

For we know that if our earthly tabernacle were dissolved,  
we have a building of God, a house not made with hands,  
eternal in the heavens (II Corinthians 5:1)

*The Celebration of Life*  
*Honoring*  
*Jamil Bashir Gilmer*

*Sunrise*  
*November 17, 1975*

*Sunset*  
*March 22, 2021*

**Friday, April 2, 2021 - 11:00 a.m.**

**Christ Church**

140 Green Pond Road - Rockaway, New Jersey 07866

*Rev. David D. Ireland, Ph.D., Lead Pastor*

*Eulogist, Pastor Anthony Franklin*

# *Obituary*

## *Jamil Bashir Gilmer*



*Jamil Bashir Gilmer*, aka “Jam,” was born on Monday, November 17, 1975, to Wesley Gilmer and the late Kim Renee Gilmer of South Orange, New Jersey. Quietly on Monday, March 22, 2021, Jamil transitioned to be with his Savior, Jesus Christ.

*Jamil Bahir Gilmer*, lovingly known by his family as “Jam,” and friends who called him “Mil,” grew up in Newark, New Jersey. He attended the Newark Boys Chorus School, where he was a member of the Chorus. Jamil attended and graduated from Colombia High School, Maplewood, New Jersey, in 1992. In 2018 he enrolled in Phoenix University to begin his studies in Business Management.

On April 19, 2002, Jamil met his wife-to-be, and on June 1, 2003, he married his love, Ayesha Gilmer. He affectionately became a father to Aliyah, Tanazsha, and Terrell. In 2005 Jamil and Ayesha purchased their first home in Plainfield, New Jersey, for their family. In this home, there was lots of laughter and lots of love. The family would take family trips by driving to Myrtle Beach, amusement parks, Lakes, and some parts of the Carolinas, or taking short local trips as a family. In 2003 Jamil accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. On September 7, 2003, he and his new bride were baptized together at New Life Family Bible Church, Newark, New Jersey.

*Jamil Bashir Gilmer* loved to visit and spend precious time with his parents in their South Orange home; he was often the cook known as the grill master during family cookouts. He enjoyed seeing his family come together in one central place.

*Jamil Bashir Gilmer's* favorite activity was spending time at home with his family. He also loved to play golf and baseball. He was a member of the Reservoir Dogs Baseball team of Somerville, New Jersey.

*Jamil Bashir Gilmer* was employed at American Institute, where he was employed for 12 years. After starting with the school in Clifton, New Jersey, he began to grow with the school. As he continued to grow with the school, he transferred to the Toms River location, and in 2017, he moved to the Somerset location, where he became the Campus, President. He loved to see students engage and interact within the community. He loved to see the students proudly practice their new skills and receive praise for doing well. He was very passionate about what he did at American Institute. He loved to see people grow and learn and change positively. Jamil was loved and admired by all who worked for him, where he motivated them to be the best they could be while working for the school.

*Jamil Bashir Gilmer* is preceded in death by his mother, Kim Renee Gilmer. He leaves to cherish his fond memories his loving wife Ayesha Gilmer, children in love Aliyah Evans, Jonesboro, Georgia, Tanazsha and Terrell Germany, Plainfield, New Jersey; grandchildren Breon, Carter and Rylee Evans; father Wesley Gilmer, sister Renee Gilmer, niece Lesedi Zuri Sanaa Moore of South Orange, New Jersey; uncle, Wayne Cleveland, Newark, New Jersey, and a host of other family and friends who he held close to his heart; and the American Institute family.

# *Order of Service*

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11:00 a.m.

Rev. Willie Freeman, Officiant

The Organ Prelude

The Processional ..... Clergy/Family

The Prayer of Comfort.....Rev. Willie Freeman

Musical Selection (Hymn).....Jena Fisher

The Reading of the Scriptures: .....Terrell Germany (Son)

Old Testament – Psalms 91:1-2

New Testament – 2 Timothy 4:6-8

Musical Selection.....Jena Fisher

Poem ..... Tanazsha Germany (Daughter)

## *Reminiscing - Friends of Jamil*

Travis Johnson

Chris Coutts

Hahz McMillian

## *Family Reflections*

Rahman Johnson (Cousin)

Antwone Cleveland (Cousin)

Acknowledgments, Cards, Obituary ..... Winona Cleveland

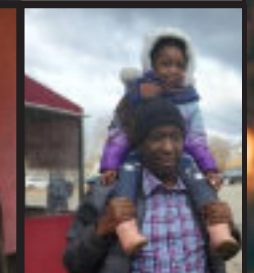
Musical Selection..... Jena Fisher

Eulogy ..... Pastor Anthony Franklin  
Christ Church - Rockaway, New Jersey

Recessional









# *Thank You*

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When life separates us, it separates the soul from the body.  
Sorta like the sun detaching itself from the earth after a few hours.  
But one thing remains the same; we never forget the memories  
within that time frame.

Or the light it brought that helped us smile some more.  
So I thank you, Dad

Thank you for the confidence you brought and everything you taught.  
Thank you for teaching me how to be optimistic and never make an early  
decision, because you understood how I had temporary feelings.

And thanks for teaching me how to stir those potatoes.  
Now Rylee loves them.

But furthermore  
Thanks for being the funny, laid-back, smiling man that you are.  
Because even if I lost confidence for a day,  
you showed me how to be the narrator for tomorrow.

I love you, Dad

*Tanazsha*

# *What up, Bro...*

It pains me not to hear "What up, Sis?" immediately following.

Writing this feels surreal. I am incredibly sad, hurt, and confused. I keep looking and waiting on you for one of our kitchen meet-ups to guide me through all of this. I am sick without it.

After everything with Mom, you told me you continued to find peace in knowing "to be absent from the body, is to be present with the Lord." It did not help me then, but those words keep resonating with me since Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. I know without a doubt that's your spiritual home now, and I will lean on that through my healing.

When I share our 12 year age difference with people, automatically, the assumption is that you were like a father figure to me. But they could not be further from accurate. You were the coolest person I ever knew, which is why I always wanted to be around you, your friends, and our cousins. I just wanted to soak in your boisterous energy- always smiling, laughing, and joking.

Blasting Jay Z and 90s hip hop-picking me up from school with the white hooptie-you were untouchable! I saw independence, individuality, hard work, and a dream being chased; I wanted to be just like you!

And as we got older, shootin' the breeze with my big brother, I experienced your wisdom. Your protection. Your kind heart. Your brotherly love. You provided clarity when I felt lost. Your comforting words picked me up when I fell down. You gave a perspective that challenged me. And the knowledge that drove me.

I will miss our talks about the family. I will miss our talks about the future. I will miss your push. I will miss our inside jokes. I will miss your laugh. I will miss "PRETTY GIRL" every time Zuri walked in your presence. I will miss teasing you. I will miss our hangouts. I will miss everything about you. I will miss everything about us.

I truly hope you knew how amazingly special you are, my dearest bro. I will love you forever.

Lovingly your sister Renee





## *Pallbearers*

Tahajar Hawks  
Travis Johnson  
Rahman Johnson

David Cummings  
Marcus Mayo  
Antwonne Cleveland

## *Acknowledgment*

The Gilmer family wishes to sincerely thank you for joining us today as we say farewell to our precious gift. Your care, concern, and love extended during this sad time have made the loss bearable. A special thanks to all who participated in the program. We especially thank the Christ Church family for your love and support during our time of need. No words can express how much you are loved and appreciated. The family also gratefully acknowledges each of you who have expressed love and concern through your prayers, visits, tributes, and other sympathy expressions.

### *Final Resting Place*

Graceland Memorial Park  
1900 Galloping Hill Road  
Kenilworth, New Jersey  
Exit 138 off of the Garden State Parkway

**Professional Arrangements Entrusted to:**

### **Preston Funeral Home**

153 South Orange Avenue  
South Orange, NJ 07079  
Phone: 973-762-1133  
Fax: 973-762-0735

[www.honoryou.com](http://www.honoryou.com)



# *My Love*



*You were my husband, my lover, my confidant, and my friend.*

*We shared a life that I thought would never end.*

*Who would have thought you would leave me this way.*

*There are a million things that I would love to say.*

*Your touch, your hug, your kiss, I will surely miss.*

*Our time together was filled with memorable bliss.*

*Good times, bad times, happy times, sad times, and sometimes tears,  
There was never a time that I regret loving you down through the years.*

*Your laughter and your smile I will always hold dear to my heart.*

*Your Loving Wife*