

*In Loving Memory of*



*Teshai S.D. Jefferson*

**February 22, 1974 - August 13, 2020**

**Service**

**Tuesday, August 25, 2020 - 11:00 a.m.**

**Cotton Funeral Service**

**1025 Bergen Street • Newark, New Jersey**



# Obituary

Ieshai Sadarea Jeffress Brown was born to Ann Jeffress and Calvin J. Brown in Newark NJ on February 22, 1974 at Newark Beth Israel Hospital. She was raised, educated and spoiled in both Newark NJ and Richmond Virginia. She graduated from George Whythe High School in Richmond Virginia in June of 1992.

Ieshai affectionately known as Esh had a knack for getting her way as she was spoiled by all who she encountered. Even with all her sassiness she somehow captured your heart and you found yourself taking care of her. Either buying her lunch, cooking her a meal or chauffeuring her around. Just know that as spoiled as she was there was nothing that she would not do for her family and friends. She always made it her business to lend an ear, lift you up and love on you.

Let's not forget her passion for shopping and eating. She did both often. She was truly a DIVA. There was never a time that you would see Esh not put together. She was dressed to perfection daily. You never saw her hair out of place EVER. She took pride in the way she looked from head to toe. At any moment if she needed anything Esh knew she could call her Daddy and he would make it happen for her every single time. She was truly a daddy's girl. She also found peace in traveling all over the world with her friends whenever she got the chance, despite the fact that she HATED FLYING!

While in Virginia she had a state job for couple of years then she returned home to NJ where she was employed at St. Barnabas Hospital and Dish Network. She started her career at Essex County Division of Community Action Department of Citizen Services. This was just another place where her coworkers spoiled her all the time. She especially enjoyed celebrating her birthday with her co-workers every year. She was the only one the job celebrated and she got her own personal carrot cake. She was known as the office Brat. Esh was such a caring person who loved to help everyone. She found great joy in this job where she got to do what she Loved which was servicing the community. She also started to further her education by pursuing her degree in criminal justice.

Her Greatest accomplishment was becoming a Mother to, two beautiful girls Ziyionnah & Zi'yah. There was nothing that she would not do for her girls. When it came to them the sky was the limit. She instilled in them all of her wonderful attributes everything from style, sassiness to education. She has definitely laid the foundation down for her children to give them all the tools they need to become Successful young women.

Ieshai Sadarea Jeffress Bown departed this life on August 13, 2020 after 7years of Bravely battling with breast cancer. She was the epitome of a fighter, a true warrior. She walked this journey with such Grace Dignity and Class , this was who Ieshai was and how she carried herself. Without a doubt she earned her wings.

Ieshai leaves to cherish her memory her mother Ann Jeffress, Father Calvin J. Brown. Her daughters Ziyionnah 14yrs old and Zi'yah 9 years old. Her Siblings Deidre Jenkins of Richmond, Virginia, Hope Jeffress of Raleigh, North Carolina, Rarjohn Jeffress of Bronx New York, Cynthia Sanders of Linden, NJ, Barabara Hudnell of Roselle NJ and Calvin Brown Jr. of Irvington, NJ. A host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Preceded in death her brother - Jerrod Jeffress, her maternal grandparents Ladd and Lucy Jeffress and her paternal grandparents Toby and Allen Brown. Forever in our hearts.

# Order of Service

Processional - Family

Acknowledgements/Obituary

Selection

Selection- Place of Worship

Scripture Reading -Kyle Bradby

*Old Testament- Psalms 23*

*New Testament- John 14:1-7*

Eulogy

Viewing

*Selection-Well Done*

Prayer of Comfort

Closing Prayer

Selection

The Recessional

Reflections (limit 2 minutes)

## **INTERMENT**

Evergreen Cemetery • Hillside, New Jersey

# # Long Live Mommy



## *A Promise To My Sister*



Ieshai's journey began seven years ago in July of 2013 after being diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer. She walked into Saint Michael's Hospital preparing for her first surgery. She was scared, angry and filled with so many emotions leading to the fear of not knowing what to expect. After she was prepared for surgery I started talking to her and speaking life and healing over her. Letting her know that she would get through this. I knew exactly how she felt because I had just been diagnosed myself 9 months before her. When I told her my story she looked at me and said we are Survivors. We instantly had a bond. I remembered the surgeon waiting for us, then we realized we had talk for so

long that we both forgot she was having surgery. We laughed so hard and at that moment she gave me the biggest hug and kiss and said promise me you will be right by my side through this. I said Absolutely sis where else would I be. Ieshai turned to the surgeon and said I'm ready I got my sister here by my side I can do this.

*After that she became fearless and we became inseparable.*

*She bravely battled this illness and refused to let anything get in her way. As her journey started her faith in God increased and she bravely approached every issue with positivity.*

*Every doctor's appointment and every test I was right by her side.*

*She started attending all the Breast Cancer walks with me every year sometimes 2x a year. She also organized lots of fundraising for the cause. She became a huge advocate for breast cancer awareness.*

*When times got discouraging Esh would always look to me for comfort and direction. She knew that I didn't play when it came to her or her health. Every time we went to a doctors visit she told all her doctors she was not worried because her sister Tamara would fight for her and not give up.*

*For seven years she would often say this but I never dreamed that on July 20th would be the start of a fight that would change our lives for ever*

*As her health starting declining every day I fought harder. Policies, rules and regulations at the hospital were changed for Ieshai. Every meeting with doctors and family quickly changed to Fighting for my Sister. I made it clear you will do Everything for my Sister no matter what. Every doctor listened and carried out each and every request me and her family had. Everyone took care of her like she was a family member. It was a privilege to be my sister's side every day and night. I got to hold her hand and pray with her and my favorite was listening to gospel songs all day.*

*We as a family got to witness a miracle from God on Aug 9th & 10th Ieshai did something the doctors said she would never do, she talked she drank and got to eat.*

*We believed the report of the Lord not the doctors report.*

*My prayer has always been for her to be healed but if it was God's will I already knew she had a seat in the Kingdom.*

*As my promise to her will never end when God called her home I was right there holding my sister Ieshai hand.*

*I can look her daughters, mother and father, every family member and friend in the eye and say to you all*

*I left nothing undone, I never gave up on her and I fought for her to the very End.*

*I Kept My Promise to My Sister.*

## *Letting Go*

The angels gathered near your side so very close to you  
For they knew the pain and suffering that you were going through  
I thought about many things as I held tightly to your hand  
Oh, how I wished that you were strong and happy once again  
But your eyes were looking homeward to that place beyond the sky  
Where Jesus held His outstretched arms, it was time to say good-bye  
I struggled with my selfish thoughts for I wanted you to stay  
So we could walk and talk again like we did... just yesterday  
But Jesus knew the answer and I knew you loved Him so  
So I gave to you life's greatest gift the gift of letting go  
Love Your Brother, Eric  
We will forever remain Ieshai Strong

## *Appreciation*

We the family of **Ieshai Sadarea Jeffress Brown**,  
Would like to express our sincere appreciation to all our family, friends,  
coworkers and neighbors for their support, acts of kindness and every  
expression of sympathy extended to us during our time of bereavement.

## Special Thank You

To the entire staff at Saint Michael's Medical Center, Cancer Center,  
Radiology, To the Amazing Doctors and Nurses in Intensive Care Unit  
Sameday Surgery -Nori Reyes- RN for always comforting her every time  
Endoscopy- Michele Burroughs her Prayer Warrior

Dr. Abo- Oncologist who always remained positive throughout her  
seven- year journey Head of Security Walter Pagan, Thank You for making  
sure my family got to visit everyday with no worries

## Special Thank You to

Dr. Yatinder Bains - Gastroenterologist, Dema Shamoan- Gastroenterologist  
Fellow, who never gave up on Ieshai. Your morning visits to her room  
brightened her day she looked forward to seeing you every morning.  
Amaar Ahmad - Third Year Medical Student you went above and beyond with  
what you were ever required to do. Ieshai loved you and you made her feel so  
comfortable you became her friend. Thank you, for being with her for every  
procedure. She would look for you every time and without fail you were there.  
From holding her had to comforting her, to making sure she was in her room  
comfortable even making sure her cell phone was charged. You made such a  
difference an impact on her stay along with everyone's impeccable bedside  
manner met everything to her. She was more than just a patient: she had a  
special place in all of your hearts.  
I would have never been able to care for my sister without all of you. Forever  
Grateful, Tamara Perry-Anthony



## Professional Services Provided By

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