



Dr. Alexander Charles Marshall

March 11, 1931 - February 17, 2026

Dr. Alexander Charles "AC" Marshall

March 11, 1931-February 17, 2026

Obituary for Dr. Alexander Charles Marshall

Dr. Alexander Charles Marshall, age 94, of Opelousas, peacefully entered eternal rest on February 17, 2026. His long and faithful life stands as a testament to service, scholarship, creativity, and unwavering devotion to God and family.

Alexander Marshall began his life in Lafayette, Louisiana. He earned degrees from Grambling State University(B.S.), University of Denver(M.A.) and Bowling Green State University(Ph.D).Dr. Marshall was a pioneer in high school and college theatre. Dr. Marshall was an accomplished director whose work reflected depth, cultural insight, and a profound understanding of the human spirit. Through both stage and classroom, he used his gifts to uplift, challenge, and enlighten African American actors, actresses and playwrights. Dr. Marshall directed over 37 plays in his lifetime.

A proud veteran of the United States Army, Dr. Marshall answered his nation's call with honor and courage. Following his military service, he dedicated his life to education and the arts, becoming a respected professor in the Theatre Department at Dillard University. There, he inspired generations of students

with his wisdom, discipline, and passion for storytelling. He was a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity incorporated.

Above all, Dr. Marshall was a man of steadfast faith. He served faithfully at Bellevue Street Baptist Church, where his presence, prayers, and commitment enriched the church community. His life embodied the Scripture he so deeply believed in a life rooted in service, love, and gratitude.

He was preceded in death by his father Alexander Charles Marshall, Sr. and mother Mintie Hall Marshall, brother Ralph Marshall and his beloved wife, Betty D. Marshall, with whom he shared a devoted and enduring partnership.

He leaves to cherish his memory his son, Rev. Brandon K. Marshall and wife Esther Marshall in Dothan, Al; his adopted daughter, Cathy Duncan Smith in Dallas, TX; his grandchildren, Brannette Leola Marshall in Birmingham, Al, Darius Smith in Austin, TX and Alexia Smith in Dallas, TX; and his foster children, Adrienne Washington and Ketrick Washington(Raven). His legacy also lives on in the countless students, colleagues, church members, family and friends whose lives he touched.

Dr. Marshall's 94 years were marked by excellence, faithfulness, and generosity. Though he has taken his rest, his voice echoes in the lives he shaped, his words live on through his works, and his light continues to shine on all who loved him.

Dr. Marshall's 94 years were marked by excellence, faithfulness, and generosity. Though he has taken his rest, his voice echoes in the lives he shaped, his words live on through his works, and his light continues to shine on all who loved him.

Visitation will be held from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Sunday, February 22, 2026,

at Williams Funeral Home in Opelousas, LA. Visitation will continue on Monday, February 23, 2026, beginning at 11:00 AM at Bellevue Street Baptist Church in Opelousas.

Funeral services will follow at 12:00 PM at the church.

Interment will take place on Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 10:00 AM at Southwest Louisiana Veterans Cemetery in Jennings, Louisiana, where military honors will be rendered in recognition of his faithful service.

Family and friends are invited to share words of comfort and remembrance at www.williamsfuneralhomes.net

Funeral arrangements are entrusted to Williams Funeral Home of Opelousas, 337-942-2037.

His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. Matthew 25:23

Tribute Wall

SN

“ *A Living Legacy: Remembering Dr. Alex C. Marshall.*

In the early 1980's, I had the honor of serving as a faculty member at Hampton University (Hampton, VA) through the unwavering mentorship of Dr. Alex Marshall. During this period, he served as chair of the Speech Communication and Theatre Arts Department. Marshall didn't just see my potential; he commanded it to the surface. He had a way of hauling out the best in us, even when we couldn't see it ourselves.

As a result of his dynamic persona and treasure-trove of talent, anyone lucky enough to work with him excelled, and certainly his students. His dedication to Black Theatre wasn't just a career—it was a movement.

Marshall and I stayed in touch throughout the decades. When I spoke with him in December 2025, I was struck by his energy and how sharp he remained for a man in his 90s. It feels particularly poignant that he had agreed to share his journey for an oral history project proposed by a mutual friend. This was a testament to Marshall's legacy that remains legendary. For me, there is some comfort in the following quote:

“Tears are first a release for new brokenness, then a watering stream, freshening old memories. Tears baptize loss into honor, honor for lives lived well and for pressing on to live well ourselves.”
—Author unknown

Sababu C. Norris - April 17 at 11:04 AM

SG

“ *May peace and comfort be with you and your family at this difficult time.*

Sheriff Bobby J Guidroz - February 24 at 11:22 AM

DE

“ *Our condolences to the Marshall Family on the lost of a great man. Brandon know that we are here for you and you and yours are in our prayers.*



Your Friend & Soror Derwin & Tysonia Babineaux (Woodbridge, VA)

Derwin - February 23 at 03:33 PM

OW

“ *Loving condolences to the family of Dr. Marshall. A life well lived!*

Oveta Carey and Lois Williams - February 23 at 11:11 AM

SC

“ *My prayers are with Dr. Marshall's family. May you find peace in the fond memories you have.*

Stanley Coleman - February 23 at 02:20 AM

SC

“ *Dr. Marshall earned a standing ovation as a wonderful theatre director, friend, and mentor. I had the opportunity to act in several of his plays. He was always kind and thoughtful. He challenged us to think critically, and he never settled for anything less than our 100%. Dr. Marshall will be missed. I am grateful to have known him. Doc, you will be missed!*

Stanley Coleman - February 23 at 02:16 AM

BE

“ *Condolences to the family. Gone but not forgotten. What a blessing to have worked with him at Bellevue Street Baptist church. His legacy lives on. Family be blessed, prayers are lifted up for you.*



Barbara Evans - February 22 at 11:48 PM

MW

“ *Brother Marshall, I will cherish the times I spent with you as your nurse and Sister in Christ. Rest now in the bosom of Abraham.*

Mary Washington - February 22 at 10:45 PM

FD

The youth department of FMBC send their heartfelt condolences to our Pastor, Rev. B k Marshall.

FMBC Youth Department - February 24 at 12:42 PM

SL

“ *Sherri and Kelvin Lang, Brianna and BriAsia Simmons are sending our condolences to our beloved Pastor Marshall, family and friends. We love you Pastor Marshall.*

Sherri Lang - February 22 at 09:38 PM

DH

“ Thank you Dr. Alex C. Marshall for empowering me with unwavering confidence that illuminates my path today. Thank you Alex C. Marshall for unveiling a career trajectory in theatre and film that I never knew I was passionate about pursuing until I met you. Thank you Alex C. Marshall for profoundly impacting the lives of countless students and thespians, making each of us feel uniquely valued. We all felt like we were your favorite. Thank you for believing in me. The wealth of knowledge I gained from you is invaluable, but the unshakeable confidence you instilled in my heart is truly transformative and I do my best to pass it off with my productions and cast.

Act well your part, their in all honor lies...for all that is good and accomplished in the world takes work. And everything else...is jive.

□

Until we meet again my mentor.

Rest in Peace Doc.

Eh, eh...who am I?!

Dana S. Hubbard - February 22 at 06:40 PM

JJ

“ Condolences to the family with prayers and memories of a brother in Christ and a true friend. May God grant you peace and strength during this your time of sorrow.

James & Cheryl Aitkens , Jr. - February 22 at 04:43 PM

MS

“ Today my heart is heavy as I reflect on the transition of **Dr. Alex Marshall**, a true giant in the Theatre Department at **Hampton Institute**.

Dr. Marshall was more than a professor 💎💎💎 he was a master teacher, a mentor, a cultivator of excellence, and a fierce protector of Black Theatre and its legacy. He didn't just teach us lines, blocking, or stage presence. He taught us discipline. He taught us pride in our culture. He taught us responsibility to the craft.

I will never forget the education and training you instilled in me. You demanded our best because you saw our best — even when we didn't yet see it in ourselves.

Your mantra still echoes in my spirit:

“All that is good and accomplished in the world takes work — HARD WORK. Everything else is Jive!”

Doc, those words shaped how I move in life, in business, and in purpose. That standard of excellence lives on in every room I enter.

Rest easy, Doc. Thank you for pouring into us, correcting us, challenging us, and loving us enough to push us beyond average.

Love always,

Spice ❤️



Monique Spicer - February 22 at 04:35 PM

ST

“ Prayers with the family. God is a mender of broken hearts. Love Stephen Tsukuda.

Stephen Tsukuda - February 21 at 07:06 PM

SD

“ He was my professor at Grambling State in Theater Department. I still can hear his voice. Great friend and great director. He will be missed.

Sharon Davis - February 21 at 02:22 PM

OK

“ I offer my sincere condolences to Dr. AC Marshall's family! Mr. Marshall, as I knew him, was my 7th grade teacher at Paul L. Dunbar High School. I had the privilege and was delighted to participate in the school's drama club, directed by Dr. AC Marshall, "The Thespians." Dr. Marshall was an excellent educator and drama director! May he rest in Glory!! Orelia Smith Kelly

Orelia Smith Kelly - February 21 at 12:48 PM

BF

“ Betty and David Freeman purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dr. Alexander Charles Marshall.



Betty and David Freeman - February 21 at 08:52 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Alexander Charles Marshall.*



February 21 at 12:31 AM



“ *Sending prayers, love, hugs to the Marshall family. May God bless, comfort, and strengthen you all!* 🙏🏻🙏🏻❤️🙏🏻🙏🏻
Brandon, welcome you! ❤️❤�
Steve & Mary Levingston



Mary & Steve Levingston - February 20 at 07:57 PM



“ *A Giant and Legend when it came to putting on a play production In Opelousas. We looked forward to it whenever he came down from Grambling with a new play. You have run your race with dignity and grace. You are a warrior in God's kingdom now. Thank you for ALL your contributions of how black people can shine and be successful sharing their gifts and talents.*

Jacinta Frank Parrish - February 20 at 07:27 PM



“ *Our condolences to the Marshal Family. All ways down to Earth instructor. Straight Forward and to the Point. May God bless you to stay strong*



Irvin Dominick Jr - February 20 at 06:19 PM

DB

“ Donald & Ethel Bush purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Dr. Alexander Charles Marshall.



Donald & Ethel Bush - February 20 at 05:55 PM

MD

“ Dr. AC Marshall was a very nice and professional gentleman... almost like a second father figure to me while I did my studies at Grambling State University! I thoroughly enjoyed him as my speech and drama instructor. We often shared laughs and made lasting memories that I'll always cherish. ❤️ To say he was distinguished is a must say...as I've attended some of the plays he wrote. His life was a well lived life and I thank God that I had an opportunity to know him. Brandon...he was so proud of you and loved you so much. His legacy of arts and drama will live on forever in the hearts of those he impacted throughout his teaching career. The family have my deepest condolences 🙏 May he rest in peace now. A Life well lived



Monica Greene Dumes - February 20 at 04:28 PM

SY

“ Sylvia Y. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Alexander Charles Marshall.

Sylvia Y. - February 20 at 04:19 PM

RB

“ Rev. and Mrs. Johnny Berry purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dr. Alexander Charles Marshall.



Rev. and Mrs. Johnny Berry - February 20 at 04:09 PM

RB

“ Rev. and Mrs. Johnny Berry planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Alexander Charles Marshall.

Rev. and Mrs. Johnny Berry - February 20 at 04:09 PM

JE

“ Joyce B. Evans purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dr. Alexander Charles Marshall.



Joyce B. Evans - February 20 at 03:29 PM

JE

“ Joyce B. Evans planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Alexander Charles Marshall.

Joyce B. Evans - February 20 at 03:29 PM

VC

“ Vickie Comeaux lit a candle in memory of Alexander Marshall



Vickie Comeaux - February 20 at 03:01 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Alexander Charles Marshall.



February 20 at 02:52 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Alexander Charles Marshall.

February 20 at 02:52 PM

TL

“ I'm so glad that God blessed me with the pleasure of knowing Dr. A.C. Marshall. Those years at St. Paul..... Rest well Dr. Marshall.



Trent Lewis - February 20 at 01:06 PM