

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Zaniyah Yasmé'in Drakeford

Sunrise

January 4, 2002

Sunset

June 19, 2022



Service

Friday, July 1, 2022 • 12:00 p.m.

Seminary Baptist Church

193 Haledon Avenue • Paterson, NJ 07522

Reverend Alfred E. Steele, Officiating

Dr. Tammy Williams, Organist

Reflections of Life

On Sunday, June 19, 2022, our Heavenly Father sent one of his Angels to bring home another Angel, our beloved Zaniyah.

Zaniyah Yasme'in Drakeford - was born on January 4, 2002, at St. Joseph's Hospital in Paterson, NJ to Charlene Conover and Jahmel Drakeford. Zaniyah brought joy to their world and her affectionate smile would brighten up any room she entered.

Zaniyah was educated in the Paterson Public School district. She graduated 8th grade from Community Charter School of Paterson. Then she attended Panther Academy High School. During her high school years she was on the track, dance team and volleyball team. Upon graduating from high school, she attended and completed two years at Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck, NJ. Zaniyah was in the process of pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a concentration in Forensic Psychology. She was employed full-time at New Jersey City Kids as an After-school Center Assistant and she was in charge of planning activities for the kids. During her time at New Jersey City Kids she received the Teen of the month award.

Zaniyah enjoyed singing and dancing and watching her favorite movies Princess and the Frog and Dreamgirls. Zaniyah had an avid love for baking. She was becoming a creative baker. She was a practical joker with a generous heart of gold, never hesitating to help people out. Zaniyah's warm demeanor was infectious and her laugh was a comfort to the ear. She was never afraid to speak her mind! Whatever Zaniyah set her mind to, she was determined to get it done. She was a big kid at heart and her siblings adored and loved spending time with her. Her spirit is one of one.

Zaniyah was predeceased by her maternal grandmother: Juanita Dow; her maternal great-grandparents Dennis and Inez Brown; her paternal great-grandparents Lillie Mae Drakeford, Eugene Burns and Willie Lee Palmer Sr; and uncle Rashad Graham;

Zaniyah's family is left to cherish her precious memories, surviving her is her loving family: her mother Charlene Conover and her father Jahmel Drakeford; her devoted other mother Colette Drakeford; her siblings Tyeem, Aaliyah, Jordan, Amirah, Jayla and Kemani; her paternal great-grandmother Sarah Palmer; her paternal grandparents Janice and Willie Palmer; her aunts Wilice, Jasmine, Sharon, Sharese and Audrey; her uncles Jahvon, Jarett, Terrence, John, Dewayne and Isaiah; her godparents Bryan and Jashina Jackson; godmother Katina; godfathers Lester, Alfred, Jahvon, Terrence, Matthew, Michael, Jemal and Pickney; her best friend more like a sister Sanai' Riley; close friend Treveon Lewis and host of cousins, godbrothers, god sisters, other relatives and friends.

Order of Service

Processional

Hymn of Comfort

Scripture Readings

Old Testament – Psalm 23

New Testament – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Elder Shawn Clark

Prayer of Comfort

Musical Selection.....Minister Yolanda Kelley

Remarks/Reflection.....2 minutes

Acknowledgements/CondolencesMs. Gina McKinney

ObituaryMs. Gina McKinney

Family Tribute

Musical Selection.....Minister Yolanda Kelley

EulogyReverend Alfred E. Steele
Seminary Baptist Church, Paterson, NJ

Final Viewing

Recessional

Interment
Cedar Lawn Cemetery
200 McLean Blvd
Paterson, New Jersey

Miss Me, But Let Me Go

Author: Christina Georgina Rossetti

*When I come to the end of the road
And the sun has set for me
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room
Why cry for a soul set free?
Miss me a little-but not too long
And not with your head bowed low
Remember the love that we once shared
Miss me-but let me go
For this is a journey that we all must take
And each must go alone.
It's all part of the Master's plan
A step on the road to home
When you are lonely and sick of heart
Go to the friends we know
And bury your sorrows
in doing good deeds
Miss me but let me go.*

Acknowledgements

With Warmest Thanks

The family of the late Zaniyah Yasme'in Drakeford wishes to acknowledge with their deepest appreciation the many expressions of love and acts of kindness shown to the family during our time of bereavement.

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