

Celebrate My Life

*Celebrate my Life! Please don't cry for me.
Put a smile upon your face!
When the time comes for my final breath
I will be headed for a better place.*

*There will be no more discomfort,
And I will have no dread or fear.
The regret I'll have around that time
Will be leaving my loved ones here.*

*My Heavenly Father will be waiting for me
With His arms held open wide.
At last, I will face the one I love
Who was always at my side.*

*So, on that day please celebrate.
Don't waste your time with tears,
Because I'll be hugging dear ones
I have missed for all these years.*

Author Unknown

PALLBEARERS

Sons, Grandsons, and Special Friends

FLOWER BEARERS

Daughters, Granddaughters, and Special Friends

INTERMENT

Oaklawn Cemetery

(Located next to Bethlehem Baptist Church
1401 Emanuel Street
West Gadsden, Alabama)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The family of the Late Mrs. Mary D. Alford acknowledges with sincere appreciation the acts of kindness, visits, and other support shown during the illness and passing of our loved one.

A special thanks to the doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals with whom we entrusted her care, the services of SouthernCare New Beacon Hospice, the staff of Gadsden Memorial Funeral Home, Ms. Leah Hicks, the Joseph T. Robinson/North 4th Place Community Club, the Shiloh Baptist Church Family, and a host of dear friends, too numerous to name, who have always been a constant presence and source of strength and inspiration to Mom and the rest of the family.

SERVICES BY PROFESSIONALS

Gadsden
MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME

1318 EAST BROAD ST.
GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35903
PH: 256.492.4366 | FAX: 256.492.4326

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



MRS. MARY D. ALFORD

SUNRISE
April 23, 1939

SUNSET
October 25, 2024

Saturday, November 2, 2024
1:00 PM

SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH
1037 Tuscaloosa Avenue
Gadsden, Alabama 35901

*Pastor Alando Thornton, Officiating
Reverend Robert L. Heflin, Jr., Eulogist*

Obituary

Mary Doris (Roundtree) Alford, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, was born on April 23, 1939, in Welch, Chambers County, Alabama, to Mattie Lee (Crowley) Roundtree and Fred Roundtree.

Distinguishing herself as an excellent student during her schooling years, Mary was educated at Randolph County Training School (R.C.T.S) in Roanoke, Alabama, where she was valedictorian of her high school graduating class.

On August 30, 1958, Mary was united in holy matrimony to Eugene Alford of Roanoke, Alabama. Sharing a loving union, they were blessed with four children: Valery, Vickie, Phyllis, and Rodney.

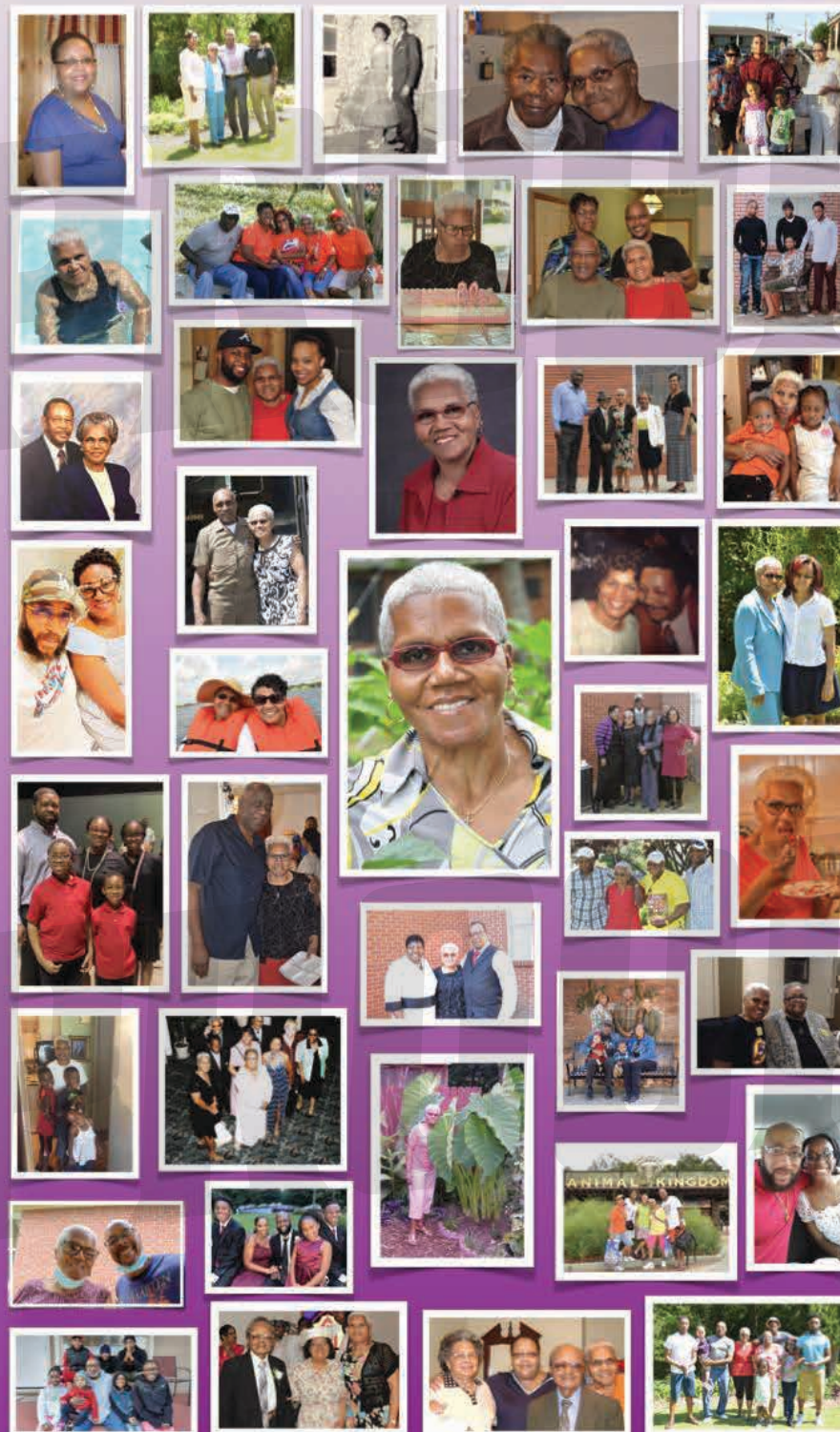
In the early 1970's, when her husband became employed in Gadsden, the Alford family relocated, and Mary began working as a dedicated sales associate at Marvin's Hardware where she eventually moved up and served as a sales manager until the time of her retirement.

Shiloh Baptist Church became the Alford family's church home, and Mary remained a devoted and active member of Shiloh for the remainder of her life, embodying a deep faith that guided her every step. Mary's unwavering commitment to community and her compassionate spirit enriched the lives of many. Through her church and volunteer activities, she exemplified a true servant's heart, offering kindness, wisdom, and friendship to all who knew her. She was a model wife, mother, and grandmother, whose faithfulness and love for her family and friends were constant.

Those who knew Mary knew she also held a profound love for plants, flowers, and gardening. Spending countless hours in her beautiful yard tending to her flowers and greenery brought her endless joy and peace, and her vibrant garden and beautification awards were a testament to her patience and nurturing spirit.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Eugene Alford; her daughter, Phyllis Alford; and her son-in-law, Leo Smith, Jr. Those who remain to cherish her memories and legacy of love and kindness are her sons, Valery K. Alford, Sr., (Gwendolyn) of Gadsden, Alabama, and Rodney E. Alford (Renee) of Huntsville, Alabama; daughter, Vickie R. Smith (Leo) of Gadsden, Alabama; four grandsons, Christopher R. Williams (Brittany) of Fairburn, Georgia, Valery K. Alford, Jr., of Gadsden, Darrell B. Smith (Regina) of Alexandria, Virginia, and Bryan V. M. Dugger of Huntsville, Alabama; four granddaughters, Tiajuana C. Alford of Georgia, Traci M. Smith of Gadsden, Alabama, Seinna M. Avery (Renza) of Gadsden, Alabama, and Jaylah S. Alford of Huntsville, Alabama; sister-in-law, Virgil Holt of Atlanta, Georgia; brother-in-law, Reverend Dr. Bruce O. Alford (Barbara) of Roanoke, Alabama; fourteen great-grandchildren; and a cadre' of other loving special relatives and friends.

Precious Memories



Order of Service

Musical Prelude	Musician
Processional.....	Family
Solo	Mrs. Denise Sims
Scripture Readings:	
Old Testament	Reverend Dr. Bruce O. Alford
New Testament.....	Reverend Barbara Alford
Prayer	Reverend Ernest L. Williams, Sr.
Solo	Mrs. Denise Sims
Poem	“Celebrate My Life” Ms. Gerri Tinker
Reflections from Loved Ones <i>Limit to Two Minutes, Please</i>	
Obituary	<i>Read Silently, Please</i>
Eulogy	Reverend Robert L. Heflin, Jr.
Recessional.....	Soft Music

“Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.”

I THESSALONIANS 4:13-14