



Dr. William Alphonso Franks

July 3, 1936 - April 18, 2026

City of birth: Tatums, Oklahoma

Father: W.E. Franks

Mother: Winnie Mae Franks

Spouse: Loretta Williamson Franks

Sisters: Helen (Franks) Miner

Children: Brent Franks, Sharon Franks, (Deceased) William Franks Jr., Lennie Franks

Valerie (Franks) Jones, Patrick Franks

Grandchildren: A host of Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren

Occupation: Professor and Entrepreneur

High School: Purcell, Oklahoma

College and Beyond: Langston University, O.U., and Harvard

He was a Loving father, husband, grandfather and great grandfather

Previous Events

Funeral Service

APR 24. 11:00 AM (cst)

Rolfe Memorial Chapel
2936 N.E. 36th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73111

Interment

APR 24.

Tatum Cemetery
Tatum, OK

Tribute Wall

EF

“ *He was such a kind heart and smile. You will be missed...* ”



Erma Ford - May 08 at 05:43 PM

BL

“ *Blenza Love lit a candle in memory of Dr. William Alphonso Franks* ”



Blenza Love - May 07 at 04:52 AM

BL

With Heartfelt Sympathy and May the healing gifts of time and the timeless love of God carry you gently through the loss you're feeling now.

Blenza Love - May 07 at 04:56 AM

AD

“ *We at WRO want to send our deepest condolences to the family of William Franks Jr. during this time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.* ”



Andre Daughty - April 24 at 02:26 PM

VS

“ *Vinita Smith lit a candle in memory of Dr. William Alphonso Franks*



Vinita Smith - April 24 at 10:29 AM

LS

“ *Lucretia Smith lit a candle in memory of Dr. William Alphonso Franks*



Lucretia Smith - April 23 at 11:26 PM

FS

“ *From Thesis Franks Sr purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Dr. William Alphonso Franks.*



From Thesis Franks Sr - April 23 at 11:39 AM

NA

“ *Naven Sudha Ishan Anisha purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Dr. William Alphonso Franks.*



Naven Sudha Ishan Anisha - April 22 at 11:34 PM

NA

“ Naven Sudha Ishan Anisha planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. William Alphonso Franks.

Naven Sudha Ishan Anisha - April 22 at 11:34 PM

FK

“ family of the Late Richmond E. Kinnard planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. William Alphonso Franks.

family of the Late Richmond E. Kinnard - April 22 at 07:10 PM

FK

“ family of the Late Richmond E. Kinnard purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Dr. William Alphonso Franks.



family of the Late Richmond E. Kinnard - April 22 at 07:10 PM

JC

“ Dr. Franks was a dedicated instructor and scientist whose passion for chemistry inspired those he taught, and his legacy lives on in every student he encouraged. His professionalism earned the admiration of his colleagues. It was a privilege to have known and worked with him. - John K. Coleman

John K Coleman - April 22 at 02:34 PM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. William Alphonso Franks.*



April 22 at 01:39 PM



“ *Kenneth Leonard and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. William Alphonso Franks.*

Kenneth Leonard and Family - April 22 at 12:57 PM



“ *Kenneth Leonard and Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Dr. William Alphonso Franks.*



Kenneth Leonard and Family - April 22 at 12:57 PM



“ *Danita Foster-Ramsey lit a candle in memory of Dr. William Alphonso Franks*



Danita Foster-Ramsey - April 21 at 11:59 PM

SG

You are in our thoughts and prayers family... very loving cuz... you will be greatly missed 🙏❤️

Sandra Green - April 22 at 07:37 AM

DJ

“ Dr. Franks will be deeply missed, but his influence remains—woven into the hearts, minds, and futures of all who had the privilege of knowing him. Praying for the Franks family during this time of bereavement.

Doye Jarrett and the Jarrett family.

Doye Jarrett - April 21 at 04:11 PM

DS

“ Bill &Chitra, Charles&Valire, and family you have my deepest symphathy. May the love of God keep you in this time of bereavment.

Love you Dee Speight



Deidra Speight - April 21 at 10:36 AM

CR

*We are praying for the entire family. Love and Blessings,
Cynethia Rayford*

Cynethia Rayford - April 21 at 04:01 PM

DF

Dr. Franks will be greatly missed. He touched many lives in a positive way. My prayers and deepest condolences to his family.

Danita Foster-Ramsey - April 21 at 11:59 PM

CL

I have several good memories of Dr. Frank at several family gatherings, he will be dearly missed. My Thoughts, Prayers and Love go out to the entire family!

Carol Ladd - April 22 at 02:58 AM

AA

Prayers of comfort and support for your family during this difficult period. Chitra, I know what it is like to lose a cherished grandfather. I miss mine...to this day. He was my hero...so I am sure, based on the Love and Blessings, sent to you on his home going, that Dr. Franks was your hero!

Anita Arnold - April 22 at 04:58 PM

KA

Bill and Chitra, I am saddened to hear about the loss of your father. I just want to let you know that I am praying for you and your family. I pray for the peace that surpasses all understanding and the understanding that brings about peace.

Kerry Austin - April 24 at 02:31 PM

CB

Condolences to the Franks family. My fondest memory of Dr. Franks while attending Langston University was him creating a cosmetic line. I thought then that was really something to actually know someone who could make their own make-up. Family you are in my prayers!

Carla Burton - April 27 at 10:55 AM