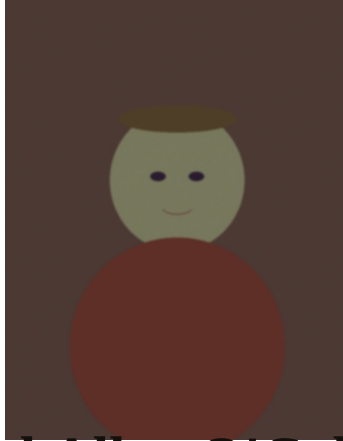




Willard Allen O'Callaghan

January 9, 1929 - May 13, 2026

Fairbanks, Alaska

Family and neighbors in Fairbanks mark the death of Willard Allen O'Callaghan on May 13, 2026. He was 97. Born in Fairbanks on January 9, 1929, into a Jamaican-American household that treated work as a language. Young, he understood that quiet competence outlasts loud plans.

He fogged marshes that ignored schedules. A fogger nozzle spare in a tin meant the day belonged to accuracy. Colleagues still mention a fogger nozzle spare in a tin.

In 1952 he married Martha. The marriage was not a speech; it was groceries, repairs, and three sons walked to school in weather that did not care. When Martha died in 2019, he kept what still worked: the early walk, the small garden, the call on Sundays.

Neighbors remember a porch light left on for anyone walking home late. He preferred the hour before a town fully wakes. Fairbanks was home enough that he never rehearsed an introduction. The recipe card is still stained in the useful places.

Services

Services in Fairbanks will be simple: stories, coffee, and the names of people who showed up. Flowers optional; support for a local clinic or trade scholarship preferred.

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