

*Celebrating the Life  
of*



*Shantay Neal-Baker*

**Sunrise**  
**September 17, 1978**

**Sunset**  
**August 14, 2021**



# Obituary of Beloved Detective Shantay L. Neal- Baker

Shantay La’Nore Neal-Baker was born on September 17, 1978, in New York, New York to the late Rev. Ollie Neal & Apostle Judy Banks-Neal. She was the seventh of eleven children and was raised in a house full of love and faith in God. One would think that having such a large family would hardly leave time for her to meet and bond with the tremendous amount of friends and travel divas- some so close she could call them family- but Shantay did! Shantay cherished and adored her family and always reached out to make sure each one felt loved and important no matter what. She served diligently as a vital member of the family reunion committee.

Shantay truly thrived- excelling as a student within the public schools of New York City’s Department of Education. She elected to attend Murry Bergtraum High School. She later completed her associates degree in business management and her bachelor of science degree at John Jay College.

Shantay grew up physically and matured spiritually under the care and direction of her first pastors her parents, Rev Ollie and Judy Neal, and Bishop Donald Kinsey as a member of Brooklyn Miracle Temple Church in Brooklyn, NY. Shantay always had a love for singing. She sung as a member of the children’s choir holding down the soprano section, and also was a member of the family and friends singing group- Sweet Spirit with guest appearance by The Little Neal’s and the Holy Ghost Posse. Shantay enjoyed putting her spin on a song as she sang the lead for the song “He’s Worthy”.

Never turning down a chance to display her vocal ability and fun personality, Karaoke remained one of Shantay’s favorite past times along with movie trivia and traveling. The stamps in her passport are plentiful and pretty impressive.

Shantay had a heart for people, and was a natural peacemaker, and bridge builder amongst friends, family and all she would come in contact with. She was affectionately known as Ms SUNSHINE because of her beautiful smile and her warm personality that touched the heart of all she encountered. She followed her passion into law enforcement. Shantay learned from the wise leadership of her parents, grandparents and aunts and understood that the meaning of life is to find your gift but the purpose of life is to give it away.

According to Pelé, a Brazilian former professional footballer, “success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do.” Detective Neal-Baker has shown this quote to be true throughout her life. She was appointed to the Department on July 22, 2002. During her tenure with the Department, she has been assigned to Patrol Borough Brooklyn North, 73rd Precinct, 90th Precinct, and the Performance Analysis Section’s Civilian Monitoring Unit. Prior to her appointment as a Police Officer, Detective Neal-Baker was employed by the New York Police Department as a Police Communications Technician.

Shantay’s crowning moments in life are when she accepted Christ as her personal savior, every single joy filled family gathering with all the trimmings, when she became the proud mother of her pride and joy Aquira Brianna & Kyle Emmanuel, when her daughter in love Julissa Baker came into her life, and when she became the wife to retired NYPD Detective Jeff Baker.

Shantay serves as a peer support member and the corresponding secretary for the PEA. As a peer support member, she makes sure that she keeps the confidence entrusted to her and listens with great care and concern. After providing an ear for others, she refers them to the appropriate outlet. While serving as the corresponding secretary for the PEA. Shantay is dedicated to making sure all of the women in the department obtain the information that they need regarding this job.

Perseverance is the ability to keep doing something in spite of obstacles. Shantay persevered and showed steadfastness in all she did despite how hard it was or how long it took to reach the desired end but she never gave up! Shantay proclaimed - I AM A CHILD OF GOD! She wasn’t ashamed to tell the world she loves the Lord.

Shantay served in many roles including:

- Member of Mt Moriah AME Church mime and women’s ministry
- Peer support member
- NYPD Policewomen’s Endowment Association Corresponding Secretary
- Graffiti clean up
- Operation: “Prom Princess” -> Collected new and gently used dresses & shoes
- Annual Masquerade Balls-> Award & Scholarship Dances
- Member of the Detectives’ Endowment Association
- Member of NYPD Guardians Association
- Brought Lupus Awareness to the Department, orchestrated in the creation of an NYPD Lupus Awareness 2020 Patrol Vehicle (May 5, 2020)
- Lupus Research
- Received certificate of appreciation from Susan J. Gloor (Regional Director, Northeast Region) for her dedication and leadership to solving the cruel mystery of lupus (May 14, 2016)
- Featured on one of Walk to end Lupus now posters, PR team picked her photo (2017)
- Completed Team Captain Power Hour Workshops
- Tithe paying member of Mount Moriah AME for 14+ years
- Family Reunion Coordinator/planner/facilitator
- Travel Divas Member (thetraveldivas.com)

Detective Shantay Neal-Baker’s mission was accomplished, and the Lord promoted her from labor to reward when he called his faithful servant home on Saturday, August 14, 2021, at Long Island Jewish Hospital in Queens, New York. She now rejoices with her father, Rev. Ollie Neal who preceded her in death and an innumerable host that awaits us all in glory.

The memory of Detective Shantay Neal-Baker will forever be celebrated by her Mother Pastor Judy Neal, her Husband Retired Detective Jeffrey Baker, Her Children Aquira Brianna Clarke, Kyle Emmanuel Baker and Daughter in love Julissa Baker, Siblings Eric Black, Sister Lashawn Black-Leonard (Robert), Brother Lamont Horton (Truc), Brother Joseph Neal, Sister Trina Mitchell (Deric), Sister Shaneek Dunn (Kelvin), Sister Ayesha Neal, Brother Tamar Neal (Valerie), Brother Amos Neal, Brother Jeremiah Neal (Symoine), Mother-in-law Yvonne Baker, Father-in-law Hercules Baker, Brother-in-law Steven Baker, Brother-in-law Eric Baker her Godchildren; Goddaughters Anala Folk, Cherish Neal and Grace Dunn, Her Aunts DellaMae Banks-Lawrence, Tina Perrington (Mike), Vivian Banks, Helen Reese, her Uncles Linell Banks, Ricky Seay, Robert Reese, her Godfather Frederick Douglas Phillips, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, church family, and NYPD family.



Friday ~ August 27, 2021 - 12 Noon

**The Greater Allen A.M.E. Cathedral of New York**

110-31 Merrick Boulevard  
St. Albans, New York 11433

*Order of Service*

The Reverend Dr. Alfonso Wyatt    Officiating

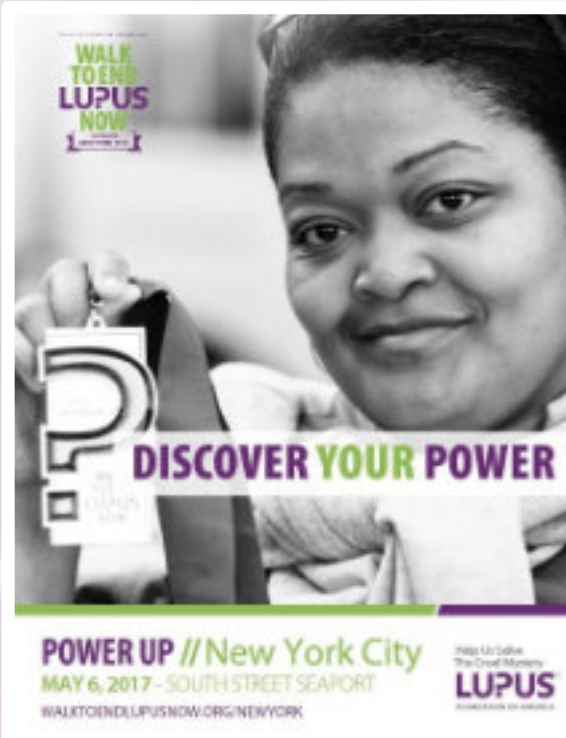
- The Prelude .....Guardians NYPD Ensemble of NY, Band, and Michael Pugh
- The Final Viewing
- The Opening Song    “Heart That Forgives” .....Michael Pugh
- The Prayer of Comfort.....Evangelist Annie Elmore
- The Selection..... “Safe In His Arms”..... Guardians NYPD Ensemble of NY & Band
- The Scripture Reading
- Old Testament –Jeremiah 29:11-13.....Bro. Kelvin Dunn - brother-in-law
- New Testament – II Timothy 4:7-8 ..... Christopher (Lil bishop) Mitchell- Nephew
- The Selection ....“ I Won’t Complain” .....Michael Pugh
- Acknowledgement of Condolences
- Presentation of Proclamation from U.S. House  
Of Representatives..... Congressman Gregory Meeks
- The Family Tribute & Dance/ Mime
- The Obituary.....NYPD Chief Donna Jones
- The Selection ..... “Stand” .....Guardians NYPD
- The Eulogy.....The Reverend Tiate Carson  
Greater Allen A.M.E. Cathedral of New York
- The Moments of Meditation
- The Closing Prayer
- The Benediction
- Words from Funeral Director
- The Recessional “Thank You, Lord” .....Guardians NYPD Ensemble & Band

*Interment*  
St. Peter Cemetery  
Archer Alachua County, Florida  
August 30, 2021



# *I've Changed My Address*

I've changed my address to Heaven  
I've crossed the Great Divide.  
I know there's no sorrow or crying,  
Because I've reached the other side.  
I am so happy to be here, for the Lord Himself I see.  
I've changed my address to Heaven,  
That's the place where you'll find me.  
I've changed my address to Heaven,  
I bid this world goodbye.  
I now live forever with Jesus in my new home in the  
sky. I have no burdens or heartaches  
and from tears I am now free.  
I've changed my address to Heaven,  
That's the place to find me.  
I've changed my address to Heaven,  
I'm safe forevermore.  
For the Lord built a mansion  
and my name is on the door.  
You can find us walking together,  
for where He is, I'll always be.  
I've changed my address to Heaven,  
That's the place you'll find me.  
-Author unknown



## *Acknowledgment*

The family wishes to thank all of you for your prayers, messages of comfort and the many other acts of kindness shown during our hour of bereavement.  
May God continue to bless you in a very special way.

*Professional Service Entrusted To:*



**SAMPSON**  
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

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