

**Roger Allee**  
**By Ken South**

The first meeting of the UN General Assembly convened in London in 1946. [Winston Churchill](#)'s "Iron Curtain" speech drew attention to the East/West divisions growing in Europe and Irving Berlin's, musical, "Annie Get Your Gun," starring Ethel Merman and featuring "There's No Business Like Show Business," opened on Broadway in NYC.

And, on April 8<sup>th</sup> of that same year, our Mr. September was born in Port Jervis, NY, the second child, who's older sister has since passed on. Mr. S spent some time in elementary school in Matamoras, PA, but finished his Jr. High and HS matriculation at the Delaware Valley school, graduating in 1964.

Mr. S had a love of music and looked to chart the path of a professional church musician. He enrolled in the Westminster Choir College, in Princeton, NJ. But left after one year, realizing he was not at the same level as other students. He then moved to Manhattan, NY to seek training at the Guilman Organ School, where a similar revelation overcame him. Since he also had always loved to work with children, he then attended both the Mercer Community College and Trenton State Teachers College, graduating in 1974 with a degree in elementary education.

During his "school years" he also met and married Kathleen in 1969, had three daughters (2 of which happened to be lesbian) and became grandparents to two girls and a boy. At Kathleen's death in 1998, they had been married for 29 years.

For the next 22 years Mr. S taught in several different elementary schools after moving to Ft. Lauderdale in 1973 to work in the Florida School System. He became certified as a school administrator, ending this part of his professional life as a master of training and development of teachers. In fact, he started his own company and for 3 years became a trainer of trainers, conducting workshops in the U.S. and five counties in the State of Florida.

Mr. S had always felt "the call" to ministry. The path to priesthood in the Episcopal Church usually requires 3 years of study at a seminary to be ordained. For several reasons, including financial, Mr. S could not attend a traditional seminary. Through his response to his call, his determination and his ingenuity, he arranged with the Bishop to become educated locally by mentor priests, and local religious institutions. All candidates must pass the general ordination exam, which he did. On All

Saints Day, at All Saints parish, in Ft. Lauderdale in 2002, he was ordained into the Episcopal Church. For the next 9 years he served the congregation at All Saints Episcopal parish in Fort Lauderdale. He retired in 2011.

Mr. S met his partner Rob in 2006, who was then living in Atlanta. They lived there for four months before both returning to Ft. Lauderdale where they made a home together for the next 13 years, 11 of which married. In 2019 while they were enjoying a cruise, a horrible accident occurred on board ship that took Rob's life.

For the last 11 years Mr. S has been a volunteer Associate Pastor at the St. Nicholas Episcopal Church in Pompano Beach. He describes the congregation as a vibrant community of love! He has assisted with several church programs there, and is particularly proud of his re-organization of the Bingo evening as a ministry of hospitality, as well as stewardship, for the congregation. He revels in his retirement as a way to strengthen ministry to the community.

Mr. S has known about Prime Gentlemen for years, but just recently joined. He enjoys all the programs but especially bowling with his boyfriend and new buddies.

