

*Celebration  
of the Life  
of*



*Qiyana Brown*

**Sunrise**  
*May 22, 1983*

**Sunset**  
*May 22, 2011*

Sunday, May 29, 2011 - 2:00 p.m.

**BETHLEHEM AME CHURCH**

1496 Muddy Creek Rd. • Johnsonville, South Carolina 29555

Reverend Rebecca B. Evans, Pastor

*Pastor Raymond Grier, Officiating*

# The Life of Qiyana Brown

*Sunrise-May 22,1983*

*Sunset-May 22,2011*

Born on a bright sunny morning, May 22nd, 1983 to Brian Weems and Stephanie Brown. Qiyana's life began in Newark, New Jersey on many occasions Qiyana traveled to South Carolina, to a small place called Hemingway. Hemingway, South Carolina was her second home, she was once quoted by her friends as a "City Girl with a Southern Slang." Qiyana's days in Newark were spent all over, she especially loved the Weequahic Section, which was famous when she was growing up for the Aquarius Ice Cream Parlor, on Crescent and Chancellor Ave. Qiyana was always a hard worker and hustler, it's been told that when Qiyana was about seven years old, she took her life savings and invested in Aquarius by purchasing ice-cream and hot dogs daily.

Qiyana started school at an early age she went to a number of Newark Pre-Schools, which included Weequahic Nursery, and finally IGA Pre-School where she was promoted from Pre-K to Chancellor Annex, at Chancellor Annex she had many special teachers, two were Mrs. Chambers (1st grade teacher) and Mr. Madelina (gym teacher). Qiyana had three special friends from IGA that went on to be her friends at the Annex and Big Chancellor. They were Gwendolyn Williams, Sabrina Clark and Monic Holland. Qiyana and Monic remained friends to this day. Once, Qiyana was promoted to Big Chancellor she added to her list of favorite teachers and friends. Qiyana completed 8th grade at Chancellor and she attributed her success back then to her 5 favorite teachers; Mrs. Harriet Speed (3rd grade teacher), 4th grade teacher-Mrs. Ford, 5th grade teacher- Charlotte Childs, 6th grade teacher- John Smith, and finally, 8th grade teacher- Mrs. Juquitta Davis, whom inspired Qiyana to teach Math. Mrs. Davis was the greatest Algebra teacher in the District. Qiyana also met and was inspired daily by Chancellor's Principal Mrs. Wardell-Campbell.

Qiyana had beautiful and great days at Chancellor, which included her 1st Big Chancellor "Kiss" with Ameer – Strange-these two still remain long time friends, her 1st date- Pierre Coleman (became her 4th grade sweetheart and longtime friend.) These two met on the playground and never separated. Qiyana also had love for her neighbors and classmates from Schley St. to Elizabeth Ave. After Chancellor Qiyana was determined to succeed, she took her acceptance into University High School where Qiyana added more associates in her life. She met her favorite hair stylist Fay Phillips and Roy D. Johnson. Roy whom inspired Qiyana to go to the College of NJ and never stopped teaching Qiyana politics. At University, Qiyana added to her list of favorite teachers Gloria Johnson and the school Nurse Mrs. Beaumont. Who could ever forget the Principal Dr. Norma Fair Brown (who inspired Qiyana to be a Delta).

Qiyana learned a lot at University High, she worked all throughout High School from Speedy to Sears she always looked out for her peers. She brought half of the Senior Class job applications for Sears telemarketing. During Qiyana's years at University she began to think about (Majoring in something other than Law). She lost interest in LAW after she lost her Uncle Ab to the AIDS virus her sophomore year in high school.

Qiyana graduated from University High on June 27th, 2001 and started college at The College of New Jersey, 3 days before her High School Graduation. She began her college life, in an EOF program, shortly one month before she had planned one of the Biggest Senior Trips with the help of her mother. At TCNJ, Qiyana added to her list of cohorts Taneeyah (EOF roomy), Octavia Nicole Mildred, Neka Fatiyah, Kenyetta and Qiyanna Little. Qiyana also met some of the most profound professors and staff at TCNJ. She loved the kitchen staff at TCNJ and adored Mr. and Mrs. Boatwright, Nadirah Shakir, Dr. Beth Paul, and Dr. Mary Lou Ramsey and who could ever forget Dr. Jerry Petroff who Qiyana had for undergrad and graduate school. During Qiyana's years at TCNJ she met her friend/teacher/ Pastor Shannon Mason who was the Bible Study Teacher, which Qiyana called a club because besides the Bible Club- Qiyana enjoyed and spent countless hours with the Gospel Choir, Black Student Union, and NCNW. Qiyana graduated Mother's Day Weekend 2005, with a B.A., in Special Education and minored in Psychology, from TCNJ; immediately she started Graduate School at TCNJ and was expected to complete her Degree in May of '07,' however, she met Breast Cancer. With the help of a loving and dedicated counseling department staff she completed her degree in "December of 07."

Qiyana was always known to have faith in God, "She had Cancer, but God had her so the Cancer had no reign in her life. Diagnosed at the age of 23, at the prime of her youth. Qiyana was newly, employed to Willingboro High School. Hired in "August 06" –Breast Cancer –"Dec. 06" Chemo- March 07- June07: 7 rounds of Aromicen Cytosin, 6 rounds of Taxil and 5 years of Tamaxifen.

25 years with the Lord, Qiyana leaves to cherish: her parents, Stephanie Brown (Omar) and Brian (LaShanda) Weems; her son (puppy), Rocky which she loves dearly; her godchildren, Ronald Coleman III, Audrey Wright-Moses, Simony, Kersyn, Jahlay and Asia; best friend and long time friend, Pierre Coleman; dear sister of Elidia, Bria, Sandy, Pam (Mark), Charlie (Lorenda), Tariq, Kareema, Sasha, Shakille, Lorraine, Mariah, Lakiera, Shamar, Aqueel, Naeem, Rahad, Duquan, LaKierra and Delta Sigma Theta. Sorority; cherished granddaughter of Janie Hill, Annie Brown and Betty Weems; great-granddaughter of Rose Weems and the late Dora and Clifford Brown, Robert Weems, Vesta Woodson, John B. Cook, Flossie and Edward Brown; adored aunt of Shakee, Qishawn, Tamia, Charlie, Chanelle; niece of Pat, Sharon, Vanessa, Karen, Tymesha, Liz, Rachelle, Gerald, Matthew, Rodney, June, Barry and the late Ricky, Abdul and Jessica; great niece of Nancy (2nd mom), Pastor Raymond Grier (2nd dad), Leona, Ana Pearl, Jean, Carrie, Lydia, Frances, Robert (Betty), Harry, Johnny Lewis, Johnny Young and the late Eileen; special cousin of Javon, Jamier, Kina, Kellie, Tiffany, Shamar, Spang and Pooh-Pooh; goddaughter of Linda Conic; Godsister of Shanta Conic. In her short span of time here on Earth, Qiyana has touched many lives and accomplished numerous achievements. She is known as a, Motivational speaker, Special Education teacher, Advocate for Breast Cancer Awareness, Tutor, Mentor to unprivileged, Foster Mother, Documentary Producer, Entrepreneur, Home Owner, Fashionista, Missionary and Most of all a child of God. Her presence touched the masses. Smile because Qiyana is no longer in pain. Qiyana said, "I'm good....I'm DONE,"...

Humbly Submitted, Qiyana  
Rest on Girl

# *To God Be the Glory*

*You are free,  
No longer bound  
No more cancer  
holding you  
Praise the Lord  
Hallelujah  
You Are Free!!!*

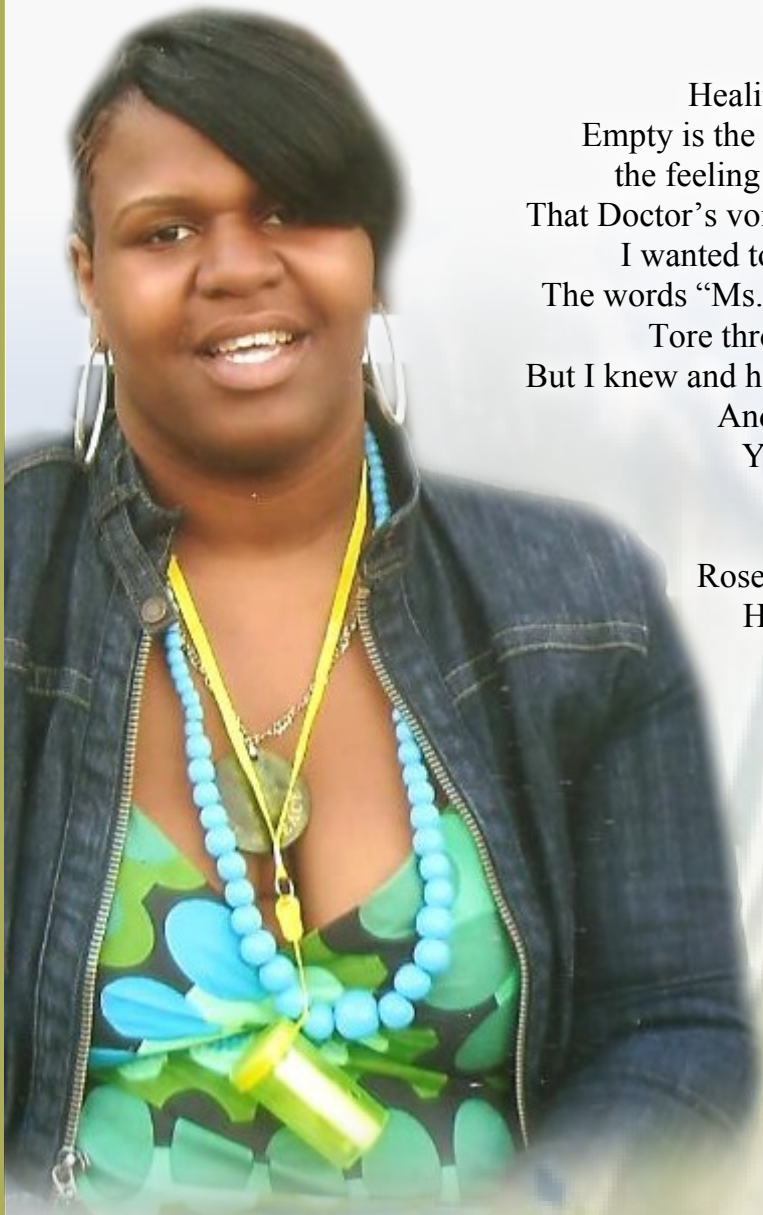
*Mommy will always  
love you and  
truly miss you!*

*Rest In Peace Qiyana!  
I Love You but  
God Loves You More*

*Lovingly Submitted,  
Your Mom*



# Hope



Healing over people's emptiness.  
Empty is the word I would use if I had to describe  
the feeling I had when I was drowning inside.  
That Doctor's voice, His office, His Coat, pin, pad, x-rays,  
I wanted to snatch it all up and rip his throat.  
The words "Ms. Brown, "I am afraid you have cancer,"  
Tore through me like Hurricane Katrina  
But I knew and had HOPE that someone would rescue me  
And it wasn't gonna be FEMA.  
You see, my hope was in Jesus Christ,  
Who I knew had already died and  
made the ultimate sacrifice,  
Rose from the grave so that I would have eternal life.  
HOPE was sent in the Natural and the Spiritual.  
HOPE is each and everyone or individual  
that ever solicited  
your prayers or said a kind word.  
HOPE is the Church Deacon,  
Mothers' Doorkeepers-Ushers  
that just waived his or her hand to me.  
HOPE is my cousins, co-workers,  
family and friends  
that called me to pray when  
they never saw my face.  
HOPE is my healing from not only cancer  
But from All My Obstacles to come.

~Qiyana R. Brown~  
1/24/08

## Acknowledgement

*Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair.  
Perhaps you sent a floral piece If so, we saw it there.  
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words as any friend could say.  
Perhaps you were not there at all just thought of us on that day.  
Whatever you did to console our hearts, We Thank You, Whatever the part.*

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# *Order of Service*

**Prelude**

**Processional**

*“Nearer My God To Thee”*

**Hymn**

*“There’s Not a Friend”*

**Invocation**

**Scripture Reading**

*Old Testament*

*New Testament*

**Selection**

**Remarks**

*(2 minutes, please)*

**Solo**

**Acknowledgments**

**Selection**

*Pamela Grier-Hines*

**Words of Comfort**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Recessional**

**Interment**

*Bethlehem A.M.E. Church Cemetery*

*Johnsonville, SC 29555*





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*My Girl-My Tower = My Strength*

*Your smile makes me smile, Your strength, strengthens me,  
Your faith, encourages me, Brings hope in a time of despair.  
You call me sister, friend, and mentor. I tried Qiyana to set an example for you.  
I tried to love you as hard as I could. You trusted me as I in you.  
You're Power increased my faith in the human race. You, you (ha, ha, ha) I'm stuck for words  
I have so much to say....with so little space you touched so many lives  
And gave all HOPE for a brighter day! Qiyana R. Brown- A True Lady!!!*

*We all Love You!*

*Pam, Sandy, Elidia and Charlie are going to  
truly miss you're bright ways of handling any situation.  
Sister take your rest, take your rest....*