

FLORAL BEARERS
COUSINS

PALLBEARERS
COUSINS

REPASS
Shady Grove AME Church
Council NC

*In Our Hearts
Forever*



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THE FAMILY OF MARK ANTHONY MCCRAY JR. EXPRESSES OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE TO MANY FRIENDS, RELATIVES AND SUPPORTERS DURING THE ILLNESS AND PASSING OF OUR DEARLY BELOVED. WORDS CANNOT CAPTURE THE REAL SENSE OF LOSS WE HAVE EXPERIENCED WITH THE DEMISE OF OUR LOVE ONE, NOR CAN THEY EXPRESS OUR DEEP GRATITUDE FOR EVERY EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY AND COMPASSION EXTENDED TO THE FAMILY. YOUR MANY KIND DEEDS, WHETHER THEY WERE VISITS, TELEPHONE CALLS, FLORAL TRIBUTES, CARDS OF CONDOLENCE, PRAYERS OR OTHER EXPRESSIONS HAVE HELPED US BEAR THE LOSS OF ONE WHO WAS VERY DEAR TO US. WE WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE NUNNELEE PEDIATRIC SPECIALTY CLINIC OF WILMINGTON, NC, CHILDREN'S HEALTH IN LUMBERTON, NC, COLUMBUS REGIONAL HEALTH CARE'S OT, PT, SPEECH AND FEEDING THERAPIST, HIS SCHOOL NURSE, SCHOOL STAFF, NEW HANOVER NICC UNIT, PHILLIPS HOME CARE. WE PRAY GOD'S CONTINUED BLESSINGS ON EACH OF YOU AND WE ASK THAT YOU CONTINUE TO KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYER.

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Mark Anthony McCray Jr.



"Closed eyes, heart not beating, but a living love."



Mark Anthony Mc Cray Jr.

"MJ"

EARTHLY BIRTH JANUARY 21, 2009 ~ HEAVENLY BIRTH DECEMBER 20, 2019



SATURDAY DECEMBER 28, 2019

1:00 PM

LAWRENCE BOWERS CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

WHITEVILLE, NC 28472

REVEREND WENDY L MCKOY, EULOGIST

REVEREND ANDY ANDERSON, OFFICIATING

Order of Service

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding,
in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths
Proverbs 3: 5-6

Reverend Andy Anderson, Officiant

PRELUDE.....Musicians

PROCESSIONAL.....Ministers and Family

HYMN OF PRAISE.....S. G. Gospel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING:
Old Testament.....Reverend Jerry Ganus
New Testament.....Reverend Andy Anderson

PRAYER OF COMFORT.....Ms. Melissa Bryant

SOLO.....Ms. Alexandria Blanks

REFLECTIONS(two minutes please)

SOLO.....Mr. Anthony McKenzie Jr.

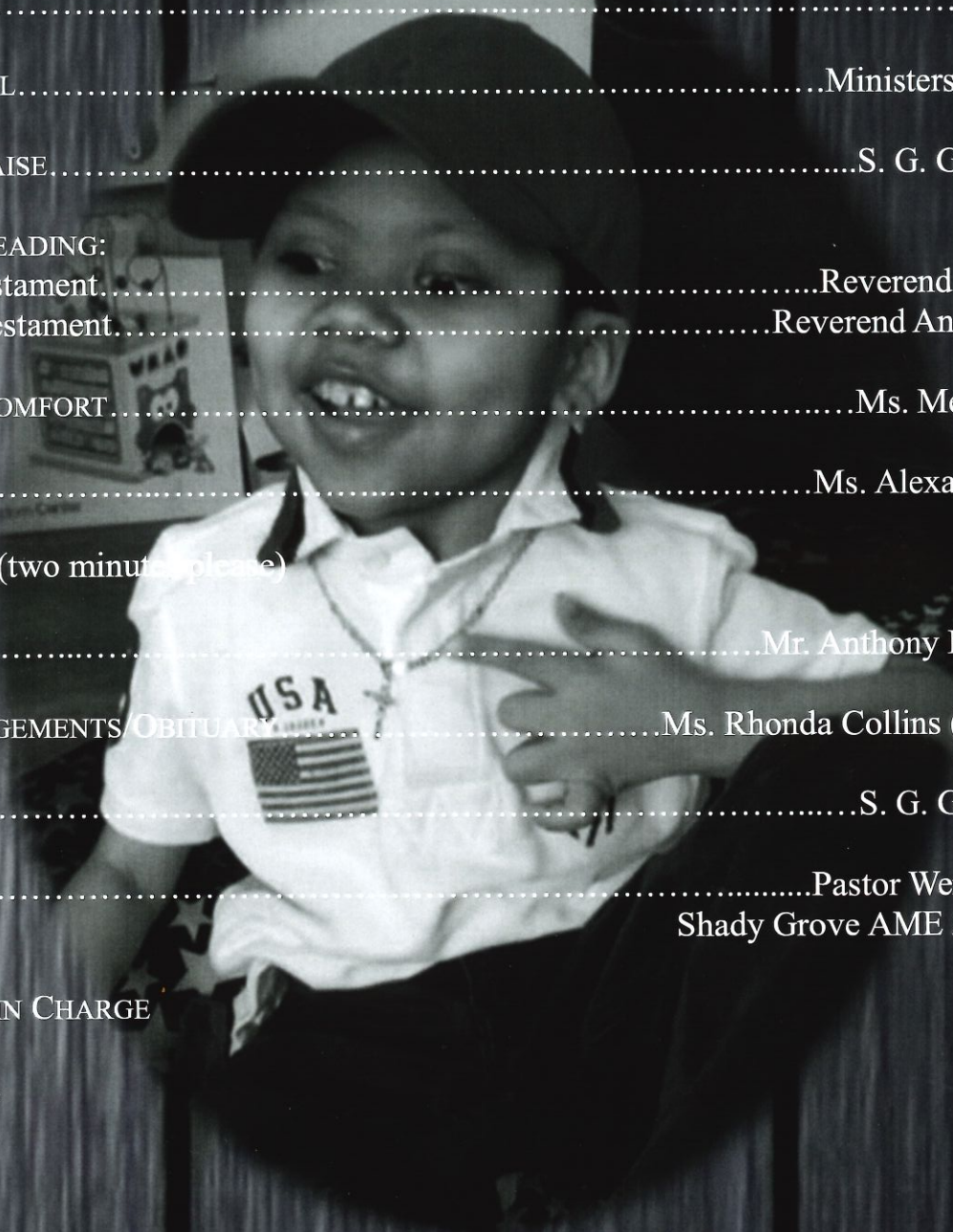
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/OBITUARY.....Ms. Rhonda Collins (Godmother)

SELECTION.....S. G. Gospel Choir

EULOGY.....Pastor Wendy McKoy
Shady Grove AME Zion Church

MORTICIANS IN CHARGE

RECESSIONAL



Service of Committal and Interment
New Hope Community Cemetery in Council

- His Life Remembered -

NEVER AGAIN WILL I CONFESS SICKNESS FOR

"WITH HIS STRIPES I AM HEALED"

ISAIAH 53:5

"I was given the gift of life, and now I have to give it back. This is hard. But I was a blessed little fella, who led a blessed existence, and for this, I am grateful. My full birth name is Mark Anthony McCray Jr., given to me on January 21, 2009, at 12:44 pm by my parents Shireese McKenzie and Mark McCray Sr. Still, to my family and friends; I am just plain old "MJ." I came into this world weighing 8 lbs and 2 oz's, and I was 19 "long. I was the most handsome, chubby, sleepy baby boy Columbus Regional Health Care Center had ever seen.

As time passed, the doctors noticed that I was a little bit different, as some would say I had some very special needs. The doctors told my mom, and my Mimi(Tiny) that I would be in a vegetative state for life and that life was only supposed to be for three years that made my mom and dad very sad. We had to let those doctors know that they were wrong. I don't think that the doctor knew about the strong praying family that I have. To my mom Thank you for all the sacrifices you've made from the perfect little body you may have lost when you gave birth to me, the grey hairs you grew from the stress of me being sick all the time, the sleepless nights taking care of me when I was sick or upset. And the time you've given to create the person I am today. Thank you for showing me what love truly is? I think God for putting my Mimi in my life she prayed for me every day and I love you for that Mimi and I want you to know you were my everything and I was your everything. Mimi I knew just what strings to pull to get my way with you. I knew that I could always count on you for any and everything; I want you to always remember the good times we had and always remember that I love you and I will see you again. When my mother and Mimi said no I knew you would not let me down Papa (Jr.).My papa junior he was the toy man he kept me with the latest toys and I knew if I went to the hospital I would have a toy before or after leaving the hospital. I want be able to help you run our company, "Dirt Road Feed" so I guess you will have to take over as CEO. Papa always remember the great times we had and know that you can always talk to me; I'm listening. Now let's talk about my nana Neicy, even though she was the one who didn't play, I knew how to get over on her. When she and my mother would plan on going somewhere without me, I knew how to stop that too. Nana Neicy you have never let me or my mom down when we needed you, you were always there. I was truly blessed to have you in my life along with my Papa Larry, when he would come home on that big truck and take Gary and me for a ride that was the best. He was always fussing at my mommy about putting tight jeans on me, and he would take them off and put me on some sweatpants and smile and say now, don't you feel better. I was blessed to have a beautiful large family. To my God sisters and brothers Gary Brown, Kia Faulk, Cyanna Martin, and Tyrin Peterson and my aunt and uncles, uncle Jaquaile Martin, uncle Gary Tyrell Mccray Jr., and aunt Tameka Nashaee Brown I loved each of you in my special way. I love going to church on Sundays with my mother and Mimi. And I knew after church we always would have Sunday dinner at my papa Sam's with uncle Antwand, uncle Tim, aunt Sharon, big Tim, and my favorite Lexi, they always had and knew what I love to eat.

When I was nine years old, my mother gave me a big surprise. I became a Big Brother to the best little sister one could have. My sister's name is Iyanna Kimani Powell, but we call her YaYa, she made for a great arm-rest at night when we were ready for bed, at first I wasn't feeling her, but I grew to love her she was my best friend. Not only did I get a little sister I got a man who was a great father figure in my life Kimani Powell not only did you love my mom and sister you loved me as if I was yours thank you for all you did to make sure I was okay. I always knew when it was Friday because you would bring me toys and food. You always loved taking my sister and me for rides on the horses, and we enjoyed it.

I never liked getting up in the mornings, but after I did, I was okay because I knew my nana Neicy and Ms. Judy Hemmingway would be their driving bus #72. Whenever I heard Ms. Judy's voice, I knew it was time to eat, by now you guys know I loved to eat. When I arrived at school my two favorite ladies – Mrs. Hyatt and Mrs. Lauren who were waiting for me and that always made my day I want to give a special thank you to Ms. Sherry Osbourne, Ms Judy McKoy and Ms Rachel Smith. And last but not least, my Rita bread. I knew I had you wrap-around my fingers toes and body as soon as you came around you would always say "hey my honey" I would drop my head, close my eyes with a crooked smile on my face. When you would start talking to others, I would begin to fuss because you were ignoring me. What the rest of the family didn't buy for me, you did. I love you Rita Bread. To all of my family; my grandparents, Otto and LaTania McKenzie, Larry and Tenneace Everette, Grace McCray, Garry and Tamika McCray, my great-grandfather, Samuel Blanks and all of my aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends, you guys have always held a special place in my heart, and I would never forget the times that we have shared.

I was never able to talk, but thanks to Ms. Angelyn; she was my voice to you guys today. I am now in God's kingdom walking, talking, laughing, playing, and doing everything I was not able to do on earth, in my earthly body. My life on earth is over, and I'm resting in the arms of Jesus. I am surrounded by the loved ones who have gone before me. Do not grieve for me. Be happy that after ten years, I have fought the fight, run the race, and reached the finish line. I will be waiting for all of you. ~ MJ



Mark Anthony McCray Jr. "MJ"

Reflections from the Heart

To my beautiful grandson MJ may you rest in peace. Grandma will miss your beautiful smile, you will always have a special place in my heart. I love you and miss you truly. Love your grandma Grace and uncle Scottie and Kevin.

Dear MJ, I love you, my beloved grandson, you were my first grand to enter into my life, and you will forever be in my heart and my thoughts. I'm forever grateful for the time that God has allowed you to be here on Earth, but I know you are in a better place with him in heaven thank you for your smiles and the joy you brought into our lives. I will truly miss you and forever love you, my beloved grandson, Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal with all my love your papa #2 Gary and Tamika McCray

Dear son, you made me the happiest man when you were born, you crushed my whole world now that I have to mourn. To watch, you grow from a seed to a young man has been a journey — the most sweetest innocent child you ever want to meet. MJ had the brightest smile that could light up a room, even though he was going through what he was going thru. He still found it in him to smile thru his darkest days. MJ impact a lot of people in a lot of ways. MJ kept me on the right track even when I strayed. Meaning I could never give up in life because I had someone watching and depending on me. But son, you fought your fight, you didn't lie down and give up. Even when the doctor said you wouldn't survive to be three years old, you almost reached 11 and proved them wrong. You also learn how to walk and talk, which may sound simple for most but was a battle for you. So to my Hero, Son, Junior, Juice, my First love, "your free son." Skip the line, be with the King. I'm forever proud of you, "It's always going to be Juice World.

Don't cry for me when I am gone, Celebrate the life I lived
Celebrate that I am gone to a better place no more suffering, no more pain
Now I can walk, now I can talk. Now I can see my friends that went before me.
Don't cry for me, not even when I am gone. My world is not over, it has just begun.
Celebrate the fact you knew me. Celebrate the times we shared.
Celebrate our joys, our love of life. For I am in a much better place.
Don't cry for me until I am gone. Don't cry from me, not even then.
But cry for your lost of a friend. Cry for the sorrows you feel,
Make room for the joys to remember. Don't cry for me. I won't cry for you.
Not until you are gone, but not even then, I will be waiting to see you again my friend
When you cross the stairway to heavens gates
~Unknown author

"Peace begins with a Smile"

