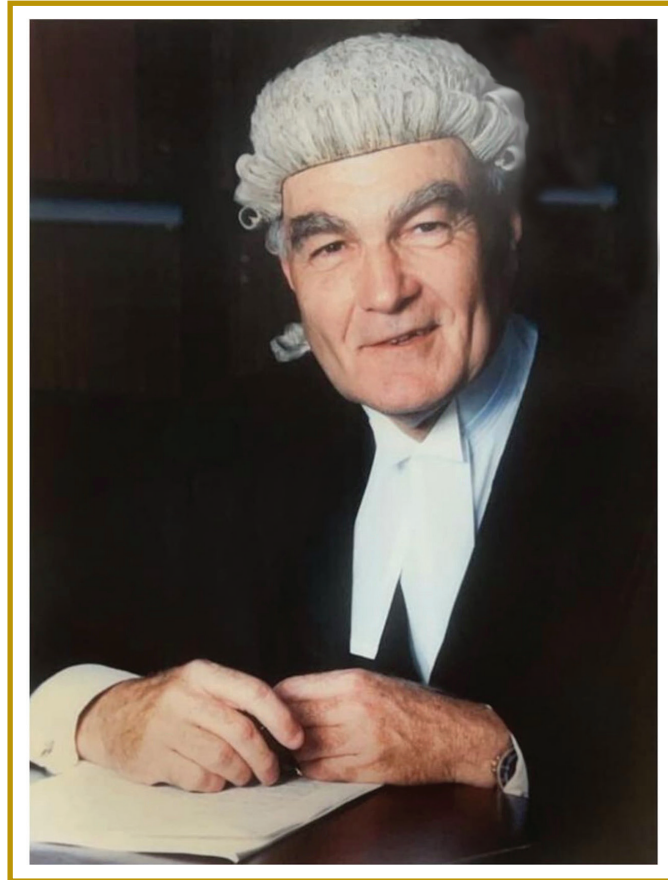


# *Celebration*

OF THE LIFE OF



**RAMON DOUGLAS ALBERGA**

**M.A (CANTAB), O.B.E, K.C.**

**BARRISTER/ATTORNEY-AT-LAW**

**CALLED FEBRUARY 15, 1951**

**February 15, 1928 - January 23, 2024**

**First Baptist Church of Grand Cayman**

**920 Crewe Road, Grand Cayman**

**Saturday, 9th March 2024**

**Service at 3:00 pm**

**Officiating Ministers**

**Pastor Martin J Royer**

**Pastor Kyle McLean**

**Pastor Neriah LeBlanc**

# ORDER OF SERVICE

Musical Prelude

Welcome and Introductory Remarks..... Pastor Martin Royer

Opening Prayer..... Pastor Kyle McLean

Hymn..... *Blessed Assurance*

Scripture Reading: First Corinthians 15: 50-58..... Charles Alberga, son of Ramon Alberga

Eulogy..... Sir Anthony Smellie KCMG KC, former Chief Justice of the Cayman Islands

Tribute from Cayman Islands Government..... The Honourable Juliana O'Connor-Connolly JP, MP  
- the Premier and Minister for Finance and Economic Development, Education, District Administration &  
Lands and Cabinet Office

Hymn..... *When We All Get To Heaven*

Tribute from The Honourable Margaret Ramsay-Hale, BSc (Econ)(LSE), LLB (UWI), The Chief Justice of  
the Cayman Islands

Tribute from The Honourable Attorney General Samuel Bulgin, KC JP

Tribute from the President of the Cayman Islands Practitioner's Association, Richard Barton

Special Musical Selection..... Justin Hernandez and Kharim Samuels - Sparks School of Music

Tribute from Alberga children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren..... Michael Alberga

Tribute from Andrew Still, grandchild

Hymn *The Holy City*..... The Honourable McKeeva Bush Member of Parliament, JP

Sermon..... Pastor Martin Royer

Blessing of the Ashes

Closing Announcement..... Pastor Kyle McLean

Final Benediction..... Pastor Kyle McLean

Hymn..... *Victory in Jesus*

## USHERS

Suzanne Livingston

Ann-Marie Wight

Paul Alberga

Jake Alberga

Troy Burke

Judicial Offices (4 Marshalls)

Protocol Office (3 Protocol Representatives)

## GUEST BOOK ATTENDANTS

Brenda Bush (Travers Thorp Alberga)

Cathy Ameline (daughter)

Madison Ameline (grand daughter)

Rebecca Williams (grand daughter)

Natasha Gimmell (Friend of Family)

Keri Jansen (Family)

## EULOGY BY JUSTICE SIR ANTHONY SMELLIE KCMG, KC.

Today, we come together to celebrate the life of a man who was a guiding light, source of strength, and a pillar of love. Ramon Douglas Alberga left an indelible mark on all the lives that he touched, and it is an honor to share a glimpse of the remarkable and wonderful person he was.

Ramon was born in Kingston, Jamaica on 15 February 1928 to Marie May Alberga and Louis Phillippe Alberga, an attorney, and from that moment, his journey of love, resilience, and wisdom began. He attended Miss Butler's Prep School and Wolmer's Boys School. At school his love of sports developed. He played soccer, hockey, cricket, tennis and he participated in rifle shooting, long and high jumps and various races. He held a record for a long time in Jamaica in the inter-school championships for the 100m race.

After graduating from Wolmer's Boys School, he was admitted to Cambridge University. He met his beloved wife Mary Patricia Woods (also known as Patsy) on a banana boat (the MV Arigani) voyage between Jamaica and the United Kingdom while on the way to Cambridge. In that era, banana boats were nothing like the Queen Mary or the Love Boat. They were simply cargo vessels transporting bananas and other products from Jamaica to the United Kingdom with some room, in what was known as "steerage", for passengers. This was not the most likely place for romance, but inadequacies of the vessel did not dampen his charming character and their relationship blossomed while he was in the United Kingdom pursuing his law degree and while Patsy pursued her career in nursing. Eventually, Patsy became a nursing sister at Middlesex Hospital in London. During Ramon's years at Cambridge, not only did he embrace the study of law, he pursued his love of sports and played tennis for Cambridge and was on the rowing team, which travelled to the United States to compete. On his return to Jamaica, he played tennis for the All-Jamaica squad and continued playing all his life.

Ramon was admitted to the English Bar in Middle Temple in London in 1951 and shortly after he and Patsy were married on July 19th 1952. They returned to Jamaica on another romantic banana boat, known as the Producer. On the return to Jamaica, Ramon began his legal career in his Father's office, having been admitted to the Jamaican Bar in 1952. Ramon's father, Louis, started one of the first solicitor firms in Jamaica with Clinton Hart, Hugh Hart's father. Ramon practiced as a barrister at law, acting in many criminal and civil cases. His dedication and love of the law was evident from the start.

As Ramon's legal career began to blossom, so did his family life. He and Patsy's family began with the birth of Michael and grew rapidly with the birth of John, Charles, Ruth and Mary, later followed by Cathy Sue. His family now includes 12 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren. As an only child, Ramon put a twist on the Jamaican motto "out of many come one people". He used to say, with that wry smile, "out of one came so many."

As a father, the love for his family was unconditional, strong and everlasting. He was the rock of the family and his smile lit up the darkest corners and his presence was a gift that shaped the lives of all his children. His wisdom, often delivered with a touch of humor, provided guidance in times of confusion and strength in times of weakness. As parents, both he and Patsy participated in every school and sporting event, graduations and celebrated achievements and marriages and arbitrated in an even and gentle manner difficult family challenges. His love knew no bounds, and he took immense pride in the accomplishments and joys of each family member. Good manners, respect for everyone, hard work, honesty, humility, helping others and contributing to society in general were traits that were very important to Ramon and Patsy and were instilled in all their children. In addition to time spent with the family, he sat on the school boards, coached football and rifle teams and founded and ran the Alberga Cup – a football league for children under 12. Most of the preparatory schools in Jamaica for children under 12 participated in the Alberga Cup and it grew into an island wide league which is still active today. His goal was to provide children with an activity which was healthy, fostered a sense of community and would develop a supporting skill for a large percentage of the young population.

After his family and love of people, Ramon's second love was for the law and the legal profession. He had the greatest respect for the common law legal system, the rule of law, natural justice, judges, administrative staff and his colleagues in the profession. He, along with notables such as Dr Lloyd Barnett KC, was one of the founding members of the Jamaican Bar Association. His dedication to the law, hard work and legal skills became widely recognized and acclaimed and he was appointed Queens Counsel in 1965. He practiced in Jamaica and from the 1960s, came to the

Cayman Islands to participate and lead in a number of cases.

In 1976, he made the decision to move with the family to Cayman, where he had also made a number of friends in the community. He loved Cayman and the many friends that he had made and actually spent more of his life in Cayman than in Jamaica. He continued his tennis and was an enthusiastic member of the Tennis Association, actively playing into his 80s.

Indeed, I can attest to this having partnered Ramon in what became his very last game of doubles when, close to 90, he and I played the inaugural game at the Quin's tennis court at Red Bay opposite Charlie and Tim Haddleton. We did not win that match. Charlie was a great host except when it came to competitive sports! Many in attendance today will also recall Ramon's beloved presence at Silver Sands at tournaments that attracted literally hundreds of friends from around the world. At these events Ramon was loved and respected by everyone and came to be regarded as the sort of "elder statesman" of these reunions.

He was also an avid football fan and spent many early mornings watching his favorite Premier soccer teams with his many friends. Jackie and I very fondly remember our trip in 1992 with Ramon and Charlie Quin to watch the FA Cup final between Liverpool and Sunderland when, as Liverpool fans on our way to the stadium on the train packed with Sunderland supporters, Ramon looked around at present company and realizing that we better kept our sentiments to ourselves, cautioned us with a wry smile "mum's the word!"

As a leading light at the Bar here in Cayman, he assisted with establishing the Cayman Islands Law Society, serving as its president, appeared before every Chief Justice and numerous judges. Indeed, as Chief Justice I had the great privilege and pleasure of his appearance before me in many cases and the distinction of having appeared both with and against him as counsel at the Bar. He was one of the founding members of the group who initiated the Cayman Islands Law Reports and served as the consultant editor up until 2020. In fact, it was from his private collection of cases going back to 1952, that we were able to compile the very first volume of the Law Reports. He attended every Grand Court opening, with the exception of 2024 when, in his speech, the Attorney-General Sam Bulgin was moved to observe that RAKC was for the first time not present to exercise what we and he called his "prescriptive right" to sit in the first seat of the front row as leader of the Bar. That was a very poignant moment for everyone in attendance. In 2007 Ramon's contribution to the legal profession and the Cayman and Jamaican communities was recognized when he was awarded an OBE.

As leading counsel, he was acknowledged as a master of the complexities of the legal system and had a deep and wide understanding of its underlying principles – he was a force to be reckoned with and his eloquence, sharp legal mind and unwavering commitment to justice has left an indelible mark on those fortunate enough to have witnessed his advocacy. He was admired not only for his legal prowess, but for the compassion that he brought to the practice of law. He regarded the law as not just a collection of rules, but a system which constantly brought about positive change while upholding and protecting the rights of the less fortunate and vulnerable.

He was widely recognized by the legal profession as the "father of the bar", the "lawyers' lawyer" and a friend and officer of the Court. His support for the administration of justice was unstinting and unwavering. Many were the times when, as Chief Justice, I had to call upon him for support or advice on matters to do with the administration of justice. His advice was always clear, firm and extremely valuable. In 2011, by unanimous acclaim of the judiciary, his portrait was placed in the foyer of the Courthouse with all those who served as esteemed Justices in the Cayman Islands. He remains the only non-judicial officer to have been so recognized. He touched countless lives through his willingness to help those who needed justice and was constantly giving his wise advice to individuals in all walks of life. One of his greatest joys was assisting young attorneys with their careers. During his life, he moved the admission to the court for numerous young attorneys and followed their careers enthusiastically.

Today, we say goodbye to a remarkable soul, a loving and extraordinary father and a cherished friend. Ramon may no longer be with us, but his legacy lives on in our hearts and in the countless lives he touched. While we mourn the loss of our dear Ramon, let us also celebrate the enduring impact of a life dedicated to the love of family, friends, the law and the communities in which he lived. His love will transcend the boundaries of time and continue to inspire generations to come.

May his wonderful soul rest in eternal peace and may light perpetually shine upon him. Thank you.

# RAMON ALBERGA FAMILY TREE



**RAMON DOUGLAS ALBERGA**  
**M.A (CANTAB), O.B.E, K.C.**  
**Barrister/Attorney-At-Law**  
**February 15, 1928 - January 23, 2024**

## **Children**

Michael Alberga, Charles Alberga, Ruth Alberga Still, Mary Alberga, Cathy Sue Alberga.  
Predeceased by his loving wife, Patsy Alberga and their son, John Alberga

## **Grandchildren**

Paul Alberga, Lisa Burke, David Alberga, Bianca Alberga, Jodie McTaggart,  
Jamie-Lauren McTaggart, Jessica McTaggart, Rebecca Williams, Andrew Still,  
Jason Alberga, Jonathan Alberga, Madison Ameline.

## **Great Grandchildren**

Christopher Alberga, Leah Alberga, Jake Alberga, Drew Alberga, Joshua Alberga,  
Adam Alberga, Cory Burke, Dylan Burke, Sabrina Burke, Jax Alberga, Isla Alberga,  
Merrick Alberga, Charlotte Williams, Tom Williams, Jackson Still, Carter Still,  
Hallie Giuzio, Mary Anderson, Liam Stringer, Cian Stringer.

## TRIBUTE FROM REBECCA WILLIAMS

Popi,

At family gatherings, I could see your pride in all of us, this large family of descendants from an only child. Every time you looked at me, your eyes lit up with delight, and I knew that you loved me simply for being a part of you. I loved your many accomplishments, but I also loved your joy in simple pleasures, like a coffee ice cream cone. It is an honor and a privilege to be your granddaughter.

Love,  
Rebecca



## TRIBUTE FROM RUTH ALBERGA STILL

My Dearest Dad,

How do I say goodbye to the person that has been there for my entire life?

Hello Dad, this is Ruth...

I knew and loved you as my dad and want to thank you for that...

You were the dad that I played cards, dominoes, ping pong, deck tennis with...

You were the dad that I spent hours balancing your accounts to the penny with...

You were the dad that I talked Wimbledon, World Cup, and Arsenal with...

You were the dad that encouraged and supported me in everything I did.

You were the dad that was so very proud of me no matter what I was doing.

You were the dad that so loved my children and grandchildren.

You were the dad that enjoyed going to get a snow cone at the side of the road with...

You were the dad that delighted in sharing a peppermint pattie or nougat with me.

You were the dad that was always there waiting at the airport to welcome me home.

You were the dad that always said goodbye with "come back soon"...

You were the dad that was sad when I was sad or hurting.

You were the dad that did not say "I love you" much but I knew you did...

You were the dad that loved having his family around never complaining about the noise or confusion...

You were the dad that dressed for the occasion ... court, tennis, dinner and even bed...

You were the dad that took me to Georgetown for Clarins.

You were dad that hosted decades of family Saturday night dinners...

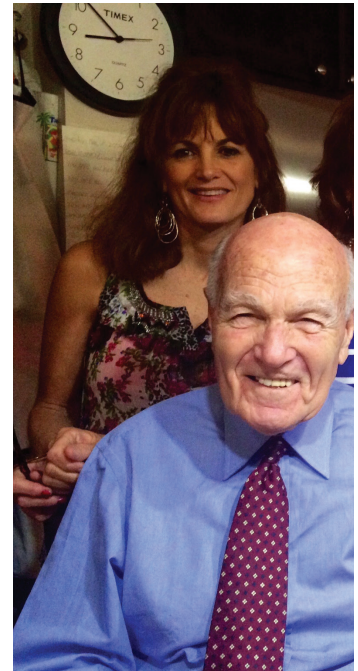
You were the dad I talked to every Tuesday morning...

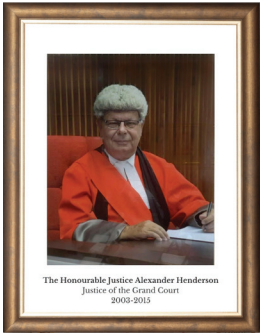
You were the dad that left a message with "Hello Ruth, this is Dad"...

You were the dad that meant "let me know if you need anything"...

You were the dad that started every letter with "My Dearest" and ended with "always" and I do the same...

My Dearest Dad.... I'll miss you... always, Ruth

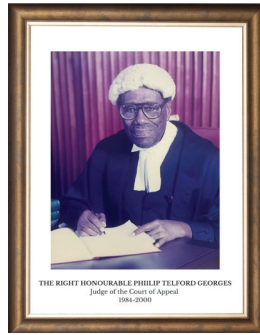




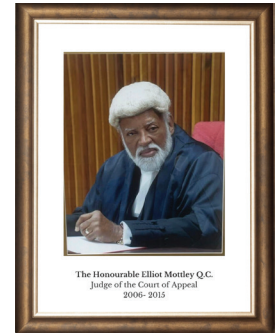
The Honourable Justice Alexander Henderson  
Justice of the Grand Court  
2003-2015



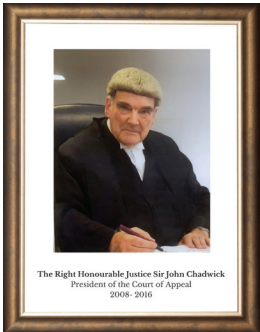
Sir Denis Malone  
Chief Justice of the Cayman Islands  
1990-1993



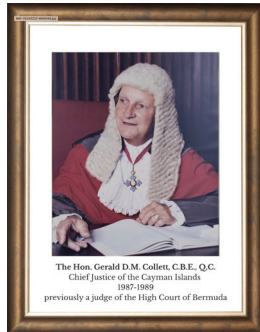
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE PHILIP TELFORD GEORGES  
Judge of the Court of Appeal  
1984-2000



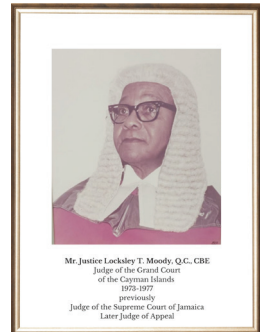
The Honourable Elliot Motley Q.C.  
Judge of the Court of Appeal  
2006-2013



The Right Honourable Justice Sir John Chadwick  
President of the Court of Appeal  
2008-2016



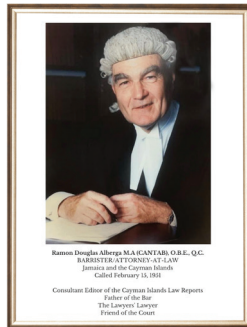
The Hon. Gerald D.M. Collett, C.B.E., Q.C.  
Chief Justice of the Cayman Islands  
1987-1989  
previously a judge of the High Court of Bermuda



Mr. Justice Lockaley T. Moody, Q.C., GBE  
Judge of the Grand Court  
of the Cayman Islands  
1975-1977  
previously  
Judge of the Supreme Court of Jamaica  
Later Judge of Appeal



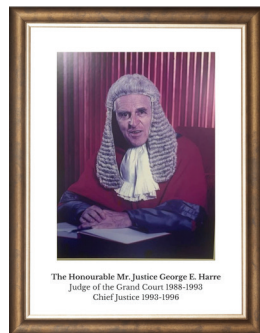
MR. JUSTICE GEOFFREY J. HORNFALL, C.B.E., BA, BSCON  
Judge of the Grand Court of the Cayman Islands  
1968-1975  
previously Chief Justice of Zanzibar



Ramon Douglas Allergo M.A. GANTARU, O.B.E., Q.C.  
BARRISTER AT LAW IN LAW  
Jamaica and the Cayman Islands  
Called February 15, 1951  
Consultant Editor of the Cayman Islands Law Reports  
Father of the Bar  
The Lawyer's Lawyer  
Friend of the Court



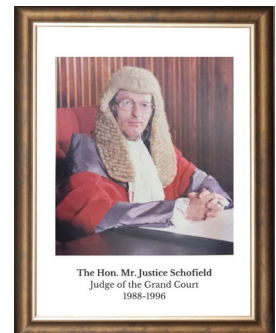
THE HONOURABLE JULIAN CHARLES QUIN Q.C.  
JUDGE OF THE GRAND COURT  
2008-2019



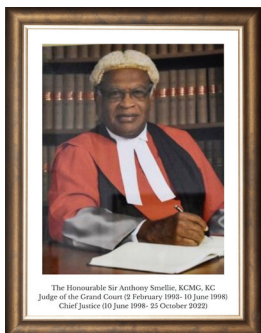
The Honourable Mr. Justice George E. Harre  
Judge of the Grand Court 1988-1993  
Chief Justice 1993-1996



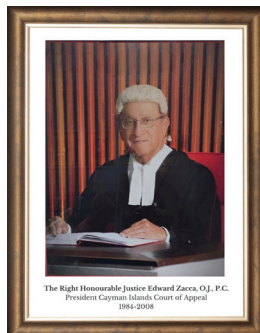
The Hon. Sir John Summerfield, C.B.E., Q.C., J.P.  
Chief Justice of the Cayman Islands, 1977-1987  
previously Chief Justice of Bermuda



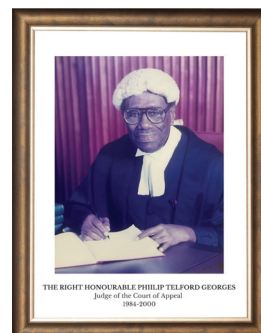
The Hon. Mr. Justice Schofield  
Judge of the Grand Court  
1988-1996



The Honourable Sir Anthony Smeilie, KCMG, KC  
Judge of the Grand Court (2 February 1993 - 10 June 1998)  
Chief Justice (10 June 1998 - 23 October 2022)



The Right Honourable Justice Edward Zacca, O.J., P.C.  
President Cayman Islands Court of Appeal  
1984-2008



THE RIGHT HONOURABLE PHILIP TELFORD GEORGES  
Judge of the Court of Appeal  
1984-2000

## TRIBUTE FROM JASON, JONATHAN AND BONNIE

There are few moments in life when you recognize the genesis of your own reflection. Who we are and how did we become the person staring back at ourselves in the mirror? From an outward perspective, how does the world perceive us and what value do we bring to the people we interact with?

There are many external factors but none as influential in forming us as our family unit. Within our family Ramon

Alberga's role was less of a legal Hercules and more of a family architect or engineer. He was a diligent planner and hard worker; he provided the structure necessary to accomplish the arduous task of keeping us together and moving us forward.

In retrospect, it would have been better served to express our extreme gratitude to Mr. Ramon Alberga in person. To really articulate how much we appreciated, admired, respected, and loved him for all that he has done for us throughout our lives.

Ramon and Patricia were both loving people, they looked out for the family and ensured that everyone was safe, educated and provided for to the best of their ability. They instilled family values of love, integrity, respect, community, and God in all of us. We sincerely thank them for their effort and countless personal sacrifices which shaped the very fabric of our family and helped us to become the people we are today.

Without question, Ramon was the cornerstone of our family, he was more than a Father/ Grandfather/Great Grandfather to all of us, he was an amazing role model and lived his life by the highest moral and intellectual standards. He was looked up to as the voice of reason and always provided fair and unbiased opinions when consulted. He inspired and motivated all of us to be the best version of ourselves.



As a remarkable lawyer, and like an architect or engineer, he provided a blueprint for how to live a balanced and successful family life. Perhaps each of us has a different set of drawings but at least the framework is now there for us to model after. He led by example and helped foster a strong sense of pride in our family and was loved and respected by all members. Ramon Alberga's life will always be a difficult act for us to follow, but a good one for all to emulate.

We love you very much and thank you for all that you have done, you will forever live in our hearts.

Cherrio  
Jason, Jonathan and Bonnie Alberga





OFFICE OF THE  
PREMIER  
CAYMAN ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

30 January 2024

Family of the late Mr. Ramon Alberga, KC  
Grand Cayman  
Cayman Islands

Dear *Michael*

Re: **Condolences on Passing of Mr. Ramon Alberga, KC, OBE**

On behalf of the Government of the Cayman Islands and particularly my Cabinet colleagues, I write to extend our deepest, heartfelt condolences to you and your family on the passing of your beloved father, Mr. Ramon Alberga, KC, OBE.

Our grateful nation will mourn the loss our legal luminary, who for over fifty years he has been revered for his probity of mind, advocacy and legal acumen. Your father has positively impacted countless legal students, Attorneys-at-Law and others in the legal profession across our Islands, including many Members in the Cabinet and House of Parliament, all of whom have fond memories of their interactions with him.

Every law student in the Cayman Islands and practitioners in the administration of justice can attest to his stellar contribution to the Cayman Islands Law Reports for over forty-years as a Consulting Editor. In fact, it would be no exaggeration when I say that, as the President of the Cayman Islands Law Society, his work has been pivotal in raising the bar of the high stands and stature of our Law reports.

Government Administration Building | P.O. Box 102, 133 Elgin Avenue, Grand Cayman, KY1-9000 CAYMAN ISLANDS

Despite his professional and academic achievements, he was known in our community for his humility, kind smile, and of course his ability to successfully wield the tennis racquet. Most importantly, many of us remember him as a loving husband to Miss Patsy and a wonderful father to you and your other siblings.

We are truly grateful for his many contributions to our Cayman Islands. He will be forever remembered fondly as a nation-builder and a well-loved member of our community. May you and family be comforted and filled with a peace that surpasseth all understanding, during this difficult time.

With our heartfelt sympathies,

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, JP, MP  
Premier  
Cayman Islands Government



THE JAMAICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

February 7, 2024

Mr Michael Alberga  
malberga@tta.lawyer

Dear Mr Alberga,

Re: **Passing of Ramon Alberga, KC**

We hope this letter finds you in a moment of peace despite the profound grief that accompanies the loss of your esteemed father, Ramon Alberga, KC. It is with deep sorrow that we extend our heartfelt condolences to you and your family on the passing of a true legal icon.

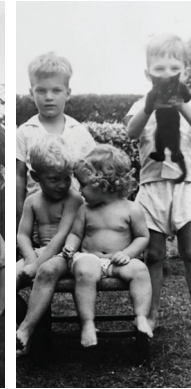
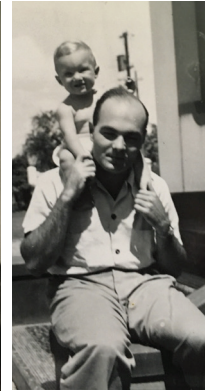
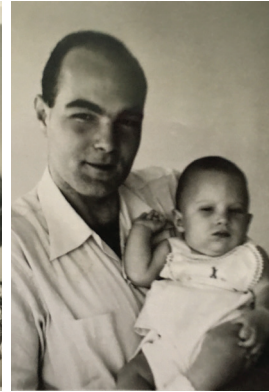
The Jamaican Bar Association has had the privilege of counting Mr Alberga, KC's among its membership and it is impossible to express the magnitude of his contributions to the legal community in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands. His dedication to justice, his gentlemanly demeanor and his unwavering commitment to upholding the principles of law have left an indelible mark on the legal landscape. His legacy will continue to inspire generations of legal professionals to come.

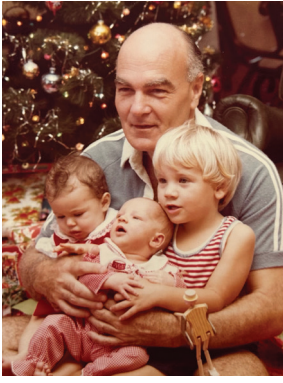
Please accept our deepest sympathies and may the love and memories you shared with your father bring you strength and peace in the days ahead. If there is anything we can do to support you during this time, please do not hesitate to reach out.

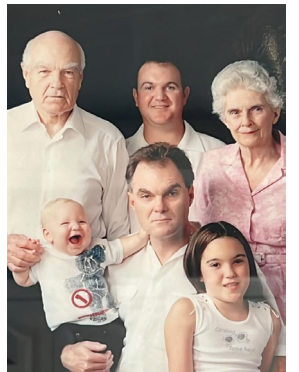
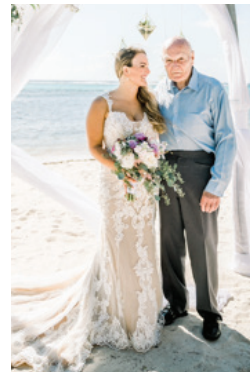
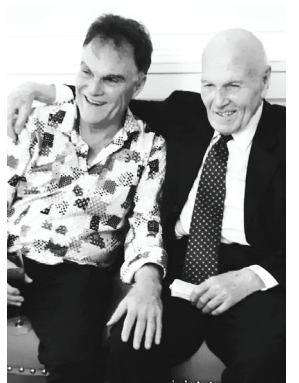
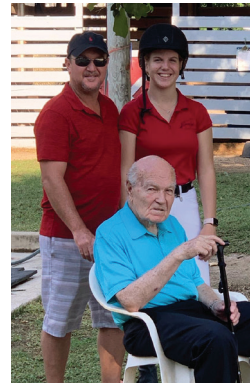
With sincere condolences,  
THE JAMAICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

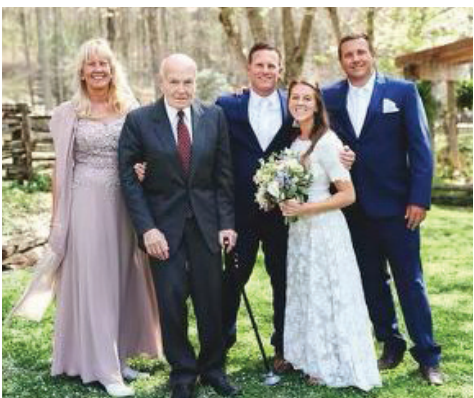
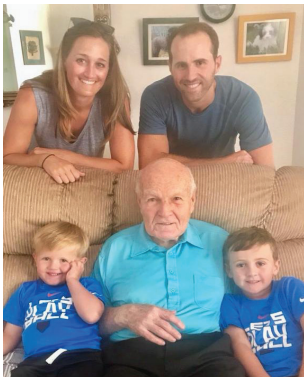
Per KEVIN O. POWELL  
PRESIDENT

c. The Council, The Jamaican Bar Association

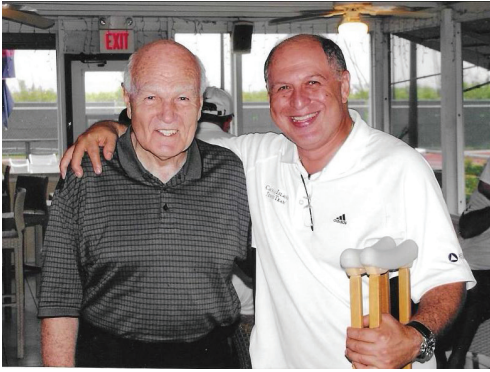














*The Alberga Family wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to our dear friends and family who have surrounded us with love, support, and kindness during this difficult time. Your presence, comforting words, and acts of compassion have been a source of strength for us.*

*We would also like to extend our sincerest appreciation to the First Baptist Church of the Cayman Islands, Pastor Kyle and Pastor Royer, The Protocol Office of the Cayman Islands Government, Celebrations, Lion's Center, Boddens Funeral Home for their unwavering support, guidance, and the beautiful service honoring the life of our beloved Ramon Alberga. Sincere thanks to all those who have attended the Memorial Service, including the Honourable Daryl Vaz MP, Ministry of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport of the Jamaica Government. Thank you to those who have made tributes and to Sir Anthony Smellie KCMG KC for his assistance in reading and preparing the Eulogy.*

*May the memories we hold dear bring us comfort and may the love we shared continue to uplift us.  
Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, and acts of kindness.*

*With heartfelt gratitude,  
The Alberga Family*



*Reception follows at the First Baptist Church Courtyard*