



ACTIVE PALLBEARERS

Thurmond E. Brentley ~ Trevor L. Brentley
 Cedric Brentley ~ Brian Brentley
 David Oldham ~ Dr. Kyle Oldham

IN APPRECIATION

The Family of Rev. David J. Brentley wishes to express our sincere gratitude for the cards, flowers, prayers, condolences, and other expressions of sympathy during our time of sorrow. We extend heartfelt thanks to the staff at Fresenius Dialysis Center in Fairfield and the staff at Hospice of Cincinnati Blue Ash.



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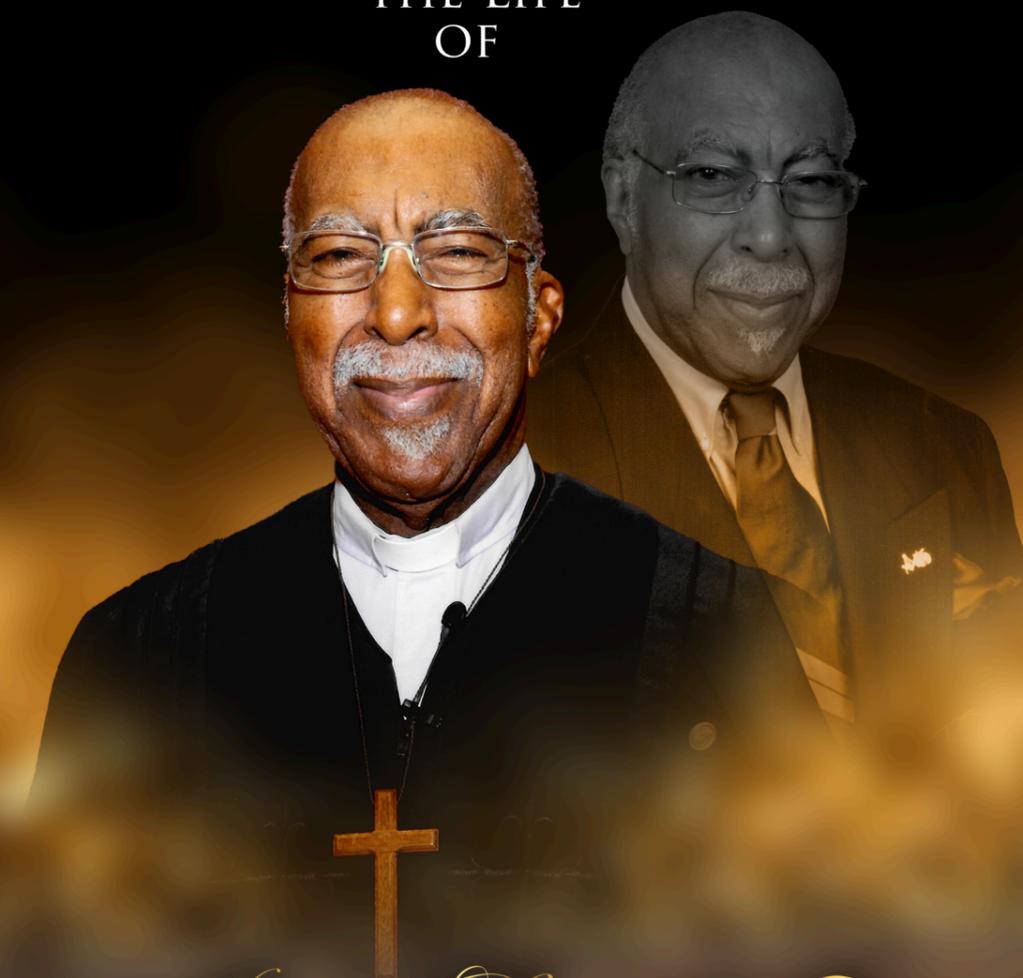
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CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF



Rev. David J. BRENTLEY

SUNRISE: JANUARY 10, 1936
 SUNSET: FEBRUARY 20, 2026

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2026 | 11:00AM
New Vision United Methodist Church
 4400 Reading Road, Cincinnati, OH 45229



Obituary

David James Brentley, affectionately called Dave, was born on January 10, 1936 in Pittsburgh, PA. He was the fifth of nine children born to the late Roy Brentley, Sr. and Viola Brentley. He departed this life on February 20, 2026 into the arms of The Lord.

Being the middle of nine children, Dave fulfilled his role as the 'peacemaker' in the family. With his calm, deliberate, always-rational approach to any problem, he was THE go-to person to help settle differences between family members. Always polite and respectful with everyone, Dave demonstrated all the chivalrous behavior that he and his brothers had learned from their dad.

David attended Miller Elementary School and Fifth Ave Junior/Senior High School. He earned a B.A. Degree from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. Dave put himself through college via scholarships, loans, and various side jobs. He was always seen as a go-getter. After graduating from Duquesne, he worked as a social worker at Kane Hospital, a facility specializing in geriatric care. Later, he worked for ALCOA Aluminum in Pittsburgh.

He enjoyed working for several other companies before starting Vidatt Energy Inc. He moved his family to Cleveland, Ohio to work as a district sales manager for Sohio/Bp overseeing multiple gas stations in the Cleveland area. In 1980 he started his career with the Chessie Railroad System (CXS). Dave was the first Black man to be hired as a sales manager for CXS. He was transferred to Cincinnati and continued to work for the Chessie system until he left in the late 1980's to form his own company, Vidatt Energy Inc., a coal, oil, and lubricant brokerage business.

David balanced his extensive work career with his love of church. He had always been active in the church and its ministries, as his father Roy Sr. and his oldest brother, Roy Jr. were both pastors. David followed them and enrolled in the Diocese of Southern Ohio Procter Center, London Ohio and was ordained as a Deacon in the Episcopal Church. While a member at St. Andrews Church in Cincinnati, he served as president of the Men of St Andrew's, served as Senior Warden, and sang in the men's choir.

In the late 1990's David transferred his Episcopal Deacon credentials to the United Methodist Church and became a licensed Local Pastor in the Ohio River Valley District in Cincinnati of the West Ohio Conference. He was appointed to Calvary United Methodist Church, where Reverend William "Bill" Davis, served as Senior Pastor. David taught Sunday School, was active in the United Methodist Men and visiting the Sick and Shut in. During his ministry at Calvary he met Karen W. Oldham... and in 2001 they were married.

In 2004, David transferred his membership to the newly-merged New Vision United Methodist Church. He served as associate pastor under Rev. Dr. Calvin Alston, Jr., Pastor Rick Nance and Pastor Merritt Worthen. He was actively involved in the visitation and bereavement ministries, Male Chorus, United Methodist Men, bible study and the Upper Room Sunday School class. In June 2015 David retired, as he was at mandatory retirement age, however he continued to serve as retired Local Pastor under Rev. Jeaninne Lewis Walker. In 2024 Peter E. Matthews was appointed as Senior Pastor at New Vision UMC, health issues led to Davids' full retirement.

David is preceded in death by his first wife, Viola "Vi" Brentley; daughter-in-law, Anita (Thurmond) Brentley; siblings and their spouses, Roy (Aleta, Irene) Brentley, Jr., Harold "Bobby" (Bernice, Ophelia), Irvin (Essie) Brentley, Beverly "Lucille" Brentley, Betty Preston Brentley, Paul (Myra) Brentley and Carl (Pat) Brentley.

David is survived by his wife, Karen Oldham Brentley; sons, Thurmond Brentley and Trevor Brentley; grandsons, Cedric Brentley and Brian Brentley; granddaughter, Kennedy Daniels; step-sons, David Oldham and Dr. Kyle Oldham; brother, Norman Brentley and sister-in-law Bettye Brentley; 21 nieces and nephews, along with a host of grand and great-grand nieces and nephews.

A Letter from David to his loved ones.

To: Karen, Thurmond, Trevor, David, Kyle, Norman, Bettye, Cedric, Brian, and Kennedy

God saw me getting tired and a cure was not to be, so He put his arms around me and whispered, "Come to Me." With tearful eyes I said, "I am ready" and then I passed away.

My heart stopped beating hard and my working hands and soul acknowledged it was time to move on. I am at rest and hopefully in the Resting Place awaiting The Final Judgment where I look forward to being with loved ones and you to be with us in the future.

~ David

Notification of Change of Address

Please be advised I have move. I received a call from God, the Chief Architect, the other day, and he informed me my new home was complete.

You all know I have been working on my building, sending up timber, packing up, and getting ready to go. I know my house needed final changes and the Chief Carpenter; Jesus Christ had to inspect it as it needed final approval.

He let me know my house was completed and I could move in. He told me to change my address immediately. It is located on an exclusive estate behind a beautiful gate. There is peace, joy, and happiness here. No pain or discomfort, medicine, doctors, or strife. There is only sweet serenity.

I don't have a telephone number or email address. You can always pray to God, and your message will be received.

Order Of Service

Rev. Peter E. Mathews, Officiant

MUSICAL PRELUDE

FAMILY PARTING VIEW

OPENING PRAYER
Rev. Peter E. Mathews

CHOIR SELECTION
"I Have A Testimony"

SCRIPTURE READING
Psalm 46 — David Brentley Sr.
Romans 5: 5-11 — Aleta Johnson

MUSIC SELECTION
"Amazing Grace"
Norman & Bettye Brentley

REFLECTIONS
Rev. Curnell Graham (Video)
Pastor Rick Nance (Video)
Attorney William Bell

CHOIR SELECTION
"Your Grace and Mercy"

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS / RESOLUTIONS
Kathye Lewis Norman

Celebrating The Life of
Rev. David J. Brentley
Video Tribute

TRIBUTES
Wade Chapman
Michael Hardig
Howard Campbell
Norman Brentley

CHOIR SELECTION
"I Trust In God"

EULOGY
Rev. Dr. Calvin Alston Jr.

BENEDICTION
Dr. Charles W. Collins