

Celebrating
THE LIFE OF

Arabia
YASMINE
Garland

SUNRISE: January 24, 1996
SUNSET: September 9, 2024

Friday, September 20, 2024 - 9:30am

Williams Institutional CME Church
2239 Adam Clayton Powell Jr Blvd • New York, NY 10027

Obituary

Arabia Yasmine Garland, known affectionately as "Ray Ray," passed away on September 9, 2024, in Newark, NJ, at the tender age of 28. Born on January 24, 1996, in Harlem, NY, she was a beacon of kindness and big-heartedness, touching the lives of many with her radiant smile, loving nature, and words of wisdom.

Ray Ray's early years were spent in the Children's Aid Dunlevy Milbank Center. She started her childhood development experience when still a baby, as seen in her stroller, while her mother was a dancing instructor for the Darrel Daniels Dance company. She also participated in the renowned Alvin Ailey Dance Camp and Milbank's After School and Summer Camp programs. In her Senior year, she received the Roger "Buster" Bryant College Scholarship. Milbank is where she found her calling to assist others and longtime friends.

Ray Ray worked as the site director of Children's Aid Hope Leadership Academy, dedicating her career to empowering young people. Her passion for starting her own business brought her to the position of CEO at Sage & Goodies Skin Care and For Baddies Only Apparel. She also started a podcast called Diary Talk, where she engaged with and encouraged many listeners on real-life situations such as co-parenting soul growth and soul healing.

A proud alumna of St. Paul's School and St. Raymond's Academy for Girls, she furthered her education at Buffalo State University, consistently striving for excellence in all her endeavors.

Ray Ray is survived by: her daughter, Saudi Amber-Ley Carey; parents, Niki Lassiter and Andre Garland; step parents, Casper "Boobie" Lassiter and Enna Garland; grandparents, Carolyn Watson and Margaret Garland; siblings, Mekkah Garland, Cashaa Lassiter, Egypt Garland, Casper Lassiter III, and Cairo Garland; as well as a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, and others who benefited from Ray Ray's cheerful spirit, which made life brighter for everyone. Even though her life was brief, she was a true gift to all of us, and we honor her today.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection..... Rev. Dr. Eric B. Turner

Scripture Reading.....Revelation 21:3-7

Prayer Pastor Emmanuel Westbrook

Selection.....Shamiea Thompson

RemarksShamaya Gaines
Niajah McGeachy
Andre Garland

ObituaryKashawn Watson

Selection..... Rev. Dr. Eric B. Turner

Eulogy Pastor Emmanuel Westbrook

Viewing

Recessional

Interment
Rosehill Cemetery
Linden, New Jersey



I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took his hand when I heard his call,
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I've found that peace at the close of the day.
If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My Life's been full, I savoured much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch,
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free.



Acknowledgement

The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. May God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.

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