



Alan Carl Durham

October 22, 1938 - April 13, 2026

Alan Carl Durham, 87, of Charlotte, a man whose life was defined by quiet strength, deep faith, and unwavering love for his family, died April 13, 2026. Alan was born on October 22, 1938, in Durand, Michigan to Charles and Margaret (Reick) Durham. Alan graduated from Battle Creek Central High School in 1956. In 1959, Alan married the love of his life, Mary Jane, whose father became a valued mentor to him in the skilled trades. He began his career at Allied Products in Hillsdale, Michigan, and later continued his work in skilled trades with General Motors

Above all, Alan was a devoted husband and an extraordinary father. Together with his wife, he opened his heart and home in a remarkable way-serving as foster parents to 25 children, while also raising their two beloved children. To each child who entered his life, Alan offered stability, guidance, patience, and unconditional love. His family will miss hearing his familiar and heartfelt closing words, "Thanks for callin'," a simple phrase that meant so much and now holds even greater meaning.

Alan's faith was the cornerstone of his life. He loved the Lord deeply and encouraged those around him to seek comfort and strength in prayer. His quiet example spoke volumes - he lived his beliefs daily, never seeking recognition, never complaining, and always choosing grace. He had a passion for history and learning. He could often be found watching the History

Channel, absorbing stories of the past with genuine curiosity and enthusiasm. This love extended to his travels, as he enjoyed visiting presidential homes, historical landmarks, and meaningful places that connected him to the nation's heritage. Alan also cherished time spent traveling, especially his trips to Florida, where he found rest, joy, and special memories with loved ones.

Alan is survived by his children, Robert (Billie Jo) Durham and Cathy Reed; foster children, Ryan and Tanisha (Dre) Jefferson; brother, Robert Durham; grandchildren, Cody Durham, Chad (Nicolette) Durham, Korin Steen, Kayla Dysard, Martina (Corey) Biddinger, Mary (Ben) Sawade; and great-grandchildren, Cameron, Paiden, Madisyn, Dalton, Leah, Bailey, Parker, Conner, Kylar, Tucker, Morgan, Tanner, and Sheppard. He was predeceased by his wife, Mary Jane; brothers Charles and Sam Durham; and sisters, Alice Richards and Helen Robins.

Friends are encouraged to support Alan's family by attending services or sharing memories on his Tribute Page at www.prayfuneral.com. Visitation is Thursday, April 16 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Charlotte. Funeral services are Friday, April 17 at 2:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Charlotte with Pastor Pete Kroll officiating. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to First Baptist Church and Helping Hands. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Cemetery Details

Maple Hill Cemetery

801 Tully Brown Rd.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 16. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Charlotte
1110 S. Cochran Ave
Charlotte, MI 48813

Funeral

APR 17. 2:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Charlotte
1110 S. Cochran Ave
Charlotte, MI 48813

Burial

APR 17. 3:30 PM (ET)

Maple Hill Cemetery
801 Tully Brown Rd.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Webcast in memory of Alan Carl Durham*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - April 17 at 08:17 AM



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Alan Carl Durham*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - April 15 at 06:14 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Alan Carl Durham.*



April 16 at 12:17 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Alan Carl Durham.

April 16 at 12:17 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Alan Carl Durham.

April 16 at 10:29 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Alan Carl Durham.



April 16 at 10:29 AM



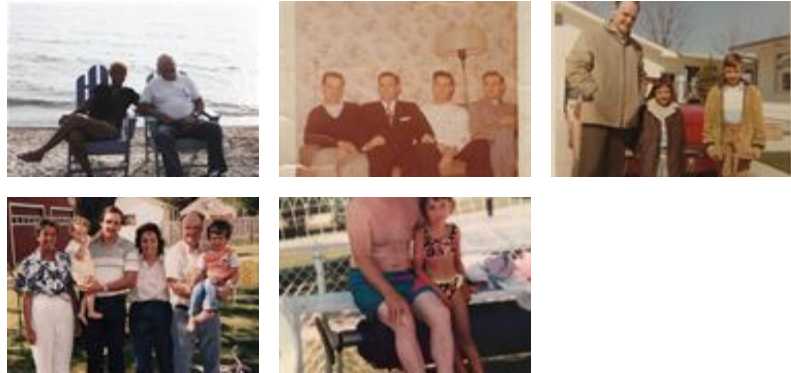
“ Dara, Daryl & Heather purchased the Angel's Embrace Bouquet for the family of Alan Carl Durham.



Dara, Daryl & Heather - April 16 at 09:20 AM



“ 51 files added to the album Life Tributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - April 15 at 06:07 PM

BF

“ My condolences to the family on this sudden loss. I always appreciated Al's quiet, congenial personality. He was a man of deep faith and strong prayers. I will miss seeing him and hearing his greeting at church. May God bless all the family at this sad time.

Brynda Filkins - April 15 at 05:19 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Alan Carl Durham.



April 15 at 01:04 PM

DL

“ Douglas L. purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Alan Carl Durham.



Douglas L. - April 15 at 12:46 PM

DL

“ Douglas L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Alan Carl Durham.

Douglas L. - April 15 at 12:46 PM

TF

“ The Chuck & Patty Berlin Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Alan Carl Durham.



The Chuck & Patty Berlin Family - April 14 at 08:40 PM



“ I was very sorry to hear about the sudden passing of Uncle Al. He was always so kind and caring when we visited him, and he clearly loved the Lord. Praying for your comfort now. Taren

Taren Durham - April 14 at 06:11 PM

FB

So sorry to hear of Al's passing. He and Mary were great neighbors & friends. My kids loved going next door to visit them when they were growing up. He will be greatly missed.

Fred & Sharee Burdick - April 14 at 07:43 PM

SH

I bought my house on prairie st from Al and Mary. I always enjoyed their visits. They were great people.

Sue Hayward - April 15 at 08:32 AM