



Washington Episcopal School
Celebrates the Life of “Mr. A”
DEIGHTON ALLEYNE III

August 24, 1957 – September 9, 2014

Teacher • Coach • Mentor • Friend



October 5, 2014

1:00 p.m.

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PRELUDE MUSIC

Prelude in C (J. S. Bach)
Sinfonia (J. S. Bach)

Kris Butler, former faculty member
 Kris Butler and Ryan Kyle '15

WELCOME

Nancy Wright, Interim Head of School

(Please stand as you are able for sections preceded by an asterisk.)

OPENING HYMN – *Amazing Grace (John Newton)

Sung joyfully

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,
 That saved a wretch like me.
 I once was lost but now am found,
 Was blind, but now I see.

The Lord has promised good to me.
 His word my hope secures.
 He will my shield and portion be,
 As long as life endures.

T'was Grace that taught my heart to fear.
 And Grace, my fears relieved.
 How precious did that Grace appear
 The hour I first believed.

When we've been there ten thousand years
 Bright shining as the sun.
 We've no less days to sing God's praise
 Than when we've first begun.

Through many dangers, toils and snares
 I have already come;
 'Tis Grace that brought me safe thus far
 and Grace will lead me home.

***OPENING WORDS**

Chaplain Tim Kennedy

Surely it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior. Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation. And on that day you shall say, "Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; make his deeds known among the peoples; see that they remember that his Name is exalted. Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, and this is known in all the world. Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel."

On this day, we gather together as a Washington Episcopal School family to remember before God our brother Deighton Alleyne, "Mr. A," our Teacher, Coach, Mentor, and Friend. We gather together to thank God for Mr. A and to celebrate his life.

The Washington Episcopal School Community was deeply saddened by the great loss of faculty member Deighton Alleyne III on September 9, 2014, due to complications from a stroke suffered in August. "Mr. A," as he was affectionately called, shared his love for learning for 17 years at WES, teaching Grade 4 from 1997-2005 and Grade 6 from 2006 onward. As a basketball, soccer, and lacrosse coach, he emphasized teamwork and motivated students to play their best.

An extraordinary individual, Mr. A possessed a zest for life that was contagious and a generous heart that allowed him to share his many talents with all who had the good fortune to have known him. His connections and interactions with friends, co-workers, and acquaintances were genuine, intense, and long-lasting.

We fondly recall his making cinnamon buns by the dozens, greeting alumni with a big bear hug, cheering on his hometown Philadelphia Eagles, and coaching basketball, his favorite sport. An enormous void is felt by his current and past colleagues, WES students, alumni, parents, alumni parents, and friends. As a Class of 2008 alum stated so well, Mr. A was "a mentor, role model, and friend to all...a shining example of the best a man can be."

Mr. A's Homegoing Service was held in Philadelphia, PA, on September 25 at The African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas. Today, the WES Family gathers to celebrate our Teacher, Coach, Mentor, and Friend and his wide and significant impact on our community. Many guests will be wearing attire that reminds them of Mr. A—from team jerseys to kitchen aprons to WES gear. Mr. A loved life, and we loved him. Today, we honor Mr. A, and we thank God for the gift of Mr. A in all of our lives.

***COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Chaplain: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Chaplain: Let us pray together.

People: God of grace, we remember Mr. A before you and thank you for giving him to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your compassion, console those who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of Christ so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered into the company of all your saints; by the power of the Holy Spirit we pray. Amen.

(Please be seated.)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – Lamentations 3:22-26 & 55-57

Isabelle Schuessler,
Founding Head of School
(1986-2001)

Reader: A reading from Lamentations.

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.

“The LORD is my portion,” says my soul,
“therefore I will hope in him.”

The LORD is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul that seeks him.

It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the LORD.

I called on your name, O LORD,
from the depths of the pit;
you heard my plea,

“Do not close your ear to my cry for help, but give me relief!”
You came near when I called on you;
you said, “Do not fear!”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SONG – *It's So Hard to Say Goodbye to Yesterday*
Boyz II Men

Renise Welbon, Mr. A's cousin

How do I say goodbye to what we had?
The good times that made us laugh
Outweigh the bad

If we get to see tomorrow
I hope it's worth all the wait
It's so hard to say goodbye to yesterday

I thought we'd get to see forever
But forever's gone away
It's so hard to say goodbye to yesterday

And I'll take with me the memories
To be my sunshine after the rain
It's so hard to say goodbye to yesterday

I don't know where this road is going to lead
All I know is where we've been
And what we've been through

And I'll take with me the memory
To be my sunshine after the rain
It's so hard to say goodbye to yesterday

REFLECTION 1

Denise Alleyne, Mr. A's sister

PSALM 27

Led by Erin Riley, friend and colleague,
and Juliet Faris '15

The Cantors will sing the refrain once, followed by the People who will also sing the refrain after each verse.

Refrain The Lord is my light and my salvation,
of whom should I be afraid, of whom should I be afraid?

People: *Refrain*

Cantors: The Lord is my light and my help; whom should I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom should I shrink?

People: *Refrain*

Cantors: There is one thing I ask of the Lord; for this I long:
to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

People: *Refrain*

Cantors: I believe I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living;
hope in God, and take heart. Hope in the Lord!

People: *Refrain*

REFLECTION 2

Juwan Reid, Class of 2008

SONG – Friends are Friends Forever

LaKisha Yirenkyi, friend and colleague
Michael W. Smith

Packing up the dreams God planted
In the fertile soil of you
Thanks for all the hopes you've granted
And though this chapter in your life is through
We'll keep you close as always
It won't even seem you've gone
Cause our hearts in big and small ways
Will keep the love that keeps us strong

With the faith and love God's given
Springing from the hope we know
We will pray the joy you've given
Is the strength that now we show
But we'll keep you close as always
It won't even seem you've gone
Cause our hearts in big and small ways
Will keep the love that keeps us strong

Chorus

And friends are friends forever if the Lord's the Lord of them
And a friend will not say "Never" cause the welcome will not end
Though it's hard to let you go in the Father's hands we know
That a lifetime's not too long to live as friends

REFLECTION 3

Byron Jones, Class of 2010

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON – Revelation 21:1-7

Stuart Work,
Former Head of School
(2001-2011)

Reader: A reading from the Book of Revelation.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION 4

Lucy Cook, alumni parent

PSALM 139:1-13

Tayo Ball '17, Peter Connolly '16,
Emelia Isola '17, and Alexandra Skoufias '16

Leader: LORD, you have searched me out and known me;
**People: you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.**

Leader: You trace my journeys and my resting-places
People: and are acquainted with all my ways.

Leader: Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,
People: but you, O LORD, know it altogether.

Leader: You press upon me behind and before
People: and lay your hand upon me.

Leader: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
People: it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

Leader: Where can I go then from your Spirit?
People: where can I flee from your presence?

Leader: If I climb up to heaven, you are there;
People: if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

Leader: If I take the wings of the morning
People: and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

Leader: Even there your hand will lead me
People: and your right hand hold me fast.

Leader: If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me,
People: and the light around me turn to night,"

Leader: Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day;
People: darkness and light to you are both alike.

Leader: For you yourself created my inmost parts;
People: you knit me together in my mother's womb.

Leader: I will thank you because I am marvelously made;
People: your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

REFLECTION 5

Neville Waters, friend since college

***HYMN – Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee**

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,
Op'ning to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother,
All who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Singing bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus,
Which the morning stars began;
Father love is reigning o'er us,
Brother love binds man to man.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us Sunward
In the triumph song of life.

REFLECTION 6

William Isola, friend and colleague

***GOSPEL LESSON – John 20:11b-18**

Chaplain: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Mary Magdalene bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him."

When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "*Rabbouni!*" (which means Teacher).

Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Chaplain: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

HOMILY

Chaplain Tim Kennedy

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Ian Conway '15, Luca Cortellese '15, Piers Greenan '15,
Georgia McCally '15, and Morinsola Tinubu '15

Leader: Let us pray to God our Creator saying, "Hear us, Lord."

Leader: Loving God, you have called your people together in community. Give to your people in heaven and on earth your light and your peace.
People: Hear us, Lord.

Leader: Let us, who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life, to rest in your eternal changelessness and in your presence where there is fullness of joy.
People: Hear us, Lord.

Leader: Help us on our earthly pilgrimage, to walk by faith, hope, and love, that your Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days.
People: Hear us, Lord.

Leader: Give us opportunities to be kind to one another as we seek to uphold the ideals of our school: being respectful, supporting our community, and being positive, while having fun during our work and our play.
People: Hear us, Lord.

Leader: Help us to live up to the extremely high expectations that Mr. A has always had for us and help us always to stretch ourselves to new heights.
People: Hear us, Lord.

Leader: Help us to celebrate our successes with the same abundance of joy that Mr. A shared with us and help us to encourage and cheer for our families, our friends, and all we meet on our journey.
People: Hear us, Lord.

Leader: Give courage to all who miss Mr. A, that in the days, weeks, and years ahead we may live lives inspired by him, holding onto the comfort of a holy hope and joyful expectation of eternal life in You.

People: Hear us, Lord.

Leader: Give us teachers who challenge and stretch us, coaches who cheer for us, mentors who cook for us and guide us, and friends who sit around the campfire with us and give us bear hugs and smiles. Help us to love one another like you love us.

People: Hear us, Lord.

Silence may be kept.

Chaplain: Merciful God, nothing can separate us from your love—neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation—nothing can separate us from your love. Hear our prayers for Mr. A, whose life was a gift and a treasure to all who love him. Hear our prayers for our community, which strengthens us and shows us how to be kind. We know that you are able to accomplish abundantly more than all we can ask or imagine: to you be glory in our lives, our school, and our world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Chaplain: And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, they will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Britt Snider, Class of 1988 and Board of Trustees Chair
Nancy Wright, Interim Head of School

***BLESSING AND DISMISSAL**

Chaplain: Go forth into the world in peace. Be kind. Be respectful. Support our community. Be positive. Have fun. Hold fast to that which is good. Render to no one evil for evil. Strengthen the fainthearted. Support the weak. Help the afflicted. Honor everyone you meet. Love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. And the blessing of God—who creates, redeems, and sustains us—be upon us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

Chaplain Alleluia, Alleluia! Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!

People Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!

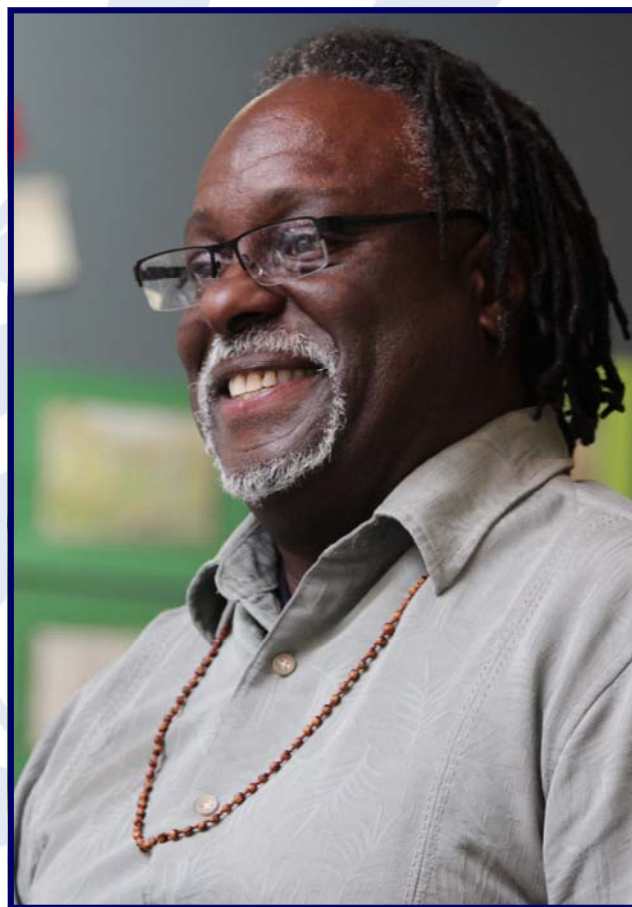
(Please be seated for the Closing Dedication.)

CLOSING DEDICATION

Mehdi Elkassem, friend and colleague

Following the service, please join us for refreshments on the Colonnade.

SERVICE LEADERSHIP			
Board of Trustees Chair	Britt Snider '88	Psalm Leaders	Tayo Ball '17 Emelia Isola '17 Peter Connolly '16 Alexandra Skoufias '16
Interim Head of School	Nancy Wright	Prayers of the People	Ian Conway '15 Luca Cortellese '15 Piers Greenan '15 Georgia McCally '15 Morinsola Tinubu '15
Chaplain	Tim Kennedy		
Crucifer	Nick Ratliff '15		
American Flag	Madison Welborn '16	Music	Kris Butler Juliet Faris '15 Ryan Kyle '15 Erin Riley Ron Valenzia Renise Welbon LaKisha Yirenkyi
Episcopal Flag	Geoffrey Shaiyen '16		
WES Banner	Maddie Blonder '16		
Wooden Cross	Holden Woodings '17		
Bible Bearer	Sophie Ehrhardt '17	Reflections	Denise Alleyne Juwan Reid '08 Byron Jones '10 Lucy Cook Neville Waters William Isola
Old Testament Reader	Isabelle Schuessler		
New Testament Reader	Stuart Work		



MR. A CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

Ali Bratun, Mehdi Elkassem, Julianne Haggerty, Claire Henderson,
William Isola, Tim Kennedy, Erin Riley, Amy Ruberl, Dave Schuessler,
Laurie Sparling, Susan Stern, Ron Valenzia, Andy White, and LaKisha Yirenyi

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