by our side. While it may break our hearts to lose you, we know you did not go alone. For part of us went with you, on the day God called you home.



*With Love Forever and Always
Your Children
Alvin, Cherhonda and LaTisha*

