

CELEBRATING THE LIFE
OF
JOHN HENRY SEALE



Sunrise
September 28, 1939

Sunset
December 20, 2005

Service Held

December 28, 2005

11:00 a.m.

At

Allen Temple Baptist Church
8501 International Boulevard
Oakland, California 94621

Officiating

Reverend Doctor J. Alfred Smith, Sr.
Senior Pastor

REMEMBERING JOHN HENRY SEALE

JOHN HENRY SEALE was born on September 28, 1939 in Beaumont, Texas to Thelma Traylor Seale and the late George Seale. In 1942, John, known as "Tan" to his family and friends, moved with his family to the Codornices Village in Berkeley, California. John attended the Berkeley Public Schools as well as McClymonds High School.

John united with the St. John Missionary Baptist Church at 720 Filbert Street in Oakland, under the pastorate of the late Reverend C.J. Anderson, where he accepted Jesus as his personal Lord and Savior and was baptized. John went on to sing in the Youth Choir alongside his sister Bettye.

John enlisted in the United States Air Force in August 1958. He performed his basic training at the Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. John then became an aircraft mechanic, serving in the 30th Bomb Wing in Lincoln, Nebraska and in Spain.

After his military discharge in 1963, John enrolled at the Oakland City College. After his education, John then went on to work for various companies in the Oakland area, including AC Transit as a driver on the 88 route through Oakland and Berkeley.

In the mid-sixties, John left traditional employment to answer the call to service for the Civil Rights struggle and went to work full time alongside his brother Bobby in the Black Panther Party. John held various positions in the Party, including personal bodyguard for his brother, Party treasurer and layout supervisor for the Black Panther Party newspaper.

In 1974, John left the Bay Area and lived in various cities, including Los Angeles, Dallas, Philadelphia and Denver, where he settled for many years. The seventies were the beginning of John's distinguished career in sales management for retailers such as Downing's and Silo. John also spent eighteen months in New Orleans, opening several stores for Silo, which were all top stores within their region.

The nineties dawned with John's return to Oakland, and the continuation of his distinguished sales career at Circuit City, Montgomery Ward and Sears. John's rapport with his clients won him not only the highest sales records and awards, but also lifelong friends.

John's personal appearance was essential to his being. His love for well designed and constructed clothing was evident. John always looked just as if he had stepped from the pages of a fashion magazine. Shoes were his passion. John drew great pleasure from his hobbies such as cooking, decorating and gardening, especially the cultivation of orchids. Many homes in Denver and the Bay Area benefited from those skills, as well as his talent for construction, which he inherited from his father and grandfather.

The space that John occupied will never be filled. He leaves to cherish and keep alive his memory his mother, Thelma, brother Bobby, sister Bettye (Williams), daughters Mercelle (Pierce) and Abraxas, son Gabriel, sister in-law Leslie, son-in-law Terry (Pierce), granddaughters Alexandria (Pierce), Michael Reece (Pierce) and Zoë Quinn, nieces Charlotte (Williams) and J'aime, and nephews Malik and Romaine (Johnson). Keeping John alive in heart are his treasured loved ones, Dr. Sandra Seale, Shelly Sanders and Maddy Oden. John also leaves to mourn a host of relatives and friends.

ORDER OF SERVICE
FOR
JOHN HENRY SEALE

ORGAN CONSOLATIONS.

PROCESSIONAL.

.Ministers, Family and Friends

VIEWING OF THE BELOVED.

MUSICAL SELECTION.

.....*Ms. Semoine Sykes*

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

OLD TESTAMENT..

.....*Rev. Enitan Olu Bereola*
Allen Temple Baptist Church, Oakland, CA

NEW TESTAMENT....

.....*Rev. James Henry Carter*
Bethlehem Baptist Church, Oakland, CA

PRAYER.

.....*Rev. Jonathan R. Staples*
Senior Pastor
Jerusalem Baptist Church, Palo Alto, CA

SOLO.

Deacon Lewis Sellars
'If I Can Help Somebody'

A TRIBUTE TO MY BROTHER.

Bobby Seale

CELEBRATING JOHN HENRY SEALE

Minister Charlotte Williams

EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE AND COMFORT (TWO MINUTES PLEASE)...

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, RESOLUTIONS AND PRESENTATION.....

.....*Carolyn Anderson*
Church Clerk

REMEMBERING JOHN HENRY SEALE.....

...Silent Reading

SOLO.

.....*Deacon Lewis Sellars*
'Walk Around Heaven All Day'

EULOGY & CLOSING PRAYER.....

.....*Dr. J. Alfred Smith, Sr.*

RECESSIONAL.....

.....
'Take Five' by Dave Brubeck

Reverend Doctor J. Alfred Smith, Sr.
Presiding

Repast Immediately Following
Allen Temple Baptist Church Family Life Center

