



# **R.J. Stidham**

SEP 7, 1951 - JAN 10, 2016



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Funeral Home & Cemetery

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## **R.J. Stidham**

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**R**onald John “R.J. Stidham, 64, passed away January 10, 2016. He was preceded in death by his parents, John Edward Stidham and Altesa Metcalf Stidham and sister, Verdella Alexander. He is survived by his wife, Marian Massey Stidham; sons, Aaron Cox, Matthew Stidham, and Michael Stidham; sister, Barbara Stidham Tubbs; grandson, Devon; nephews, Jason Tutstone, Jeffery Tubbs, and Alfred Alexnder; and nieces, Chawndalya Tubbs, Alyssa Tubbs, Cynthia Anita Tubbs, Kimorra Tubbs, Jalyn Tutstone, Deladra Alexander, and Jeffery Tubbs, Jr. The family will receive friends from 10 a.m. until the service begins at 11 a.m. Friday, January 15, at St. Mary’s Episcopal Cathedral. Interment will follow at 3 p.m. at Oakland Cemetery in DeValls Bluff, AR. Funeral Arrangements have been entrusted to Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery....”Celebrating Life.....Behind the Stone Wall”.



## Tribute Wall

**R.J. Stidham**

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AF

**Almetra J. Franklin** posted:

I could not believe that R J Had transition from earth to Heaven. I had not talk to him in years, and thought we had lost contact. He was one of the the most knowledgeable Housing Experts that I have ever meet. His passion for helping people was amazing. The Louisiana CHDO Community will miss him. He was a great man and a great friend.

June 25 at 7:51 AM

MJ

**Mary E Brothers-Johnson** posted:

I first met RJ at Baldwin-Wallace and knew he was going to be great. He graduated from John Hay as I was entering, so I didn't get to know to know at all. I just heard the name. He was a freshmen counselor for the Black student at Baldwin Wallace and he provided us with information that would carry us thru our 4 years there and beyond. I remember the VW Beetle he drove on campus and his Isaac Hayes rendition at the Black Student Talent Show. Walk with the Elders, Stidham.Mary E Brothers-Johnson

September 12 at 8:19 AM

RG

**Ronell Guy** posted:

I lost a brother, friend, and mentor! It's taken me until this day 5-15-2016 to even get to the point where I can share about my lost! Real Talk I know no one who can fill his shoes! He was my Black Power Ear! He was my organizing guru. He was my community development finance expert! He held me the community and POOR BLACK FOLKS DOWN! We lost a champion in the struggle for equity, truth and Justice! But most of all rest with GOD MY DEAR SWEET FRIEND! I will miss you for as long as I am on this earth! Thank God for your life!

May 15 at 3:31 PM

AN

**Angela** posted:

Rj always worked me to death and taught me lots of lessons about living, communities, banks, organizing, fair housing, civil rights, ques, etc. As i was getting my petitions signed tonight at an mayors town hall meeting, i was informed he passed away. The lessons he taught me was monumental and the love for black people he demonstrated was to be admired. Rest my good friend knowing that u are now in the hands of God. Love, peace and blessings to rj family. Micheal i will never forget you. Love angela

February 4 at 8:24 AM



## Tribute Wall

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HU

**Hubert** posted:

Thank you Kenya. He spoke highly of you

January 22 at 2:16 PM

RR

**Rochelle Roberts** posted:

The best brother I ever had the pleasure of knowing

January 22 at 5:13 AM

RR

**Rochelle Roberts** posted:

So very true

January 22 at 5:10 AM

TS

**Tsehaye** posted:

May prayers and uplifting thoughts about your beloved father, husband, uncle and family member. On behalf of our family and our shared friends, we offer our condolences.

January 15 at 1:24 PM

MT

**Mary Jo Thompson** posted:

I am so saddened to hear of the loss of R.J. He has been my friend and my mentor. He was a good friend to the State of West Virginia and the people he helped find homes, shelter, nourishment and life. He will be sadly missed. His family is our deepest prayers. Mary Jo Thompson Director of Community Development State of West Virginia

January 15 at 5:19 AM

CM

**Carlo Montgomery** posted:

My condolences to the Stidham family. Ronald was my brothers, Robert Michael and James Herbert McGraw's, playmate when they were little and we lived on 75th street in Cleveland, Ohio. Our hearts are broken. Subrina McGraw Montgomery

January 15 at 4:42 AM



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JR

**Jakki Tutstone Reid** posted:

On behalf of the Velma & Rachel Tutstone family, I would like to offer sincere condolences to the entire family of Ronald Stidham. Barbara, I remember when I met your brother along with his family. I remember him being a very polite and suave gentleman and we were neighbors for a short period of time in Cleveland, Ohio. May The Lord comfort you all during this bereavement period. Much love,  
Jakki Tutstone Reid

January 15 at 3:45 AM

CP

**Charles Perkins** posted:

RJ was a great friend and mentor. I will miss our discussions our work together and our friendship. I pray for peace and comfort for his family. RJ's ability to connect with people and to connect people are legendary. He will continue to be an example to me in so many areas of my life. My deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

January 15 at 3:22 AM

JH

**Jeffrey Higgs** posted:

A true renaissance man, friend, coworker and only known to a few, a recording artist who loved music. Your friends in community development will truly miss you Rest in Peace my friend Jeffrey T Higgs, LeMoyné-Owen College Community Development Corporation

January 14 at 2:40 PM

SM

**Shawna Moraille** posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

January 14 at 2:21 PM

MH

**Michelle Hayes** posted:

Rj was a mentor, advisor and friend that shared his skills, experience, and life lessons with me as we worked together throughout the country. I will miss his candor, guidance, and humor, especially our Monday morning debriefings on the weekends football games. My best to the family as they lost a father, uncle, brother, and husband.....Michelle Hayes Cloudburst Group

January 14 at 2:18 PM



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BE

**Baron J Bell Former Tonya Inc. Employee** posted:

My friend R.J. You have been freed from the trials and tribulations of this world's life. I will cherish the memories of our conversations and will forever lament that we were not able to complete some of those things which we so often discussed. For many, the fight continues. To you, a job well done!!

January 14 at 1:45 PM

BD

**Bob Damewood** posted:

R.J. was one of those rare people who confronted difficult situations with patience and joy. He taught me so much both professionally and personally. The world was such a better place with him in it.

January 14 at 12:18 PM

MB

**Marcia Bergeson** posted:

I had the pleasure and privilege of working with RJ on a long term contract and I am so glad that I had that opportunity. RJ was a gentlemen and a gentle man, soft spoken but you always wanted to listen to him because you knew you were going to learn something from him. He will be missed by the community development community. Our sincere condolences to his family and friends. Marcia Bergeson Community Planning and Development Advisors

January 14 at 11:09 AM

KC

**Kenya Crumel** posted:

I'm grateful to have gotten to know RJ in the 6-7 months that he was my BCT Partners co-worker. He was so knowledgeable and passionate about community and economic development. A giant who will surely be missed. Rest in power, RJ! Kenya Crumel Principal, BCT Partners

January 14 at 10:02 AM

MP

**Memorial Park** posted:

Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of R.J. Stidham.

January 14 at 8:00 AM



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RS

**Rita Ferrel, Johanna And David Shreve** posted:

Rita Ferrel, johanna and David Shreve purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of R.J. Stidham.

January 14 at 5:33 AM

JM

**John Mcgah** posted:

It was a real pleasure to work with RJ on a longterm project and stay in touch afterwards. He taught me a lot, and brought a great passion and creativity to his community development work. Even more, I enjoyed talking about history with him. My condolences to family and friends of RJ. He is a great guy and made a positive impact in the world for sure. John McGah

January 14 at 3:54 AM

CT

**"Chini" Shirley Johnson-Taylor** posted:

To the family of Ron Stidham, I had the pleasure of attending John Hay High School with Stidham, as we called him. It was always Stidham, Alloway and Thaeon who inspired, lead, and introduced us to jazz greats such as Wes Montgomery during our years in band. I'm thankful for the pleasant youthful memories of a elegant gentleman who was a scholar, activist, actor, musician, and role model for many. Peace and blessings to your family. "Chini" Shirley Johnson-Taylor, Class of 1969

January 13 at 4:03 PM

MP

**Memorial Park** posted:

Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of R.J. Stidham.

January 13 at 11:18 AM

DH

**Deborah Nash Harris** posted:

My condolences to the family. I have know Ronald since elementary school and have fond memories as we traveled through junior and senior high school. So sorry to hear of your loss. RIP RJ.

January 13 at 9:40 AM



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GM

**George Moses** posted:

I am so sad to hear about the passing of RJ. He was a friend and a teacher. He helped me understand the value of "community development" and that it has to be resident focused. He helped me to get to where I am today and I will be forever grateful. He Will Be Missed!! George Moses Former Chair of the Board of Directors National Low Income Housing Coalition Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

January 13 at 9:30 AM

DC

**Donald C Church** posted:

My college roommate the great memories that we have had and the lessons in life that i learned from you. My condolences to you Marian and to all of RJ's family. I love you. RIP. Donald C Church

January 13 at 5:04 AM

LW

**Linda Wiggins Lee** posted:

My heart will forever hold a special place for Stidham and I will cherish the wonderful memories of our days at Baldwin-Wallace College. I love you R. J.

January 12 at 4:28 PM

RW

**Rocky Wade** posted:

R.J. was my friend, my daily lunch companion when we worked at TONYA where he would share his commitment and passion for others for what we both hoped would be a better, enlightened, uplifting world for all, he could make me laugh, he could make you cry, R.J. Stidham was my friend and I miss him, Rocky

January 12 at 11:02 AM

HB

**Hubert Brandon** posted:

Quite simply.... THE BEST MAN I EVER KNEW AND I AM SO PROUD TO CALL HIM MY BIG BROTHER

January 11 at 10:43 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring R.J. by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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