



## Almarene Cason Lowndes

February 6, 1931 - April 3, 2022

Almarene Cason Lowndes, 91, of St. Augustine, passed away peacefully on April 3rd. She was born February 6, 1931, to the late Mattie and George Cason, in Olustee, Florida, the seventh of eleven children with a smile that sparkled like the sun. She attended local schools in Columbia and Baker county, graduating at 15 from Richardson High school in 1946.

She continued her education at Bethune Cookman College, where she received a 4-year basketball scholarship, played tennis, and ran track. She was a sports enthusiast and a big fan of Duke Basketball.

On October 6, 1954, she married the late Shedrick C. Lowndes, Sr., and five children were born into their union.

Mrs. Lowndes taught in Columbia County for eight years and 34 years in St. Johns County, retiring from Crookshank Elementary School in 1996. An exemplary professional and life-long learner, Mrs. Lowndes's dedication to education left an indelible mark on the lives of countless others.

In her thirty-four years of leadership and service, Almarene advocated for teachers as President, Building Representative, and Bargaining Team Spokesperson for the St. Johns Education Association—where an annual scholarship is awarded in her honor. In addition, she served on the Florida

Education Association Human & Civil Rights Committee at the state level. Mrs. Lowndes was a proud member of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa Incorporated, Gamma Eta Chapter—where she served as Basileus and Southeastern Regional Director in "Pursuit of Excellence - A Challenge to Fulfill." Additionally, served as chairperson of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration committee for St. Johns County and was a member of the NAACP and American Legion Post 194 Auxiliary.

Almarene's proudest accolade was being a disciple of Greater St. Mary's Missionary Baptist Church, where she served as the chairperson of the Trustee Board and sang in the choir.

She leaves a loving and devoted family to cherish her memories and continue her legacy — children Shedrick Lowndes Jr. (Jacksonville, FL), Cheryl Lowndes (St. Augustine, FL], Sonee Carswell (St. Augustine, FL), Govantez Lowndes (Atlanta, GA), and Jarvis Lowndes (Chandler, AZ), granddaughters Almarene T. Lowndes (Jacksonville, FL) and Lauren Frazier (New York, NY); brothers, Videll Cason and Ellerson Cason; and a host of relatives and caring friends.

A family service will be held at noon at Olustee Cemetery on April 12, 2022. A community memorial will be held at a later date to honor her lifelong dedication to education and service. The family requests that donations to honor the life and work of Almarene Lowndes be given to the National Education Sorority, Phi Delta Kappa, Inc., Perpetual Scholarship Foundation. The Foundation provides scholarships for high schools boys and girls, female college students aspiring to become teachers, and sorority members pursuing doctoral degrees. To donate online, use the following link: <https://www.nspdk.org/perpetual-scholarship>. Checks can be written to NSPDK Perpetual Scholarship Foundation and mailed to: Shelia Evans, 2150 Mount Royal Terrance Baltimore, MD 21217. Please note your donation is in honor of

Almarene Lowndes.

St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

APR **12**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Olustee Cemetery  
5113 Oliver Trail  
Sanderson, FL 32087

# Tribute Wall



“ *St. Johns Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Almarene Cason Lowndes*



**St. Johns Family Funeral Home** - April 06, 2022 at 04:48 PM

MS

*Gone but surly never will be forgotten  
S.I.P Mrs.Lowndes  
Sending my condolences to the Cason and Lowndes family love y'all  
Monique Scott*

**Monique scott** - April 06, 2022 at 06:55 PM

BN

*Cheryl, I'm very sorry for your loss*

**Bill Napier** - April 07, 2022 at 12:43 AM

RJ

*Lord give them strength*

*God Bless*

**Rosie Morgan Johnson** - April 07, 2022 at 02:27 AM

RB

*Sonee, my sincere condolences to you and your family. May God, continue to give you strength to see you through this difficult time.*

*Sincerely,  
Raquel Brown*

**Raquel Brown** - April 07, 2022 at 05:49 AM

LS

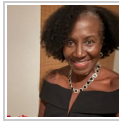
*I didn't know Mrs. Lowndes but she looks like a wonderful lady who dedicated her life to her family and children 💕*

**Lynne Sykes** - April 11, 2022 at 12:28 PM

DS

*To Cheryl and Family  
So sorry for your loss. keep holding on to God's unchanging hands  
With Deepest sympathy  
Doris Sheppard-Smith 🙏🏻🙏🏻*

**Doris Sheppard-Smith** - April 12, 2022 at 11:13 PM



*To my classmates (Doris, Bill), and others, thank you for your kind words and prayers.*

**Cheryl Lowndes** - April 14, 2022 at 01:33 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Almarene Cason Lowndes.*



April 11, 2022 at 04:30 PM

AR

“ *Angela Cason Richardson purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Almarene Cason Lowndes.*



**Angela Cason Richardson** - April 11, 2022 at 01:30 PM

BY

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you today and always. Cheryl, we are just a phone call away if you need anything at all.*

*Brenda and Sierra*



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**Brenda Young** - April 09, 2022 at 10:56 PM



*Thank you, Brenda*

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**Cheryl Lowndes** - April 14, 2022 at 01:23 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Almarene Cason Lowndes.*



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April 09, 2022 at 11:54 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Almarene Cason Lowndes.*



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April 08, 2022 at 06:12 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Almarene Cason Lowndes.*



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April 08, 2022 at 04:12 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Almarene Cason Lowndes.*



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April 07, 2022 at 01:49 PM



“ *St. Johns Education Association purchased the Joyful Memory for the family of Almarene Cason Lowndes.*



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**St. Johns Education Association** - April 07, 2022 at 11:01 AM

DC

“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Delta Mu Chapter** - April 06, 2022 at 07:50 PM

DC

“ We are thinking of the family and wishing you moments of peace and comfort as you remember someone who was so sweet, kind, and loved our sisterhood. We are sending healing prayers and comforting hugs. We are so sorry for your loss. She will be missed and always remembered.

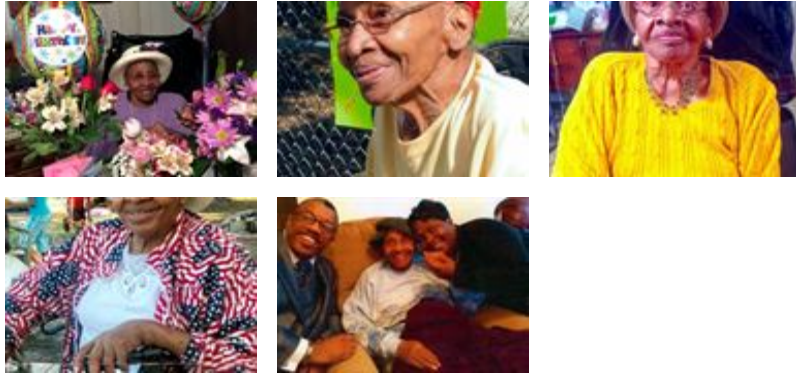
*National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. - Delta Mu Chapter -  
Memphis, TN*

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**Delta Mu Chapter** - April 06, 2022 at 07:36 PM



“ 49 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**St. Johns Family Funeral Home** - April 06, 2022 at 04:49 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**St. Johns Family Funeral Home** - April 06, 2022 at 02:32 PM

PC

“ Our "Sister", *Almarene C. Lowndes* will be well remembered in the National Sorority of *Phi Delta Kappa, Inc.* Among her many services to our organization was her leadership as one of our Southeast Regional Directors. Along with valuing our organization, she brought in her daughter and granddaughter. We commend our "sister" *Sonee* for her championship as the leader for *Gamma Eta Chapter* as well as being a caregiver to her mother, our soror. Her saying was "Time is far spent" (...so use it wisely). God be with you *Almarene C. Lowndes*.



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**P. Myles/F. Faulks (Nu Chapter)** - April 06, 2022 at 02:08 PM

BB

“ My heart ached to hear about my sister *Almarene*. Please accept my deepest condolences. I am deeply sadden to know that she is no more. Stay strong.



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**Brenda Bryant-Harris** - April 06, 2022 at 12:27 PM

CC

“ Mrs. *Almarene* was a good friend of my mother *Thomasena Jackson*. They planned and/or participated in a variety of activities together. She attended *Mama's 90th birthday celebration* in 2014. I remember her as a warm person with an infectious smile. I send prayers and comfort to the family. May her soul rest in eternal peace.

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**CAROLE CURRY** - April 06, 2022 at 10:43 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Almarene Cason Lowndes.*



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April 06, 2022 at 07:10 AM



“ *Aunt Almaden was a gem! She loved her family. Im grateful and thankful for her perseverance to plan our Cason Family Reunions because this is how so many of us have gotten to know one another. She had a beautiful spirit and will be missed. Love Dionne*

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**Dionne L. Hallback** - April 06, 2022 at 05:56 AM



“ *Such a wonderful icon to many sorors in the Southeast Region of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. her presence will truly be remembered and certainly missed by me and many more. I was blessed to be in her presence and touched by her leadership.*

*Soror Bonita G. Durrah, NSPDK, INC., SER Tamias*

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**Bonita Durrah** - April 05, 2022 at 11:38 PM



“ *My Deepest Condolences to the family. She was always beautiful Lady!*



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**Patricia Carstarphe** - April 05, 2022 at 11:02 PM

JW

“ With deepest sympathy. My heartfelt condolences go out to you and your family.  
Janice Whitty



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**Janice Whitty** - April 05, 2022 at 10:09 PM

LM

“ So sorry for your loss. You have me and my mom deepest sympathy.  
  
~Larry McGlocking Jr Family ~



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**Larry McGlocking** - April 05, 2022 at 09:27 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Almarene Cason Lowndes.



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April 05, 2022 at 08:38 PM

DA

“ So sorry for your loss. My dearest friend Shedrick and classmate love you always. Mrs Lowndes was my first grade teacher always nice to me. She always loved to hear my grandson Marcus sing

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**Debora Anderson** - April 05, 2022 at 08:00 PM

MB

“ *Mary Boykin lit a candle in memory of Almarene Cason Lowndes*



Mary Boykin - April 05, 2022 at 07:57 PM

MC

“ *Sending prayers for peace and comfort for Sonee and the family. Mrs. Lowndes leaves a wonderful legacy of service to the children and teachers of St. Johns County as well as the community.*

Melobdia Franklin Corpus - April 05, 2022 at 06:33 PM



*Thank you.. we are filled with pride, thinking of all the many lives she touched in the county*

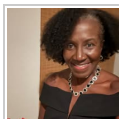
Cheryl Lowndes - January 01, 2023 at 08:26 AM

CR

“ *My thoughts and prayers for the entire family. Just by reading the obituary and memories Ms. Almarene has shared about her Nanny, I can tell she was an amazing, outgoing, and loving human being. RIP*



Carmen Rodriguez - April 05, 2022 at 06:08 PM



*Yes, She was absolutely all of that and more.. and I love that my niece, Ms. Almarene, carries her name and is a passionate educator as well.*

Cheryl Lowndes - January 01, 2023 at 08:32 AM

CJ

“ My condolences to the family 🙏🙏🙏

Civility Jackson - April 05, 2022 at 06:04 PM

AU

I am so sorry my condolences to you and the family. You all are in my prayers.

Autherinesparrow - April 05, 2022 at 07:06 PM

GW

So sorry for your loss, she and my mom grew up together, both were teachers and the best of friends, God bless family and friends, the Olustee community.

G wWilliams - April 05, 2022 at 07:35 PM

BJ

So sorry for your family's loss. May she rest in peace ❤️🙏

Bertha Johnson - April 05, 2022 at 08:03 PM

BT

Condolences to you and your Family 🙏❤️

Beverly Trotman - April 06, 2022 at 08:17 AM



Thank you all for your condolences.

Cheryl Lowndes - January 01, 2023 at 08:33 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Almarene Cason Lowndes.

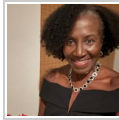


April 05, 2022 at 05:22 PM

LB

“ *My life was enlivened knowing this fine woman. Education in St. John’s County was better for her involvement. Her memory is a blessing to me and to many others.*

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**Louise Bowman** - April 05, 2022 at 04:49 PM



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**Cheryl Lowndes** - January 01, 2023 at 08:34 AM

GC

“ *GAMMA THETA CHAPTER lit a candle in memory of Almarene Cason Lowndes*



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**GAMMA THETA CHAPTER** - April 05, 2022 at 01:20 PM

GC

“ *Glennie Culliver lit a candle in memory of Almarene Cason Lowndes*

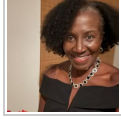


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**Glennie Culliver** - April 05, 2022 at 01:18 PM

RA

“ *Past Regional Director, Almarene Lowndes was always a beautiful smiling lady with the most beautiful hats. I always looked forward to seeing her at our conferences with her smile. She was a wonderful host when her chapter, Gamma Eta, was the Southeast Regions Conference host chapter. Condolences to the family.*

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**Rose P. Anderson** - April 05, 2022 at 12:48 PM



*She absolutely loved PDK. Pls let us know if you come across any old videos of her*

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**Cheryl Lowndes** - January 01, 2023 at 08:35 AM