

Pallbearers

Dr. Russell Dandy
Dr. Ronald Dandy
Dea. Leon Huckabee
Dea. James Nelson Williams

Deacon Jeffrey Bowles
Deacon Morris Monday
Deacon Earl Wright
Bro. Bradley Jones

Honorary Pallbearers

Deacons of Thankful Missionary Baptist Church
Men of Phi Beta Sigma Inc.
Dandy Youth Development Men

Acknowledgements

The family of Dr. J. Alphonso Dandy wishes to express their appreciation for the excellent care and acts of kindness provided throughout his care. Special thanks are extended to Dr. Ronald Goldberg, Dr. Ornela Ifty, Dr. Ana Ifty, Dr. Masood Ahmed, Dr. Roy Flood, Dr. Melissa Wynn and the staff at Candler Hospital. We would also like to thank the many former patients, community members and friends who have reached out with expressions of comfort and care. May God continue to bless each and everyone one of you.



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CELEBRATING THE LIFE & LEGACY



Dr. JAMES ALPHONSO DANDY

MAY . 6. 1941
OCTOBER . 23. 2023

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2023
12:00PM
THANKFUL BAPTIST CHURCH
820 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR BLVD,
SAVANNAH, GA 31415

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

THE LIFE & LEGACY

J. Alphonso Dandy was born May 6, 1941 in Lake City, Florida to Alphonsa and Louise Dandy. He is the oldest of six children. He was educated in the public schools graduating from high school in Lake City, Florida. He graduated from Bethune Cookman College (now University) in 1962 with a B.S. degree in biology. While at Bethune Cookman College he became a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. He joined the U.S. Air Force and served for 6 years as a cryptographic operator. After an honorable discharge from the Air Force, he moved to Miami, Florida and was employed by the University of Miami Medical School as a lab technician in birth defect research. After a year, he enrolled at Pennsylvania College of Optometry (PCO) in Philadelphia. He graduated from PCO in 1972 with a Doctor of Optometry degree. While in Philadelphia he met the love of his life, Evelyn.

Dr. Dandy and his family moved to Savannah where he practiced Optometry. He had the grand opening of his first office on November 1, 1972 and his first official day of his practice at his new office on Abercorn Street was November 3, 1972. He would later move his office to Waters Avenue. In addition to practicing optometry, he served as a consultant and contact lens investigator for Johnson and Johnson. In 1997 he was featured in Eyecare Business magazine as having one of the most successful Black-owned optical businesses in America. After 32 years of practice he retired in 2004. He then held the position of administrator of Antioch Medical Associates (a podiatry practice specializing in diabetic foot care). He also served as Chairman of the Board of Savannah Association for the blind, Inc as well as Interim Executive Director. In 2011 he was given the honor of having the SAB board room named after him.

Dr. Dandy was a dedicated member of Thankful Missionary Baptist Church where he was ordained as a deacon. He was a Sunday school teacher and member of the Trustees Ministry. He was a lifetime member of the NAACP and served on their Planning Committee that set the stage for events in the community.

In 2015 Dr. Dandy founded Dandy Youth Development (DYD) in effort to combat the negative statistics and low expectations promoted against black boys and men in America. Most recently Dr. Dandy published his first book, *Blind Bloops* chronicling experiences that he had as he slowly lost his sight due his diagnosis of retinitis pigmentosa. Before his demise he finished his forthcoming book, *God's Goodness from a Blind Man's Perspective*.

Preceding him in death are his father, James Alphonso Dandy Sr., mother Louise Hart Dandy Allen, brothers, S. Algenon Dandy and Ricardo Dandy and sister Voncile Everette. His surviving siblings are Patricia Dandy and Linda Brown. He leaves to celebrate a life well-lived, his wife Evelyn Dandy, daughter Ronlyn and sons, Russell (Zorana) and Ronald (Regina), grandchildren, Zia, Russell Jr, Ronald Jr. and James Alphonso, Adalyn Grace, great grandson Brayden and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Dr. J. Alphonso Dandy - Legacy

This is my legacy

For I know the plans that I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good not evil, to give you a future and a hope.... When you pray; I will listen.

Jeremiah 29:11-12

Have you ever wondered why God gave you life? God has a plan for each of us a purpose for being here. I want the world to know that Jim Dandy has been here. It is not because of vain glory, but because I've done what God put me here to do. I have served God and mankind.

Dandy Youth Development (DYD) was formed out of my desire to provide some answers to the survival of the Black man. We begin with him at a young age....teaching him and grooming him to become a productive citizen of character and integrity. My mission is to introduce and educate him about a history of Outstanding Black Men, whom he can use as models on his path to greatness.

I have a vision of another President of the United States emanating from DYD, as well as university presidents, judges, teachers, prominent pastors, world leaders, honest politicians, great entrepreneurs, scientists, writers, and researchers, who find the cure for dreaded diseases, and other leaders who are credit to mankind. Even when I'm dead and buried in my grave, Dandy Youth Development must go on to be perpetual-to be here when Jesus returns!



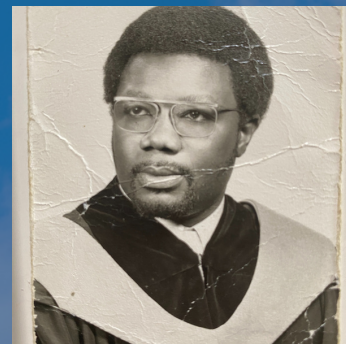
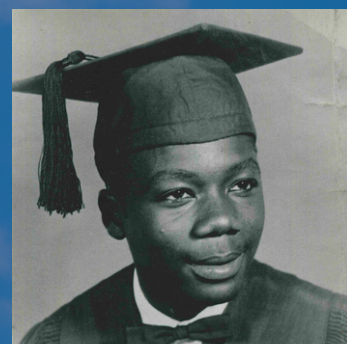
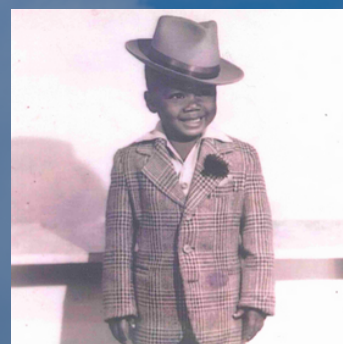
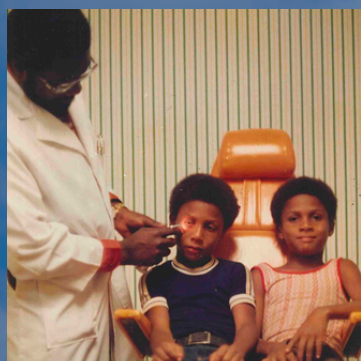
CELEBRATING GOD'S GOODNESS

Oh God I thank you for the life that you have given me. I celebrate you God because you are so good, kind and gentle. My God, you have protected me at all facets of my life: driving while blind, my bout with the Spanish bayonet plant; you removed the hooks that probably would have put me in my grave. Thank you God for manifesting a presence in my life.

Words cannot express my sincere gratitude to you. You have displayed your omniscience, always knowing the end of my story before it began, manifesting your omnipresence every day of my life. It was as if you were right next to me, leading and guiding me away from dangers that I was not even aware of. You displayed your omnipotence and gave me the power and wisdom to succeed in all facets of my life even with my limited vision. Oh God, when I think of the time that I was driving over 100 miles an hour over the highway with my limited side vision, you were right there with me. So those things and many, many more are why I celebrate your goodness.

Even though I am totally blind now and partially deaf, and have multiple health issues, you have placed joy in my heart. I love you God, I adore you, I honor you because I know that you love me. I have had so many great experiences in my life given to me by you and this blind man is overjoyed with abundant gratitude to you. I will spend the rest of my life celebrating, worshiping and praising you. In the mighty, mighty, precious name of Jesus, the one whom you allowed to die for me, but then you didn't leave Him dead. You raised Him from the dead and brought Him back to heaven where He sits on his throne and your right side making intercession for me, but then He didn't leave me alone, He put your Holy Spirit in my heart and He leads, guides and directs me. Thank You, your son Jesus and the precious Holy Spirit. Amen

~From the forthcoming book: God's Goodness from a Blind Man's Perspective, Dr. J. Alphonso Dandy



ORDER OF SERVICE

Processional

SelectionThankful MBC Choir

Scriptures:

Old Testament23 Psalms..... Dea. Benjamin Odom
New Testament Rev 21:4-7.....Mrs. La Saundra Wade

Prayer of Comfort

SoloMrs. Huxsie Scott

Remarks (2 min)

Dea. Leon Huckabee
Mr. Tyrone Burroughs
Dr. Alton Williams

SoloMin. Carzadean Baker Harris
Rhema CFM Virtual Church

Dandy Youth Development Men Salute

Phi Beta Sigma SaluteState Senator Derek Mallow
Resolution and Acknowledgements (City & Church)

God's Goodness from a Blind Man's Perspective Ms. Ronlyn Dandy

Solo Mrs. Jeannette Williams

Words of ComfortRev. Dr. Bobby Jones, Pastor

US Air Force Military Honors

Committal

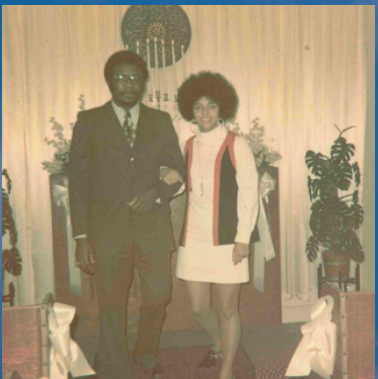
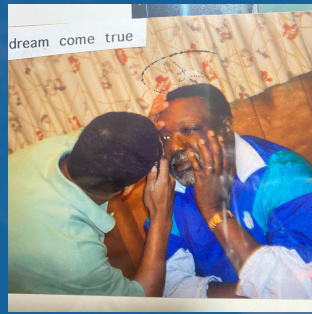
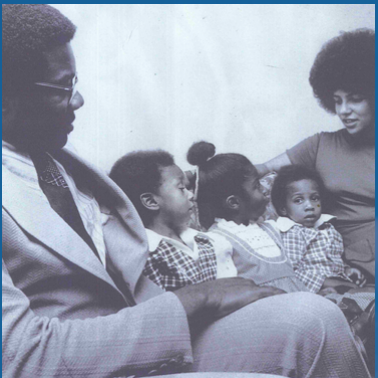
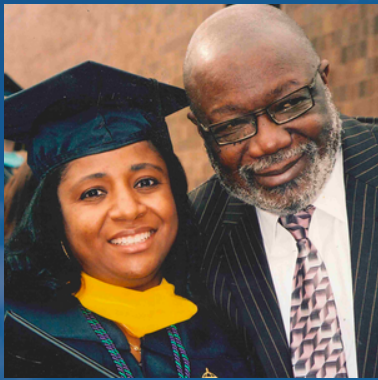
Benediction

Recessional

Internment - Monday, November 6, 2023 | 12:00 PM

Beaufort National Cemetery

1601 Boundary Street Beaufort, SC 29902



Dr. J. Alphonso Dandy (center) with family and friends