

# IN LOVING MEMORY OF SHEPARD ALSTON II

“ALI”

Sunrise  
March 14, 1978

Sunset  
February 6, 2021



*The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord:  
and he delighteth in his way. Psalm 37:23*

Tuesday, March 2, 2021 - 12:00 Noon

**Cotton Funeral Service**

1025 Bergen Street • Newark, New Jersey

# ORDER OF SERVICE

Welcome .....Ronice Bruce

Selection – Wind Beneath My Wings.....Ahmed “JKing” Wallace

Scriptures – Isiah 41:10 and Psalm 37:23 .....Sharay Lighty

Poems – A Heart of Gold and I’m Free..... Sharay Lighty

Selection – May the Work I’ve Done Speak for Me .....Ahmed “JKing” Wallace

Obituary & Eulogy.....Brandon Stanfill

Tributes .....Kimberley Alston-Witcher

Mia Alston & Tracy Alston

Aivery Walden

Demond Cowins

Jay Brodie

Jeffrey Brooks

Altarik White

Selection – Its So Hard to Say Goodbye to Yesterday .....Ahmed “JKing” Wallace

Final Viewing.....Wife and Children

Remarks & Janazah Prayer  
by Imam Abdul Aleem Razzaqq (Masjid Al-Imran, Jersey City)

INTERMENT  
Rosedale Cemetery  
Orange, New Jersey



# OBITUARY

Shepard 'Ali' Alston II was born on March 14, 1978 in Paterson, NJ. He was the first son born to Lucy Alston and the late Shepard Alston Sr.

Shep graduated from Malcolm X Shabazz High School in 1996. During his tenure he enjoyed being an all-around athlete and participated in football, track & field, and basketball. However, football was Shep's main passion; as a starting player, he excelled as a defensive end, defensive tackle, and offensive tackle. He received several awards and accolades including Blue Chip Recruit, All City, All County, All State, and was ranked in Street & Smith's Yearbooks. In addition, Shepard was the first player from Shabazz to serve as team captain in the NJ North/South All-Star Football Classic.

After graduating high school, he continued his education and football journey. He attended Nassau Community College, where he was a two-year Letterman and 1997 All JUCO selection. Shep then moved on to the University of North Carolina, transferred to Temple University, and finished at East Stroudsburg University. He was named All PSAC and selected to play in the Cactus Bowl College Football All-Star game held in Kingsville, TX.

After graduating college, Shep signed with the Oakland Raiders where he completed the Rookie Training Camp and reported to Team Camp. Upon completion of his time in the NFL, he returned to Newark and coached football at Shabazz High School for five years, two of which he served as the Offensive Coordinator.

Shep married the love of his life, Regina, in August 2016. Together they have three wonderful daughters and a son. He prided himself on being a devoted husband, loving father, and entrepreneur.

Furthermore, he turned his passion for construction and development into what he affectionately named his crown jewel: 40 Acres Development and Investment Group. Shep also continued to grow his strong connection to the cities of Newark and Paterson by mentoring young men and sponsoring several youth initiatives. He was recognized for his Business Achievements by the JFK High School Athletic Department in November 2019; and received the Citizen of the Year Award from the Malcolm X Shabazz High School Football Team in December 2020. Finally, he was inducted into the Newark Athletic Hall of Fame in the performer category in Fall 2020.

Although his life ended too soon, Shep Ali's legacy will never be forgotten. He will be remembered for being dedicated, thoughtful, humble, and as a selfless man with a huge heart. His larger than life presence and outgoing personality will be sorely missed.

Shep was preceded in death by his father Shepard Alston Sr. He is survived by his loving wife Regina Alston, daughters Amia and Amya Alston, stepdaughter Allise Paredes, son Shepard 'AJ' Alston III; mother Lucy Alston; eight sisters: Crystal Walden, Sharon Belvin, Kimberley Alston-Witcher, Shannon Alston, Nicola Townes, La-Teia Menafield, Mia Alston and Tracy Alston; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws and friends.

# A HEART OF GOLD

A HEART OF GOLD STOPPED BEATING,  
TWO SHINING EYES AT REST,  
GOD BROKE OUR HEARTS TO PROVE  
HE ONLY TAKES THE BEST,  
GOD KNOWS YOU HAD TO LEAVE US,  
BUT YOU DIDN'T GO ALONE,  
FOR PART OF US WENT WITH YOU,  
THE DAY HE TOOK YOU HOME.  
TO SOME YOU WILL BE FORGOTTEN,  
TO OTHERS, JUST PART OF THE PAST,  
BUT TO US WHO LOVED AND LOST YOU,  
YOUR MEMORY WILL ALWAYS LAST.

-AUTHOR UNKNOWN

# LOVING YOU

LOVING YOU IS SOMETHING WE ALL ENJOYED TO  
DO. YOUR BEAUTIFUL SMILE,  
YOUR EVERLASTING BLISS, YOUR SLOW WALK  
AND GENTLE HUG, KISS. THOSE  
ARE JUST A FEW THINGS THAT WE WILL ALL MISS.  
YOU WERE LIKE A BREATH OF  
FRESH AIR. NEVER ONCE DID YOU NOT CARE. IN  
OUR HEARTS, WE CAN'T  
DESPAIR, BECAUSE YOU WILL ALWAYS BE HERE.  
MAY YOUR SOUL LIVE ON  
FOREVER, BECAUSE WE WILL ALWAYS BE  
TOGETHER. SO, FOR NOW WE WILL PUT  
YOU TO REST, BECAUSE FOR ALL OF US, I KNOW  
YOU WOULD WANT THE BEST.  
THERE'S SO MUCH WE ALL WANT, NEED AND  
FORGOT TO SAY. BUT, THERE'S  
ONE THING FOR SURE, WE CAN'T STAND IN  
GOD'S WAY. SO, AS YOUR FAMILY  
AND FRIENDS, WE MUST STAY STRONG ... SO  
YOU'RE PRECIOUS NAME MAY  
CARRY ON. WE LOVE YOU THEN, NOW AND  
FOREVER. IN OUR HEARTS, MINDS  
AND SOULS, WE WILL ALWAYS BE TOGETHER.  
-UNKNOWN AUTHOR

LOVINGLY SUBMITTED BY  
YOUR WIFE







### **I Really Miss You - 3 Winans Brothers**

With tears on my pillow  
Refusing to let go  
When you left here  
Alone on the playground  
I was lost in my hometown  
When you left here

They say time makes it better (mmmm, mmm, mmm)

And I'll see you later  
My brother

And we'll be together, a long time forever when I leave here

I'll miss your wit  
I'll miss your charm  
Just want to hold you  
In my arms  
Heart sad and blue  
You have no clue  
How I miss you  
Oh oh yeah  
I'll miss your voice  
When you would call  
I'll miss your smile  
Most of all  
Just us two

With nowhere to go, and nothing to do

I really miss you  
I take simple precaution  
I think of you often  
Since you left here  
Life has been harder  
I love a lot smarter  
Since you left here  
Those days I can't take it  
Oh oh oh  
I've learn how to make it  
Oh oh yeah  
Jesus and memories  
Helps me and keeps me  
Since you left here

## Tributes

Isiah 41:10

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Amia Alston

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Goodbyes are not forever, they are not the end.  
It simply means I'll miss you until we meet again.

Allise Paredes

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We think about you always,  
We talk about you still,  
You have never been forgotten,  
And you never will.  
We hold you close within our hearts,  
And there you will remain,  
To walk and guide us through our lives,  
Until we meet again.

Uncle Anthony & Family

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Your life was a blessing. Your Memory was a treasure.  
You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure.

Aunts, Uncles and Cousins of the Perry-Alston Family

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## Pallbearers and Flower Attendants

- Plummer Baker
- Eugene Atkinson Jr
- Daquan Townes
- Brandon Stanfill
- Phalone Williams
- Jonathan Daniels

- Xerxus Rashad Belvin
- Aivery Walden
- Warren Scott
- Jeffrey Brooks
- Demond Cowins
- Altarik White



## Appreciation

*We wish to express our sincere appreciation for all your love and support during our time of loss.*

*Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair.  
Perhaps you sent those beautiful flowers that we saw 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 part.*

*Thank you for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers.*

*The Family*

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### Professional Services Provided By

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE  
130 Main Street  
Orange, NJ  
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street  
Newark, NJ  
973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME  
37 Clinton Avenue  
Jersey City, NJ  
201-433-1000