

In
Loving
Memory

Ariel Taylor-Hale

Sunrise: December 12, 1983

Sunset: August 2, 2016



Service

Thursday, August 11, 2016 - 7:00 p.m.

GREATER ZION HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

2365 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Eulogist: Rev. Paul Chandler - Christian Cultural Center

Presiding: Rev. Reginald Williams - Charity Baptist Church of Christ

Cellist: BJ Griffin

Vocalist: LeCora Okeagu

ARC Choir

Obituary

Ariel Charity Taylor-Hale graced the world with her presence on December 12, 1983. Ariel who was affectionately called “Ari” by her mom and “Anchor”, a name which spoke of her strength and stability during rough times, by her dad. Born into a blended family, she was loved and nurtured by her parents, Joyce and Kenneth Hale and adored by her sister, Zwelinjani and her brothers, Latief and Joshua.

Ariel is a product of the Central Park East network of schools. Her primary and secondary education helped to shape her world view of tolerance and question the world around her.

A former CPE classmate lovingly wrote, “A friend I've known since seventh grade passed away today. Her life was not easy, but she was always from my point of view a strong and confident person no matter what life threw at her. She didn't know this because I never felt we were close enough to have the conversation, but she inspired me and I owe her for showing me what being a person of character and strength really meant. Rest in Peace Ariel” ~Neruda Williams~

Both Ariel’s parents were seasonal administrators at Vacation Camp for the Blind. In her early formative years, Ariel and her siblings spent summers at this camp that was designed to meet the needs of visually impaired children and their sighted family members. That was yet another life experience that helped to broaden her world view of tolerance, compassion and acceptance.

Ariel grew up cradled in creativity. Her parents were educators, her sister an author and her brother a published photographer. The creative energy that surrounded her, steered her onto her own path of artistic expression. Ariel enrolled in FIT and studied illustration. She loved creating art but visiting museums, art exhibits and studying art history gave her an even deeper sense of satisfaction.

Culinary arts was another one of Ariel's passions. She enjoyed watching the Food Network, cooking and eating at “high end” restaurants before attending Broadway plays. She envisioned her life extravagantly and planned for it to be so. Her appreciation for the finer things in life led her mother to often call her Evelyn "Champagne" King (champagne mind with beer pockets!)

She basked in a purposeful meaning for life, always representing cultural awareness from the clothing she wore, to the buttons she collected on her satchel. She took pride in “going natural” and freed her long curly locs which framed her big, bold brown eyes.

Although challenged by obstacles of her own, her petite frame was no match for her gigantic spirit. Ariel never missed an opportunity to march, rally and protest for civil rights, politics and the interest of this nation. She was perseverance personified! Her motto for life was “you can’t allow yourself to be defeated no matter where you are.” And her mother taught her to always have a plan “B”.

Despite having a learning disability (dyscalculia), her passion for education carried her through Central Park East H.S. and onto the Fashion Institute of Technology. From there Ariel earned her degree at the Borough of Manhattan Community College. She was accepted and expected to attend the Africana and Puerto Rican/Latino Studies program at Hunter College. Ariel’s passion for community landed her a position as a conflict resolution intern at Safe Horizons, a tutor with the Children’s Aid Society, a volunteer at Hale House Center for Children and an art assistant volunteer at Visions.

Ariel became passionate about the African American experience. She joined Ancestry.com and became a member of African American Genealogical Society (AAGS). Her passing sent waves of sorrow through the genealogical community.

On August 2, 2016, she was joined with her Heavenly Father. In her 32 years of sharing love and light, Ariel Charity Taylor-Hale left her fierce, bold and vibrant imprint on us all.

Ariel was preceded in death by her father, Kenneth, her brother, Latief, her grandparents, Jack and Charity Taylor and grandparents, Leroy and D’Orsay Flowers. She leaves behind to cherish her memory: her loving mother, Joyce; sister, Zwelinjani; brother, Joshua; and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Order of Service

Processional.....	BJ Griffin
Selection.....	BJ Griffin
Scripture Reading.....	Rev. Reginald Williams
Prayer of Comfort.....	Rev. Reginald Williams
Selection.....	ARC Choir
Tributes and Remarks.....	Pat Dyer, Neruda Williams, Jamekia Swepson, Dominique Rhea
Selection.....	LeCora Okeagu
Acknowledgements.....	Zwelinjani Hale, Joshua Hale
Obituary.....	Zwelinjani Hale
Selection.....	ARC Choir
Eulogy.....	Rev. Paul Chandler
Passing Glimpse	
Benediction.....	Rev. Reginald Williams
Recessional.....	BJ Griffin

Interment

August 12, 2016

Mt. Hope Cemetery • Hastings-on-Hudson, New York

"This has to be hard on you, and I always sensed that Ariel was a youngster. At least, much, much younger than I. I am glad we could open some doors for her, and I hope your memories of her will continue to be a blessing in this difficult journey of life without her." Sincerely, The Honorable Gary M. Williams, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sussex County, VA.

I am deeply saddened to hear of Ariel's passing. We met through AAGS and had great talks about family history. My condolences go out to the family. ~Diane Taylor~

"I met you through Ancestry, hard for me to tell the story. You touched a lot of people in the ancestry world. My heart is crushed that you are gone. Wish we could have spoken more, I am very glad that we are blood related. If my heart is sad and we only met once, I know what the family feels. Sleep, You Are Already Missed!" ~Irene Arrington Logue~

D'orsay Flowers, Grandma "Dee Dee" and Grandpa Leroy Flowers are just two of the many caring supportive people who have shared Ariel's journey. They loved, nurtured and adored her and she loved them in return. I know they along with her father, brother and the ancestors she has been searching for have received her with open arms.

Her close friend, Dominique and cousins, Jamekia and Aaron offered words of comfort.

"We lost contact for almost two decades before Facebook reunited us. You came to the last two BBQ's & I was hoping you'd be in attendance next weekend but I was informed you were called home. I've been dealing with a lot lately but this supersedes any of those frivolous issues. I regret not spending more time with you and now I wanna ride around and hug everyone I know. I love you Cuz. Look over us & if I ever have a daughter I'm naming her after you." ~Aaron Taylor~

"As I try to blend back in with the world I just want to say thank you Jesus for her! For her humor, her strength, her support... for her light. Best friends since birth I'm so grateful for the 31 years I was blessed to know you. I love you Ariel" ~Jamekia E. Swepson~

"...I will never miss you enough." ~Dominique Rhea~

"Our hearts are broken that Ariel is gone. But she is in a better place - the Other Side, where there is Peace, Love and Joy. Lucius, Ella and all the other ancestors will lovingly embrace her and thank her for the tireless work she has done to preserve their names and our family history. We will miss Ari." Love, Jacquelyn Rahman (Aunt J), Khabirah Fleming, Tiger Rahman, and Wali Rahman.

Repast immediately following service at:
The Alhambra Ballroom
2116 Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Blvd., New York, NY

Ariel: The Anchor

Zwelinjani Hale

My dad had a name for us all.
But none like the strength of my sister.
The name fit her life-force strong and tall,
But none like the strength of my sister.

Endearing tags representing our personalities
Unyielding to struggles and conquering impossibilities.
The anchor, like she, affixed and connected;
Resistant from uncommon sense and feet firmly planted.
Now that is the strength of my sister.

Never drifting in goalless delight,
Far from a stationary life,
Sovereign and steady overflowing with might,
Just like the strength of my sister.

Angels carried her to glory this, for sure, I know,
I will honor her and revel in the light of her glow.
But I cannot stop my heart from weeping
And tears will surely flow.
So I pray for the strength of my sister.

The anchor is the spiritual symbol for hope,
So while my brain just cannot register;
I will lean on that understanding and always honor
The sheer, unwavering strength, of my sister!

From your sister and brother,
Zwelinjani and Joshua

Pallbearers

Joshua Taylor-Hale
Tyre Jordan

Arthur Taylor
Aaron Taylor

Darryl Taylor
Tariq Taylor



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 that day,
Whatever you did to console our hearts,
We thank you so much whatever the part.*

*The Family of Ariel Charity Taylor-Hale
May God Bless You All!*

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