



Albert Thomas "Al" Quance

June 6, 2026

July 24, 1939 – June 6, 2026

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Albert Thomas Quance, affectionately known as Al, Coach Quance, or Big Al Q, on June 6, 2026, at the age of 86.

Al was predeceased earlier this year by Barbara "Barb" Quance, his beloved wife and partner of 64 years. Together they built a loving family and shared a lifetime of memories.

Al leaves behind his children, Holly, Brett (Michelle), and Amy; grandchildren Aliyah, Lauryn, Stephanie, Ethan, and Tennyson; and great-granddaughter Lenny, all of whom brought him immense pride and joy.

A gifted athlete, respected educator, and legendary coach, Al dedicated his career to physical education and the development of young people. He worked for the Toronto Board of Education from 1963 to 1996 and was appointed Coordinator of Physical and Health Education in 1979. During his time at Oakwood Collegiate Institute from 1969 to 1979, he built a basketball dynasty that left a lasting impact on students and athletes.

After retiring from the Board of Education, Al continued his passion for

basketball with the Toronto Raptors from 1996 to 2002. In recognition of his contributions to the sport, he was inducted into the Ontario Basketball Hall of Fame for his impact on basketball in Canada.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Al will be remembered for his larger-than-life personality, infectious enthusiasm, and ability to connect with people from all walks of life. Whether organizing golf tournaments, lawn bowling events, or bringing people together through sport, he remained active, engaged, and committed to his community until the end.

Most of all, Al was a loving and supportive husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. Through his mentorship, friendship, generosity, and encouragement, he touched countless lives. His legacy lives on in the family he cherished, the athletes he inspired, and the many people he influenced.

He will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing him. Though they will be deeply missed, their loved ones take comfort in knowing that Al and Barb are together again.

Tribute Wall

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“ My condolences to the Quance family on the passing of Al. My first encounter with him was in gym class in great 9 many years ago, and lets just say he taught me a lesson. He was an amazing man, and I remember coaching with him in the Saturday morning minor Basketball camps we had at OCI for the feeder schools. I tried to golf as often as possible in the Leon Bynoe Golf tourney he hosted. I am very fortunate to have know Big Al. RIP

Richard Gelbard - 1 hour ago