



Dr. Carey Alexander Washington

November 11, 1940 - March 25, 2021

On Thursday, March 25th, Dr. Carey Alexander Washington, beloved father, and husband, passed away at the age of 80, another victim of covid. Carey was born on November 11, 1940 in Greenville, SC. He graduated from Newberry College, Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of South Carolina where he received his doctorate. He also did post-doctorate work at the Alfred Adler Institute. He was chief psychologist at the Columbia Area Mental Health Center before going into private practice. Dr. Washington was also a vocational expert witness for the Social Security Administration. He married Lynn Hawthorne in 1968 and they lived in Columbia where they raised their two children, Tanya and Alex.

Although his profession was psychology, his real passion was what we called his second job – a tennis official. Carey became involved when Alex played junior tennis and went on to contribute on the local, state, national and international levels. His warm, outgoing and caring personality made him a hit on the court. Above all, he knew the rules and wanted them enforced fairly. This second career began in 1988 and led him to work statewide tournaments and take state leadership roles. He was a member of the USTA South Carolina Officials Committee for 15 years and chairman for 6 years. Carey was also chairman of USTA Southern Officials Committee. He received numerous awards, including the South Carolina and Southern Tennis Official of the Year. He worked major collegiate tournaments, as well as professional ones like the US Open. His work at this level led him to serve on the USTA National Official's Committee. Another part of his love of tennis centered around Special Olympics. He began on the state level, but soon moved to the Special Olympic World games in the USA, Ireland, China and Greece. He loved working with these tennis players to give them a positive, fun experience on the court. The highlight in his tennis career was his induction in the South Carolina Tennis Hall of Fame.

Carey was larger than life personality. He always had time for everyone from people at the dry cleaner to CVS. He kept Hallmark in business sending out cards to family and friends for birthdays and every other event imaginable. What we will all remember about him is his stories. If you saw a crowd, it was because Carey was telling one of his famous tales.

People always wanted to sit at his table for the entertainment.

He will be missed, but always remembered by his family. Carey loved to travel with his family and spend a summer week at Hilton Head. For Alex, Dad was known as “DocMan” who arrived with him at each junior tournament in “The Car”. He could not be prouder of his girls. When Tanya’s “Daddy Rabbit” visited her in NYC they would hit Broadway and take in a show night after night. But his greatest joy was his grandchildren, and being their “Papa”. He treasured them more than life.

Carey was preceded in death by his father, Jamie, and his mother, Martha. He is survived by his wife, Lynn, his children, Tanya and Alex, and grandchildren, Lane, Alexander, John and Izzy, as well as his brother, Everett and nephew, Jamie.

A private funeral service will be held on Tuesday, March 30th at Shives Funeral Home, Trenholm Road Chapel. The family invites you to attend virtually on or after 2 o’clock, Tuesday, by visiting his tribute page at ShivesFuneralHome.com. A celebration of Carey’s life will be held in the summer when we can gather. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the South Carolina Patrons Foundation that provides scholarships and grants to junior players and programs focusing on youth. Checks can be sent to SCTPF at PO Box 843, Belton, SC 29627 or the Special Populations Unified Doubles (SPUD) tournament at the Belton Tennis Association, PO Box 274, Belton, SC 29627.

The family would like to sincerely thank their Critical Care Unit Nurse, Kailee; as well as all of the other loving and compassionate doctors, nurses and staff at Prisma Health Richland.

Comments



“ A webcast video has been added.



Shives Funeral Home - March 28, 2021 at 12:10 PM



“ I was introduced to Carey in 1981 by mutual friend Howard West. I had an occasion to travel to Chapel Hill with Carey at the wherefore a USC-UNC football game. Upon consuming a number of adult beverages along the way and getting temporarily off course “Captain Cock” was guided back on track by “Co-Cock” his copilot. Every occasion with Carey was an event to remember, fun, at times hilarious but always memorable. I was saddened to learn of his passing. May he Rest In Peace And God shed a perpetual light upon him.

Timothy Karnes - April 10, 2021 at 06:33 PM



“ Sad to hear this news. He's really going to be missed on the tennis courts as an official, mentor and player. One of the most well respected people I've ever known. Condolences to the family.

Randy Roberts - April 20, 2021 at 02:54 PM



“ I was introduced to Carey in 1981 by a mutual friend, Howard West. I had the opportunity to travel to a USC-UNC football game in Chapel Hill with Carey at the wheel. After consumption of several adult beverages we became temporarily off course. “Captain Cock” was back on course after consulting a road map and the direct of his copilot “Co-Cock”. Every occasion with Carey was fun, some times hilarious but always memorable.
May he Rest In Peace And God shed a perpetual light upon him.

Timothy Karnes - April 10, 2021 at 06:44 PM



“ I, too, knew Carey through my older brother Howard West. I was a student at UNC when “Captain Cock” made his appearance at the UNC-USC football game. I have lots of wonderful memories of Carey but that one will always be my favorite. Sending condolences to your family.

Melinda West Maxwell

Melinda West Maxwell - April 26, 2021 at 08:28 PM



“ Carey always had something positive to say about a person! I miss him specially in our tennis tournaments as an official and at the USTA SC Hall of Fame picture and dinner. RIP my friend.
Jorge Andrew

Jorge Andrew - April 03, 2021 at 12:08 PM



“ Carey’s infectious personality will certainly be missed. So sorry for your loss. The tennis community has lost champion for the game.

Ann Martin, Georgetown

Ann Martin - April 02, 2021 at 11:18 PM



“ Remembering the Washington family and sending prayers to all. I have fond memories of those traveling tennis days and hope you are blessed with the happiest of recollections until you meet again. May his memory be eternal.



Kathy Gaffos - April 02, 2021 at 09:03 AM



“ South Carolina tennis has lost an irreplaceable legend.

Jenny Johnson - March 31, 2021 at 12:21 AM



“ Lynn, I just wanted to reach out to let you know how sorry Steve and I are to learn that Carey has passed away. I have tried to find a way to connect with you, so I hope that you will email me when you read this message. I remember Carey so fondly while we all were at Newberry College. He worked so hard as editor of Newberry College's newspaper. He was always such a special person that I will always remember. Sincerely, Judy Jones Annan
(annanjudy@gmail.com)

Judy Annan - March 30, 2021 at 06:33 PM



“ Lynn, Tanya and Alex, On behalf of the Kososki family, I want to let you know how very saddened all of us are to learn that Carey has passed away. All of us appreciated the great contribution Carey gave to everyone around him. He was instrumental in Laura and Jeff's longtime participation in tennis and always provided a sense of humor to every situation. Carey was a truly giving soul. Please know that we share your sense of loss and hope that your joyful memories will ease the sadness of his loss. Carol Kososki

Carol J Kososki - March 30, 2021 at 04:16 PM



“ Carey touched so many people during his life. I'm thankful our paths crossed and he touched mine. He was a gentle and kind man with the sweetest spirit. My thoughts and prayers are with his beautiful family.
Cheryl Jollie

Cheryl Jollie - March 30, 2021 at 03:01 PM



“ Lynn, Tanya, and Alex,
It is with heart felt sadness that I send you my sympathy of losing Cary. He was such a dear friend to me. His spirit and constant sunshine in my life and many others will be forever remembered. He was truly one of a kind.
Pam Bond

Pam Bond - March 29, 2021 at 05:07 PM



“ Lynn, Tanya and Alex
I am so sorry to hear about Carey. Loss is never easy and I hope that you will be uplifted by the many good memories and stories you have shared together. Please know that I am praying for your family.
Take care
Sharon Owens

Sharon W Owens - March 29, 2021 at 04:40 PM



“ I called him George!!!! Whenever he came into OHO, I would make my way to see his smiling face and get a big bear hug. i loved hearing his many stories as he was definitely the bright spot of my day!!

Miss you George!! Rest in Peace

Cheryll Clements

Cheryll - March 29, 2021 at 02:41 PM



“ Dr. Washington was such a source of sunshine. he would encourage me many days. He was such a beautiful person. God bless his family.

ArNetta Adkins - March 29, 2021 at 12:53 PM



“ I will keep smiling when ever I think of Carey! Thankful that he crossed my path. RIP

Vigi - March 29, 2021 at 11:18 AM



“ As Woodie so eloquently expressed, Carey was the ultimate Southern Gentleman. From the time I first met him on my first out-of-section umpiring assignment in Pinehurst, NC in the early 1980's, he was always one I wanted to work with or work for when assignments were given out. He has a big niche in the history of tennis officiating, and be assured he will not be forgotten. I treasure that smile and share his love of tennis. May he find a court upon which to play or to oversee in his current world.

Lura A Mountford - March 29, 2021 at 10:48 AM



“ We are so sorry to hear of Carey's passing away. He was one of a kind and will be missed. Much love to all his family at his time.

The Mooney Family
Carolina Deli

Linda Mooney - March 29, 2021 at 07:42 AM



“ I am so distressed to learn of the passing of this wonderful man. My heart goes out to his family. He was larger than life, always with a big smile and friendly word. Dr. Washington helped me disengage from two relationships that were really bad for me. With his support, I moved on to emotional independence and eventually the great love of my life almost 30 years ago. You will be so missed!

MG Brush - March 28, 2021 at 06:47 PM



“ I first met Carey in 1972 as his intern at the William S. Hall Psychiatric Institute where he provided me the support to continue my career, eventually assuming his position a year later when he moved on to another position. His distinguished grey hair and his love of tennis along with his caring for others were my memories. My favorite saying of his was "In all honesty..." so I was always suspect if he didn't say it before every sentence. He was a friend and mentor that I will always cherish our time together and his positive influence on my life.

Jim Ledbetter, Ph.D.

Jim Ledbetter - March 28, 2021 at 12:02 PM



“ Carey was a turnaround influence on my life so long ago, a very empathetic professional with the common man touch, prayers to all family for a great man.
Rick Renner

RICK RENNER - March 28, 2021 at 10:00 AM



“ Carrey always made me smile because of his upbeat positive and optimistic personality. He never had an unkind word for anyone and he was the best story teller I know. Working with him was always an unadulterated pleasure. He will be sorely missed by those of us who had the privilege of working with him.

Fred Christian - March 28, 2021 at 02:11 AM



“ From Tommy McPherson:

I could not manage to post on the funeral home page for some facebook glitch. So, I am sending my post and thoughts directly. Carey, and the entire Washington family, are among the kindest people I have known. I knew him as a collector, but really as more of a patron, of sorts, when I was very young and beginning to sell antiques to pay for school and necessities. He liked the things he collected; I am sure of that. But, as much, or more, he knew I needed support because I was one of Mrs. Washington's students and in greater need than I understood. Theirs is a beautiful family. Tennis may have been his passion and so many of you are a testament to his influence on and off court. But, his consideration of others extended far beyond those who shared his passion for tennis and I am sure I am one of many who were quietly supported along the way. I am sad for my friends and his family, but also for each of us. There are bright lights among us, but we knew exactly where to look to find his and we are all blessed to have known him.

Tanya Gibbons Washington - March 27, 2021 at 07:46 PM



“ Dennis Ashley sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Carey Alexander Washington



Dennis Ashley - March 27, 2021 at 06:18 PM



“ Sue knew Carey when she was a student at Lander College. Everyone here in Belton knows him as a Tennis icon. So sad to hear this news

Dennis - March 27, 2021 at 06:21 PM



“ My deepest sympathy and prayers to the family. I had the pleasure of meeting Carey at SSA in Augusta Ga. He love his job and airways had encouraging words. He will be missed dearly. He would sit and chat when they had a break. He love you Alex and Tonya. Oh the grand baby. My deepest condolences.

Patricia Patrick - March 27, 2021 at 03:49 PM



“ I met Doc when he was a VE for SSA. We shared a birthday month and he never forgot mine. Always so upbeat and ready and willing to listen and offer advice and counseling. I will be missing his jokes and hugs. He has his wings now and heaven got a good guy.

Thelma Beckham - March 27, 2021 at 02:19 PM



“ Carey was one of the good guys, a bright spot in our tennis world. My condolences to you, his family.

Judy popkin - March 27, 2021 at 03:33 PM



“ Carey was one of the food guys, a bright spot in our tennis world. My condolences to you, his family.

Judy popkin - March 27, 2021 at 03:35 PM



“ Carey was such a special person and he will be missed. I respected him and loved him as a friend. He was a respected member of the tennis community and served in so many different ways, always giving freely of his time. His sense of humor was like no other and he was a joy to have around. I know he will be telling his stories in a better place. May he rest in peace.

Woodie Walker

Woodie Walker - March 27, 2021 at 01:50 PM



“ When i met Carey at tennis, he made me feel so comfortable. He never called me Mary, he always called me Merry. I enjoyed being with him and will miss him dearly. He is the person one will always remember. Rest In Peace My Friend.

Mary E. Beatty - March 27, 2021 at 02:48 PM



“ Carey was a true Southern gentleman and always made you feel welcomed and put a smile on your face. So many great stories that he would tell at the tennis events that we worked together, always with much laughter. The tennis officiating community will miss him greatly and my prayers are with all of his beautiful family.

Denise Loveless-Forrest - March 27, 2021 at 03:57 PM