



Rev. King A. Butler

January 17, 1930 - August 31, 2013

On January 17, 1930, King Albert Butler was born to Coy and Annie Butler. He was the youngest of five children. Following his sibling's footsteps, he quickly learned to speak and stand up for himself, which in later years became a strong characteristic!

'Al' as he was known in Philly accepted Jesus Christ as his personal savior during Sunday school. He was baptized at nine years old at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church where he was nurtured spiritually.

Al graduated from West Philadelphia High School, where he participated on the basketball and cross country teams. He attended North Carolina A & T for two years.

In 1950 the Lord blessed him with a loving and faithful wife, Margaret. From this union of 63 years five children were born.

His love for the sports of cross country, track and field were present in sermon illustrations and always passing along pointers to young athletes to further develop their abilities. Watching the Penn Relays was an annual Butler family tradition. Rev. Butler had a servant's heart, always reaching out to mentor younger men in ministry. His quick wit, sense of humor and amazing memory contributed to his way of reaching others.

In 1956 he answered the Lord's call to preach the gospel. He was faithful and full of zeal in street meetings, home bible study, prison ministry, radio, publications writer for Eternity, Moody Monthly, American Sunday School Union, Christianity Today and Urban Ministries, Inc. He received his minister's license at Zion Temple Baptist Church of Philadelphia and was ordained at Nazarene Baptist Church in 1960 under the pastorate of Rev. Dr. William L. Banks. He served as an associate minister, camp director and groundskeeper of Nazarene Center (93 acres). Rev. Butler's journey included pastoring St. John Baptist Church of Lake Lure NC and camp director of Mullen Bible Camp. Being obedient to the call, he relocated to Michigan and served as pastor of Pioneer Baptist Church of Kalamazoo in the mid 60s. Later Bible Baptist Mission was formed, grew and Bible Baptist Church was founded! Through his faithful service in ministry lives were changed, healed and flourished. His years of public ministry and servanthood came to a close with an honorary doctorate degree from Carver Bible College of Atlanta GA. Yet, his love for the Lord remained as he remained burdened for souls at Heritage, Heartland and Maple Creek facilities.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Rosella Hogan and grandson Anthony Butler.

He will be lovingly remembered by Margaret, his wife and children: Cynthia, Valerie (Rev. Charlie) Selmon, Jr., Albert, Jr. (Tee), Sandra Matthews, and William (Syrina); 2 brothers Coy and Anthony Butler; 1 sister, Wylene Bryant; eleven grandchildren, six great grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Mount Ever-Rest Cemetery (North-Drake Road, Kalamazoo, MI)

Kalamazoo, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 5. 3:30 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home - Chapel
521 Douglas Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

Visitation

SEP 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Bible Baptist Church
1700 N Drake Road
Kalamazoo, MI

Service

SEP 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bible Baptist Church
1700 N Drake Road
Kalamazoo, MI

Tribute Wall



“ *Rev. King A. Butler*

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ *Rev. King A. Butler*

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ *I was privileged to get to know King Butler in the latter years of his life. What a blessing that was. I also learned that our families are related through his wife. Although I never got the opportunity to see him face-to-face, I was encouraged by our phone conversations. He was one of the unsung heroes of Black Evangelicalism.*

To the family of King Butler, may the truth of Philippians 1:21 minister to you and comfort your hearts during this time of bereavement. Brother Butler is experiencing first hand that "to die is gain!"

Paul Felix

Paul - September 06, 2013 at 02:06 PM

TK

“ As a youngster my parents, Bob and Irene Keller somehow connected with the Butlers. Perhaps it was from a pulpit exchange that Bible Baptist had with Westwood Baptist, but I think it was before then. I remember going to Bible Baptist to hear Pastor Butler speak as well. My parents had the Butlers over to the house during this time (dinner or dessert I think) and I can remember being struck, even as a youngster, with Pastor Butler's dignity and warmth and love for the Lord. My Dad passed away this past July and when I saw Pastor Butler's obituary, my first thought would be that my Dad and Pastor Butler were in heaven together. Knowing that your loved one is in Heaven with the Lord makes this time far better.....Til we all get to Heaven.

Christian love to the family and the church family,
Terra (Keller) Klein

Terra Klein - September 05, 2013 at 06:34 PM

LH

“ Sister Butler, We thank and praise the Lord for you and Pastor Butler. Pastor will be missed, but we know he is rejoicing around the throne of grace. His heart and passion was to learn and to tell others "More about Jesus" (one of his favorite songs). He lived a life for God and our family was blessed to have been under his exposition and teaching of God's Word. We thank and praise the Lord for the two of you and your servants hearts. Our prayers are with you and your family and we uphold each of you in our prayers for the Lord to supply what you need during this time. May our Lord continue to watch over and keep you.

Love, Brother & Sister Lorenzo Herbert and Family

Lorenzo & Shirley Herbert - September 05, 2013 at 10:19 AM

VB

“ *The Butler Family -- we grew up on Princeton for many years and we wanted you to know that you are in our thoughts and prayers*

Valerie Brooks - September 05, 2013 at 10:07 AM

VB

“ *Valerie Brooks lit a candle in memory of Rev. King A. Butler*



Valerie Brooks - September 05, 2013 at 10:05 AM

TF

“ *To the Butler Family -- we grew up on Princeton together so our families have known each other for years and I wanted you to know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.*

The Brooks Family - September 05, 2013 at 10:03 AM

PO

“ *Pastor King A. Butler, Wife & Family,*

The Home Going of Pastor King A Butler leave us a legacy of profound preaching, teaching, publishing, counseling and the proclamation of the Word of God. He was a devoted husband, father and Pastor with integrity and tenacity in preaching the gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I learned so much from him as a Pastor in Detroit. He will be missed by so many who he enriched their lives biblically as an evangelical, conservative and steadfast preacher. He embraced no foolishness, but the truths of eternal values that he now celebrate in the presence of the LORD. May the LORD bless you and comfort you as we all who know Him... one day will see Pastor King Butler again in heaven and in glory. Praise the LORD and Hallelujah!!!

"Blessed are those who die in the LORD" (Rev 14:13)

"precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of His Saints..."

(Psalm 116:15)

Grace, Peace, Mercy and Love as we continue to exalt the Kingdom of Jesus Christ,

Pastor Charles, Marilyn & Lora Oliver

Elim Baptist Church, Detroit, MI

Pastor Charles & Marilyn Oliver - September 04, 2013 at 11:11 PM

GW

“ *WE ARE SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS. MY GOD BLESS YOU ALL....ARCHIE WILLIAMS & FAMILY....*

GEORGIA WILLIAMS - September 04, 2013 at 09:34 PM

AN

“ *My sincere condolences to the family. May God's love guide you during this time of sorrow and may you find comfort in His care. (2 Cor. 1:3,4)*



Anne - September 04, 2013 at 04:53 PM

CW

“ *Uncle Albert, as we affectionately know him, has been a beacon of inspiration for as long as we have known him here in North Carolina. I remember when he would witness and minister to boys playing ball at the local parks in the early 70's. We will never forget that great voice he gave the Gospel. We'll never forget the times he and At. Jo brought his younger children to North Carolina to summer with us at our Nana's home in Rocky Mount.*

He was a great man of God in every respect!

With love and sincere condolences,

*Carl Wilkins and Family
North Carolina*

Carl Wilkins - September 04, 2013 at 04:23 PM

CW

“ *Uncle Albert, as we affectionately know him, has been a beacon of inspiration for as long as we have known him here in North Carolina. I've watched him as he would witness and minister to boys playing ball at the local parks in the early 70's. We will never forget that great voice he gave the Gospel. We'll never forget the times he and At. Jo brought his younger children to North Carolina to summer with us at our Nana's home in Rocky Mount.*

He was a great man of God in every respect!

With love and sincere condolences,

*Carl Wilkins and Family
North Carolina*

Carl Wilkins - September 04, 2013 at 04:14 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rev. King A. Butler.*



September 04, 2013 at 02:17 PM

JR

“ *John & Nancy Rhodes purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Rev. King A. Butler.*



John & Nancy Rhodes - September 04, 2013 at 01:03 PM

MA

“ *During this difficult times its comforting to know that God is with us and one day soon he will "wipe every tear from your eyes and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry will be anymore"... Rather the hour is coming when all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out to a resurrection of life". (Rev 21:4, John 5:28,29)*

mary - September 04, 2013 at 08:21 AM