

PALLBEARERS

Nephews

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Brothers

FLOWER BEARERS

Nieces

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The family of Dr. John W. Culbreath extends our deepest gratitude for the many expressions of love, support, and kindness shown during this time of bereavement. Your prayers, visits, cards, and thoughtful words both virtually and in person have been a source of comfort and strength.

Although our hearts are heavy, we find peace in knowing that God is in control.

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26 (NKJV)

INTERMENT

Floral Memory Gardens

120 Old Pretoria Road, Albany, Georgia 31721

REPAST

Second Mt. Zion Baptist Church

Theodus Drake Family Life Center

Albany, Georgia 31721

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO

Meadows Funeral Home
OF ALBANY, INC.

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Albany, GA 31701
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Celebration
OF Life
FOR

DR. JOHN WILLIE
Culbreath, Jr.

SUNRISE
January 17, 1948

SUNSET
August 5, 2025

Tuesday, August 12, 2025 | 12:00 PM

SECOND MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
1010 Old Pretoria Road | Albany, Georgia 31721

Dr. Theodus Drake, Jr., Pastor



Honoring THE LIFE AND LEGACY *Dr. John W. Culbreath*

Dr. John W. Culbreath was a native of Monroe, Georgia, and was educated in the public schools of Walton County. He graduated as valedictorian from Carver High School in Monroe and received his B.A. Degree in French from Albany State College in Albany, Georgia. He received his master's degree in administration and supervision from Georgia State University, and his Doctor of Education Degree from the University of Georgia. His career in education began in the classroom as a teacher and grew to include experiences as assistant principal, principal of three different schools, and assistant superintendent serving across the state of Georgia in Randolph, Walton, Clarke, and Glynn counties, as well as Atlanta Public Schools. His career in primary and secondary education culminated with his service as the first Black superintendent of the Dougherty County Schools System in 1995 until his retirement in June 2001. On the state level, Dr. Culbreath served on the governor's Closing the Achievement Gap Commission, the Implementation Task Force and the African-American Male Initiative with the Georgia Board of Regents. He spent six years as a member of the Georgia Professional Standards Commission, the last three years as Chairman. During his tenure, he was named Administrator of the Year by the Georgia Association of Education Office Personnel, School and Community Leader of the Year by the Georgia School Public Relations Association, and Man of the Year by the local March of Dimes. He has also been named a recipient of the University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA) Excellence in Educational Leadership Award, as well as the Albany Rotary Club Four-Way Test Award. The Georgia Association of Educational Leaders (GAEL) awarded him the H.M. Fullbright Distinguished Service Award in 2007.

Dr. Culbreath was initiated into Delta Delta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. at Albany State in 1966 and proudly served Gamma Omicron Lambda Chapter in Albany where he was named Man of the Year for 2007 and 2011. He recently received the Guiding Light Award from the Delta Delta Alumni of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Dr. Culbreath served his alma mater in various capacities including the Albany State University National Alumni Association and ASU Foundation Board. He retired as the Dean of the College of Education at

THE *Mighty*, MIGHTY SPIRIT

*There is a Mighty Spirit –
That dwells throughout the land,
And holds all our tomorrows-
In the hollow of His hand.*

*It was this Mighty Spirit-
Who has a mighty will,
Who caught my falling soul-
And guides me upward still.*

*It was this Mighty Spirit-
Who made my sorrow cease,
And filled my heart and soul-
With perfect love and peace.*

*That Mighty, Mighty Spirit-
That dwells inside of me,
Has loosed the chains of bondage-
And set this captive free.*

*Yes, there is a Mighty Spirit-
That guides me where'r I roam,
One day the Might Spirit-
Shall bear my spirit home.*

*John W. Culbreath
April 14, 1998*



Congratulations

PRINCIPAL PROUD- John Culbreath, principal of the new Randolph/Clay High School is justifiable proud of the new public school and smiles as he sits behind his desk at the new facility. School will open at the new location on September 15.

Georgia Educational Trailblazer

**Randolph County
Walton County
Clarke County
Glynn County
Atlanta City Schools
Dougherty County**

John W. Culbreath
Principal

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

Dr. John W Culbreath

SENIOR BROTHERS SPOTLIGHT

Brother Dr. John Culbreath [Delta Delta '66]

Brother Dr. John Culbreath received a Lifetime Achievement Award at Albany State University's annual Blue and Gold Scholarship Gala on April 9, 2022. One of ASU's preeminent awards, the Lifetime Achievement Award is presented to individuals who have demonstrated outstanding service to their community and achieved monumental success in their chosen field or profession. The recipient must have consistently given his/her time, talent, and financial resources to enrich Albany State University.

Brother Culbreath was tapped for the Lifetime Achievement Award for his superb leadership and exemplary service to ASU and to various communities and organizations in Georgia. An honor graduate of ASU, Brother Culbreath has served and supported the University in numerous roles and capacities: He served as dean of the College of Education, member of the ASU National Alumni Association, and member of the board of directors of the ASU Foundation. He was inducted into the ASU Alumni Hall of Fame in 2005.

Brother Culbreath has indeed achieved monumental success in the field of education. He has served as a classroom teacher and assistant principal at the elementary and high school levels, as well as a principal at the middle and high school levels in various communities in Georgia. In 1995, Brother Culbreath returned to Albany Georgia to serve as the first African American superintendent of the Dougherty County School System. He served as superintendent for six years and was named "Administrator of the Year" by the Georgia Association of Education Office of Personnel, and "School and Community Leader of the Year" by the Georgia School Public Relations Association during his tenure as superintendent. He was also awarded the Lifetime Service Award by the Albany Area Chamber of Commerce.

In 2007 and 2011, Gamma Omicron Lambda Chapter named Brother Culbreath "Man of the Year." He has served the chapter in several roles which has included historian, Founder's Day speaker, and most notably as the director of the highly-successful "Go-to-High School2, Go-to-College" mentoring program for more than 10 years. Most of the young men who participated in the chapter's mentoring program graduated from high school and many earned degrees from four-year universities and technical colleges.

The Monroe Georgia native earned a B.A. degree in French from Albany State University, a master's degree in administration and supervision from Georgia State University, and a Doctor of Education degree from the University of Georgia. Brother Culbreath is married and is the father of three children. Brother Culbreath's life is a testament to the value of a good education. **S**

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Albany State University. During his tenure as Dean the ASU College of Education received the renewal of its accreditation with the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Dr. Culbreath was inducted in the Albany State University Alumni Hall of Fame in 2005. In 2022, he was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by Albany State University.

Dr. Culbreath served as President of the Fourteen Black Men of Glynn, Inc. from 1990-93. These men mentored 21 Black ninth graders and gave them the incentive that their tuition would be paid to any college or university in the United States. To earn this tuition, they had to participate in the mentoring program, stay out of trouble, and graduate on time with a college preparatory diploma. Of the original 21, 14 graduated on time, with a college prep diploma and went to college. On March 5, 2011, Dr. Culbreath received the Key to the City of Brunswick, Georgia, as the keynote speaker for the Fourteen Black Men's Banquet.

John was a member of the Albany Rotary Club (Paul Harris Fellow). He was a co-founder of Strive2Thrive, an initiative designed to eliminate poverty in Dougherty County. Included on the list of boards that Dr. Culbreath has served on are: the Albany Museum of Art; the Boys and Girls Club; Regions Bank; United Way of Southwest Georgia; the Anchorage; Consumer Credit Counseling. He has also served on the boards of Communities in Schools, Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital (Chairman), the Salvation Army, the Flint RiverQuarium, the Ritz Cultural Center. He served as the 2007 Chairman of the Albany Chamber of Commerce. He is a 2007 graduate of Leadership Albany and he is the 2009 recipient of the Ed Freeman Outstanding Leadership Award. In January of 2012, he was one of the six recipients of the "Dream Award 2012" at Albany's Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration. In 2018, he was awarded the Lifetime Service Award by the Albany Area Chamber of Commerce.

John was preceded in death by his beloved parents John Willie Culbreath, Sr., and Conca Vella C. Shields; his sister, Cascell Camp; brother, Harold Culbreath, Sr.; and his son Adrian Bernard James.

John leaves behind to cherish his memory: his loving wife of over 54 years, Barbara W. Culbreath; two devoted daughters, Cynthia and Carletha (Lisa) Culbreath; one sister, Barbara Knox; two sisters-in-law, Edna Culbreath and Gladys Spencer (Roosevelt); one brother-in-law, Sylvester Williams, Sr. (Carmen); two treasured grandchildren, Bishop Trevino-Culbreath and Lakeisha Locklear-Culbreath; along with a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude

Processional

Selection..... Second Mt. Zion Music Ministry

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament..... Reverend Aaron D. Edmondson, Jr.

New Testament..... Minister Evelyn Ross

Prayer of Comfort Bishop Sylvester Williams, Sr.

Selection..... Minister Judith Thompson

Tributes and Reflections

Special Presentation Office of Congressman Sanford Bishop

Education Dr. Sally Whatley

Church and Fraternity..... Deacon Prince P. Reid III

Friend Deacon James A. Bland

Family Ms. Cynthia D. Culbreath
Ms. Carletha (Lisa) Culbreath

Selection..... Second Mt. Zion Music Ministry

Eulogy Dr. Theodus Drake, Jr.

Recessional..... Second Mt. Zion Music Ministry



A BEAUTIFUL SOUL
Is Never Forgotten

