



## Acknowledgements

The family of William J. Mayo wish to thank everyone for the flowers, cards, prayers, calls, texts, social media posts, monetary gifts and other expressions of love during this time of bereavement. A special thanks to Lifetime Fitness of John's Creek, GA, New Prospect Baptist Church and Preston Charles Funeral Home staff.

## Pallbearers

Charles Robinson • Mark Miller • Darnell Carr  
Dudley Bohannon • Nijel Mayo • Don Mayo

## Honorary Pallbearers

Mike Braxton • Terrylee Beacher • Larry Beacher  
Albert Beacher • Vennis Woods • James Williams  
Ronald Patterson



*A precious one from us is gone,  
A voice we loved is still.  
A place is vacant in our home,  
Which never can be filled.*



**PRESTON CHARLES FUNERAL HOME**  
400 N. Wayne Avenue • Lockland, OH 45215  
**Phone:** (513) 761-0082 • **Fax:** (513) 761-0257

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# Celebrating the Life of



## William Jonathan Mayo

*Sunrise:* May 5, 1966  
*Sunset:* February 5, 2021



**Saturday, February 20, 2021**  
*Visitation* – 10:00 a.m. • *Service* – 11:00 a.m.

**New Prospect Baptist Church**  
1580 Summit Road • Cincinnati, Ohio 45237

*Pastor Damon Lynch III, Officiating*



# Order of Service

Musical Prelude.....Joel Davis  
Parting View.....Family  
Scripture Reading.....Rev. Edward Dale  
Old Testament and New Testament  
Comfort Prayer.....Rev. Damon Lynch III  
New Prospect Baptist Church  
Selection – “His Eye Is On the Sparrow” .....Joel Davis  
Acknowledgements, Cards and Condolences...Erica Farris  
Remarks .....Rev. Tracie Hunter  
Western Hills Brethren in Christ Church  
Paul Booth, Morehouse Alumni  
Phil Black  
Additional Remarks (Limit 2 minutes).....  
Selection – “Jesus Is Love”.....  
Obituary.....Read Silently  
(A time to think and reflect upon the life of William J. Mayo  
and to remember his family in a prayer of Agape Love.)  
Eulogy .....Rev. Kenneth Bibb  
Second Trinity Baptist Church  
Benediction.....Rev. Damon Lynch III  
Recessional .....The Family  
“We Shall Wear A Crown”



## Final Resting Place

Vine Street Hill Cemetery  
3701 Vine Street • Cincinnati, OH 45220

Repast, immediately following the Interment at: Rose Chapel  
Missionary Baptist Church, 761 S. Fred Shuttlesworth Circle, Cin-  
cinnati, OH 45229 (due to COVID RESTRICTIONS, Family Only).

# Life Journey of William J. Mayo

**William Jonathan Mayo** aka “**Will**” was born on May 5, 1966 in Cincinnati, OH to Elaine Mayo and William Burton. **Will** departed this life on February 5, 2021 in John’s Creek, GA. **Will** accepted Christ at an early age and was baptized at Southern Baptist Church, under the leadership of the late Pastor James E. Milton in Cincinnati, OH where he served on the Jr. Usher Board and sang in the Inspirational Choir.

**Will** graduated from Roger Bacon High School in Cincinnati, OH and continued his education at Historically Black Colleges and Universities. He attended Central State University, then later transferred to the prestigious Morehouse College becoming a **PROUD MOREHOUSE MAN**.

Being a Mentor is what caused him 19 years of his life. **Will** tried to keep a low profile, but that was short lived when someone recognized him, and asked him to speak at a MLK Rally. From that point on, he vowed that he would always fight for equal rights, and the wrongfully convicted. He continued to speak out against injustice wherever needed. His CD “3 Credits Shy, A Dream Deterred, The Wrongful Conviction of William Jonathan Mayo” was his short story. He was always grateful for the late Rev. Milton’s assistance, The SBC Family and Friends who were always willing to support him; as well as Georgians and many HBCU’s fighting for his innocence. Most of all, for the late Kimberly Todd’s tenacity and friendship for getting his story recognized and always fighting for his freedom.

**Will** loved mentoring the youth, modeling and was pictured in many magazines. He was extremely intelligent, thoughtful, introspective and was blessed with a wonderful sense of humor. He was not overly talkative, but when he had something to say, everyone would listen.

**Will’s** passion was getting people healthy and was a very well-known Professional Master Level Fitness Trainer to a very Elite Clientele. His warm and outgoing personality attracted people to him and that contributed to his success. He worked at Lifetime Fitness and this became his extended family. The Lifetime Family affectionately called him “Dad” and “Uncle Will”, as he was the eldest of the trainers.

Above all, **Will** was a FAMILY MAN who always put FAMILY FIRST!!! Although he had no children of his own, he was a loving cousin and awesome uncle. He cherished spending time with his nieces and nephews and always let them know how proud he was of them.

**Will** was preceded in death by his grandparents, many aunts,

uncles and cousins.

**William** leaves to cherish his beautiful memories: his mother, Elaine Patterson (Elbert Patterson-deceased); father, William Burton (Myrtus) of Inglewood, CA; siblings, Dondeago Mayo, E. Lynn Davis (Mark Sr.) and Roxanne Burton-Ryles, all of Cincinnati, OH, Brian Burton of Macon, GA, Nicholas Burton of Inglewood, CA, Kimberly Burton of California City, CA and Michael Burton of N. Hollywood, CA; aunts, Darlene Jackson (Nathaniel “Uncle Sip”-deceased), Andrew “Sue Ann” Bryson, Mary Alice “Lil Bit” Bryson and Johnnie Mae “Sweets” Patterson, all of Cincinnati, OH; William’s fiancé, Dollicita “Dolly” Lawson of Suwanee, GA; siblings by marriage, Kareen Patterson, Derrick “Rick” Patterson and Darryl Patterson, all of Cincinnati, OH, Lathena Ellison, Deandre Ellison and Donnell Smith, all of Los Angeles, CA and Lamount Smith of Georgetown, KY; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.



## Broken Chain

We little knew that morning that God  
was going to call your name,  
In life we loved you dearly, in death we do the same.  
It broke our hearts to lose you, you did not go alone;  
For part of us went with you, the day God called you home.  
You left us peaceful memories, your love is still our guide,  
And though we cannot see you, you are always by our side.  
Our family chain is broken and nothing seems the same,  
But as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again.