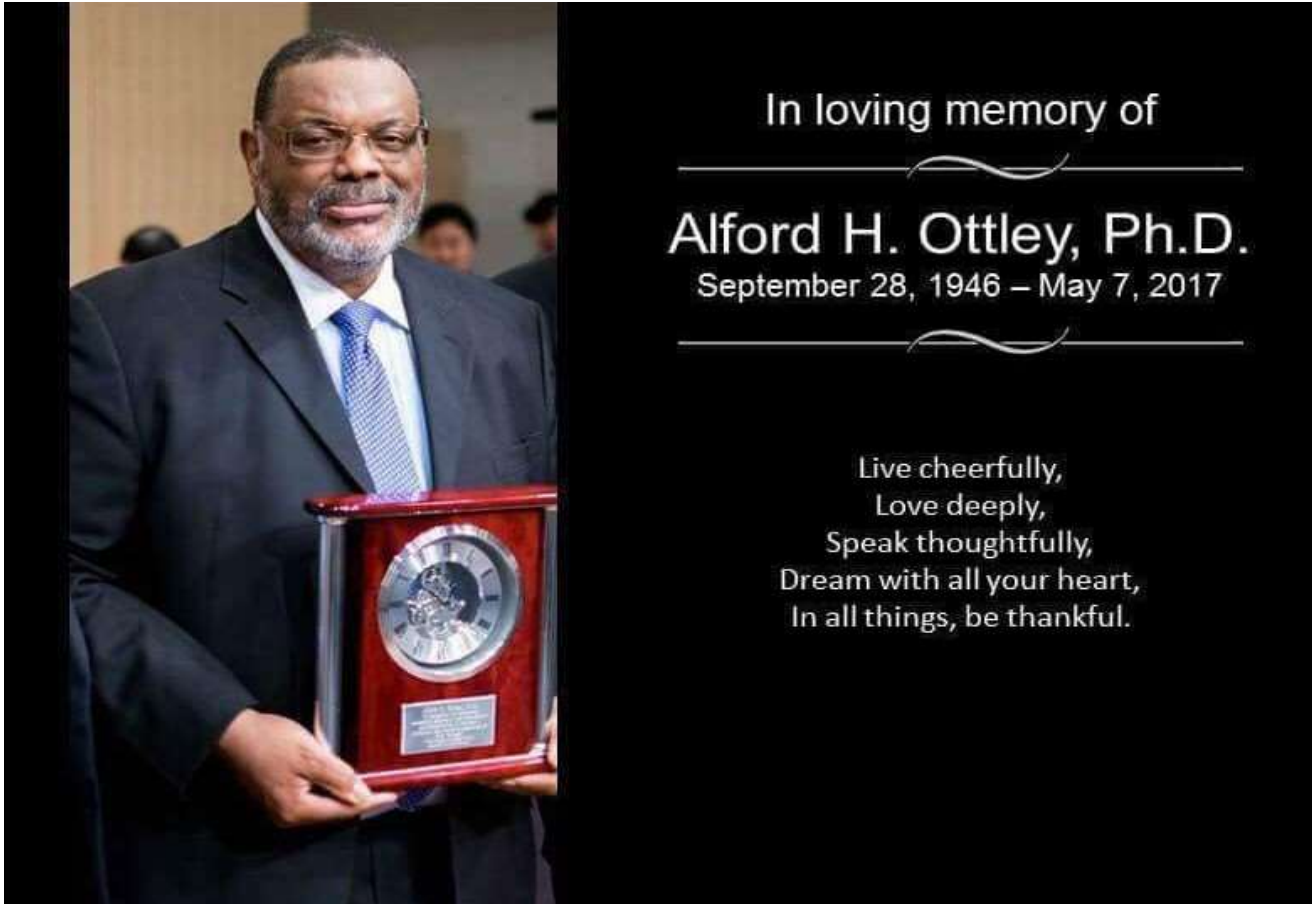


## Alford H. Ottley Memorial Tuition Scholarship Fund Essay



**The Alford H. Ottley Memorial Tuition Scholarship Fund** has been created in honor of Dr. Alford Ottley. His love for higher education provided opportunities for him to serve over twelve institutions of higher education over a span of 50 years. During those 50 years, he served as Headmaster (Administrator) for Faith Christian Academy, where his four sons, Jason, Jonathan, Jordan and Joel attended.

Dr. Ottley was very instrumental in fostering and promoting education for all students. His motto was:

***Think critically; Speak persuasively; Write effectively; Solve problems!***

He personally understood the individual and academic struggles students faced as he often recounted his journey of graduating from high school with honors at the age of 16. He knew that there would be times when students would fail a course or fail in some aspect of their education or personal life. Failure when not properly understood could mean the difference between a student moving forward or giving up! Failure has often been something people have been told to avoid.

However, Dr. Ottley believed that failure is a necessary lesson people learn that allows them to be successful...it is a springboard for achievements and accomplishments. He believed that there was strength in failure! He did not let it define him! He learned that failure, in reality, was a gift because it

made you reevaluate where you are, what happened, and forced you to trust God for how He would use that experience to strengthen and empower you according to **His** marvelous plans for your life!

There are many other noteworthy people who believe the same to be true:

- It is hard to fail, but it is worse never to have tried to succeed. (Theodore Roosevelt)
- Without failure there is no achievement. (John C. Maxwell)
- Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts. (Winston Churchill)
- It is fine to celebrate success but it is more important to heed the lessons of failure. (Bill Gates)
- Remember your dreams and fight for them. There is just one thing that makes your dream impossible: the fear of failure. (Paulo Coelho)
- I've missed more than 9000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times, I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed. (Michael Jordan)

Every year, tuition scholarship funds collected from the Alford H. Ottley Memorial Scholarship Basketball Game in addition to other fundraising events, go towards tuition scholarship for a student. Again this year, the tuition scholarship will go to Faith Christian Academy towards a student's tuition. The scholarship tuition will be awarded to a student(s) whose essay is chosen on the topic of failure based on their answer to specific questions below:

### **Essay Requirements for students in Grades 1 through 12**

#### **1. For students in Grades 1 through 3**

- Write or type a 100 word essay, explaining something you failed at and describe for the readers how you responded to that failure, what you learned as a result of the failure, and how you moved forward after experiencing the failure. **The essay is to be double-spaced, and if written, it must be legible.**
- **The essay is due no later than October 30<sup>th</sup>, and should be emailed to [jaottley@gmail.com](mailto:jaottley@gmail.com) **OR** mailed to:**

**Alford H. Ottley Memorial Tuition Scholarship Committee  
P.O. Box 2116  
Martinsburg, WV 25402**

#### **2. For students in Grades 4 through 7**

- Type a 250 word essay, explaining something you failed at and describe for the readers how you responded to that failure, what you learned as a result of the failure, and how you moved forward after experiencing the failure. The essay is to be double-spaced. **The essay is to be double-spaced, and if written, it must be legible.**

- The essay is due no later than October 30<sup>th</sup>, and should be emailed to [jaottley@gmail.com](mailto:jaottley@gmail.com) **OR** mailed to:

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**3. For students in grades 8 through 12**

- Type a 500 word essay, explaining something you failed at and describe for the readers how you responded to that failure, what you learned as a result of the failure, and how you moved forward after experiencing the failure. The essay is to be double-spaced. **The essay is to be double-spaced, and if written, it must be legible.**
- The essay is due no later than October 30<sup>th</sup>, and should be emailed to [jaottley@gmail.com](mailto:jaottley@gmail.com) **OR** mailed to:

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Respectfully submitted by the Ottley Family in loving memory of a great husband, dad and grandfather!

