

Celebrating The Life of
Kimberly Melissa Brown
""Kimmy""

January 15, 1986 - September 12, 2021



Service Information

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2021
Viewing: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

ETERNITY FUNERAL SERVICES, LLC
725 East Gun Hill Road • Bronx, NY 10467

Celebration Service
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

BRONXWOOD INTERNATIONAL CHURCH OF GOD
3232 Lurting Avenue • Bronx, New York 10469

OFFICIATING:
Bishop Hixford Allen, Pastor
(Bronxwood International Church of God)
Rev. Nelson Morrison, Liturgist
(Bronxwood International Church of God)

Final Disposition
Private

Order of Service

Liturgist	Rev. Nelson Morrison
Processional/Musical Prelude	Min. Greg Reynolds
Invocation	Bishop Hixford Allen
Opening Hymn	I'll Fly Away
Scripture Readings	
Old Testament: Psalm 90:1-10	Rev. Andrea Johnson-Thorpe
New Testament: John 14:1-4 & 27-28	Sis. Donna Schumann
Words of Expression	Relatives, Friends & Church Family
Deacon Winston Gooden- Bronxwood International	
Juliet Walters-Former Caregiver at Beth Abraham Center for Rehabilitation & Nursing	
Bro. Okiel Parchment - Bronxwood International Church of God Fieldston Lodge Nursing and Rehabilitation Center Representative	
Paul S.D. Taylor - Family Friend	
Rev. Ingrid Peart - New Testament Temple Church of God Cecille Powell (Aunt) - On behalf of the Immediate Family	
Obituary	Ms. Denise "Lady D" Gomez (Cousin)
Offertory	
In aid of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society & Bronxwood International Church Building Fund	
Musical Selection	Sis. Faith Wedderburn-Atkins - How Great Thou Art
Homily	Bishop Hixford Allen
Prayer of Comfort	Deacon Lawrence Blackwood
Recessional	

Obituary

Beautiful, **S**mart, **S**trong, and **G**ifted was **Kimberly Melissa Brown** packaged beautifully by God for Castel and Beulah Brown. As she was affectionately called Kimberly, Kim, Kimmy, or Maddah Kim came into the world on January 15, 1986. Her parents were ecstatic! She shared the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday, which meant she was a shining star. Not only was her birthday significant, but she was their miracle, baby girl. Her parents, especially her Dad Castel, doted over her endlessly, and Kim knew how to have him eating from the palm of her hands, like the typical 'girly girl.'

From day one, it was evident that Kimmy was ready to embrace life every chance she had. She was a happy child who possessed an indomitable spirit, especially at Aunt Wanda's Daycare in Spanish Town, St. Catherine. She was clever and immersed in learning which marveled her teachers. In addition, Kim was an affectionate child who showed love to the babies and children her age.

After graduating from Aunt Wanda's Daycare, she went to Harrison's Preparatory School and shone like a star. Years later, Kimmy's scholarly pursuits pivoted, where she was successful in the Jamaican Common Entrance Examinations. However, her performance was two points short of her copping the coveted government scholarship. As a result, she entered the illustrious Ardenne High School. Kimberly acclimated to her new environment quickly. She applied herself to studying on her schedule and maintained excellent grades in Mathematics and the English language. In addition, she loved reading and articulated her thoughts in poetry.

While at Ardenne, it was inevitable that she would join the school choir. And that was not all; she never missed participating in their cultural performances. These activities held a special place in her life, and she glowed every time she had an audience.

As the months progressed, the once happy and focused Kimmy began to exhibit uncharacteristic tendencies. Her gait had become unsteady, and she vomited intermittently. Not only were there apparent physical changes, but her ability to handle them was unsettling to her. In addition, there were days she was emotionally incapable of focusing on her schoolwork while in school, which affected her performance and eventually curtailed her attendance.

Kimberly was loved by all who knew her, especially her immediate family, church, and community. They were highly supportive of her parents during numerous doctors' visits. The urgency to seek answers to these sudden and unpredictable occurrences was critical. Finally, the devastating and unfamiliar diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis (MS) was

revealed to her parents by the doctors in Jamaica. Again, the close-knit community rallied around in support of Kimberly.

And so, life changed for our beautiful fourteen-year-old Kimberly Melissa Brown. Her imminent trip to Miami Children's Hospital and Jackson Memorial Hospital, accompanied by her dad, sought confirmation. The result was conclusive; Kimmy had MS – progressive and aggressive. It was challenging to accept at first, but after several consultations with her doctors, Kimberly had to leave her family, home, friends, community, and Jamaica.

Several months later, Kimmy and her Mommy, Beulah (Paula), migrated to the Bronx, New York, to receive long-term treatment. She enrolled in Christopher Columbus High School. In her first year, there were signs that the MS was progressing. She was unable to walk on her own; the alternative was to place her in a wheelchair. Kimberly was determined. She maneuvered her chair through physical, emotional, and spiritual encounters in her life. Her faith in God held her close to Him when no one understood her. He kept her, and she wouldn't let go.

As the years progressed, Kimberly's condition worsened, and she could no longer live at home. Her Mom dedicated her time to ensure she received the best health care. She was placed in nursing facilities and loved by the nursing staff. We wonder how Kimmy never got fat from eating all the soups and dinners that friends brought to her, especially on Saturdays. Although the disease was aggressive, her eyes spoke when her lips no longer could. Her last transfer was to the Fieldston Lodge Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in the Bronx in 2018.

Kimberly's care was critical. She was placed on a ventilator with an induced tracheostomy as she could no longer eat from her mouth.

Kimberly was a beacon who came into the world and touched the lives of many people. Words cannot express how much we miss you, Kimberly Melissa Brown. We will remember your love for God, the sound of your voice, your beautiful smile, and infectious laughter. We are comforted with Psalm 147:3 "He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds."

Sleep on; we love you.

Survived by: Father, Castel Brown, Mother, Beulah Brown, Aunts: Burlet Brown, Delores Fearon, Monica Coward, Cecille Powell, Lorna Thomas, Claudia Thomas, Madge Taylor, Delores Thomas, Uncles: Winston Brown, Errol Brown, Victor Gomez, Lloyd Taylor, Stalin Thomas, James Thomas, Several Cousins, other family and friends.



How Great Thou Art

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works thy hands hath made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain.

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee.
How great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee.
How great thou art, how great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.

[Refrain]

But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

[Refrain]

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation,
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!"

[Refrain]



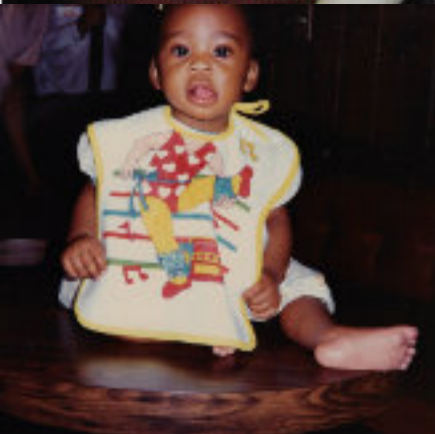


I'll Fly Away

Some glad morning when this life is o'er,
I'll fly away;
To a home on God's celestial shore,
I'll fly away (I'll fly away).

[Chorus]

I'll fly away, Oh Glory
I'll fly away; (in the morning)
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by,
I'll fly away (I'll fly away).



When the shadows of this life have gone,
I'll fly away;
Like a bird from prison bars has flown,
I'll fly away (I'll fly away) [Chorus]

Just a few more weary days and then,
I'll fly away;
To a land where joy shall never end,
I'll fly away (I'll fly away) [Chorus]





Acknowledgement

*The Family of **Kimberly Melissa Brown** wishes to thank each of you for your outpouring of love and support at this difficult time.*

*Your prayers and encouragement have lifted and sustained us.
We are forever grateful.*

May God continue to bless you.
The Brown & Thomas Family



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