



Dr. Otis Alphonso Mason

September 1, 1928 - January 9, 2024

Dr. Otis Alphonso Mason, a devoted husband, beloved father, cherished grandfather, revered educator, veteran, and community leader, peacefully embraced the sunset of his life on January 9, 2024. He was 95.

Born and raised in St. Augustine's Lincolnville neighborhood, he dedicated his life to his family, education and community service.

A distinguished educator, he served in various roles, including teacher, supervisor of elementary education and principal. He became the first African American elected school superintendent in Florida, playing a key role in the implementation of full integration of St. Johns County Schools. Beyond his district roles, Dr. Mason served on multiple boards and received numerous honors for his contributions throughout his life.

Dr. Otis Mason is survived by his loving wife of 73 years, Myrtis; daughters Pamela and Deidre; and grandson Jamil. He is preceded in death by his mother, Mildred Parsons Larkins, father, Robert L. Mason, stepfather, Frank Larkins, and brothers Robert and Reginald Mason, plus numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

The Wake Service will be held on Friday, January 26, 2024. Viewing by the public is from 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. The Wake Service begins at 5:30 p.m. at St. Paul AME Church in St. Augustine. The Celebration of Life Service takes place on Saturday, January 27, 2024. Viewing by the public is from 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. The Celebration of Life Service begins at 11:00 a.m. at Anastasia

Baptist Church in St. Augustine. This service will broadcast livestream, and can be viewed online at <https://iframe.dacast.com/live/2a7a09ae1c0559a83ef537e05e6a14a6/2aae7d5f-98fd-a9e6-32a7-b774547cf42c>.

Funeral arrangements are handled by St. Johns Family Funeral Home. To continue Dr. Otis A. Mason's legacy of service the family has established the Dr. Otis A. Mason and Myrtis H. Mason Scholarship Fund at Florida A&M University for students from St. Johns County majoring in education. For more information, please visit

https://fundraise.givesmart.com/form/f1ZiRw?utm_medium=qr&utm_source=qr&vid=13ga56

or scan the QR code by going to his tribute wall.

Cemetery Details

Craig Memorial Park

2600 Old Moultrie Rd
St Augustine, FL 32086

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **25**. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Lord's Temple City of Refuge
140 Gilmore Street
Hastings, FL 32145

Visitation

JAN **26**. 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM (ET)

St. Paul AME Church
85 Martin Luther King Ave.
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Wake Service

JAN **26**. 5:30 PM (ET)

St. Paul AME Church
85 Martin Luther King Ave.
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Visitation

JAN 27. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Anastasia Baptist Church
1650 A1A S
St. Augustine, FL 32080
(904) 471-2166

Funeral Service

JAN 27. 11:00 AM (ET)

Anastasia Baptist Church
1650 A1A S
St. Augustine, FL 32080
(904) 471-2166

Tribute Wall

HF

“ *Mr. Mason was as close to perfect as one would ever meet.*

His family was one of three families whose children were born and reared in Lincolnville and on Lincoln St, and one of two whose family had little girls —same as mine— and in same age group. We grew up as Lincoln St kids.

When I venture down memory lane— in search of childhood days, there will always be Lincolnville, LincolnSt, and Mr. Mason.

I know that God wrapped his arms around him at the gate, and said, “job, well done! “



Harriet Phoenix- Fernander - January 28, 2024 at 05:51 PM

DB

Amen

Darrell Beamon - February 06, 2024 at 11:31 AM



“ *Linda Walton lit a candle in memory of Dr. Otis Alphonso Mason*



Linda Walton - January 27, 2024 at 01:17 PM



My thoughts and prayers are with the family. Your dad was very special to me, always smiling. Lovely service. Love you all.

Linda Walton - January 27, 2024 at 01:19 PM

DK

“ *Deidra Kelsey lit a candle in memory of Dr. Otis Alphonso Mason*



Deidra Kelsey - January 27, 2024 at 09:47 AM

JE

“ *Remembering Dr. Otis Alphonso Mason, a great educator, leader, husband, father and neighbor. The LEGEND has transition to be with the Lord. My heartfelt condolences and prayers to the Mason Family.*

Love & Peace,

Jeanette Irvin

Jeanette - January 27, 2024 at 09:37 AM

JE

“ *Jeanette lit a candle in memory of Dr. Otis Alphonso Mason*



Jeanette - January 27, 2024 at 09:25 AM

JM

“ Remembering Dr. Otis Alphonso Mason, a great family man, educator, and community organizer - A LEGEND. My heartfelt condolences to the Mason Family.

Judy Mask-Thomas - January 27, 2024 at 08:11 AM

WO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Dr. Otis A. Mason and Murtis H. Mason
Scholarship Fund at Florida A&M University

Wayne Osterling - January 23, 2024 at 10:45 AM

MS

This world was a much better place with you in it💙 Rest High upon the mountain 🙏 Thank you sir for being such a fine, loved gentleman. Your work here is done. Love Melody Siddons and Shelley Humphries

Melody Siddons - January 24, 2024 at 01:12 PM

GM

Thank you for always being a positive example to us within the community and our schools. I will always remember how you made me feel supported and valued no matter when we spoke or interacted. Thank You for being such a servant leader and positive influence in St. Augustine and St. Johns County!!

Sincerely,
George Mastoridis

george mastoridis - January 25, 2024 at 12:03 PM