

Obituary

Xhaiden Jahdai Brookes affectionately called "Pooka" by his mom and close family was born November 12, 2010 at Elmhurst Hospital. From his birth, one could see how special he was. His first name means "Beam of cleansing light" and his middle name carries the meaning "one that God directs". Each name by itself may not spark attention, but when combined, it means "A light that God directs". Xhaiden was loaned to us for a short season of 11 years. His life was a light that illuminated every life that it touched.

In July of 2008, Xhaiden was diagnosed with brain stem glioma. He was 18 months at the time, so he was not talking but walked unsteadily. As the years went by, he began to walk on the tip of his toes and learned some sign language to communicate his immediate needs. In 2011 he spent 2 years at Blythdale Hospital where he extended his influential light to the staff there, thus widening his sphere of love.

Although Xhaiden was not verbal, he communicated his likes, dislikes, needs and preferences in various ways. For example, when he was ready for his meal, he would go to the fridge, open it and search for what he needed. If he liked a particular cartoon show, he would make excited sounds. And if he wanted the channel changed, he would grab your hand and lead you to the TV to change it. Of course he only watched each show/cartoon for about 10 minutes so he would constantly bombard his mom with requests to change the TV channel. When he got older, his teacher taught him how to make his requests known by pointing and he would sign "all done" to indicate the need for a new program. That being said, his favorite programs were "Little Einsteins", "Backyardigans" and "Paw Patrol". His favorite book was entitled "I Love You Through and Through" by Bernadette Rosetti-Shaustak.



It Reads:

"I love you through and through.

I love your top side.

I love your bottom side.

I love your inside and outside.

I love your happy side, your sad side,
your silly side, your mad side.

I love your fingers and toes, your ears and nose.
I love your hair and eyes, your giggles and cries.
I love you running and walking, silent and talking.
I love you through and through ...
Yesterday, today, and tomorrow, too."

One could say that Xhaiden was a very opinionated individual. One could tell who his favorite person, nurse, teacher or relative was. Top of the list were his mom and dad, his aunt Sherika and great aunt Kadianne. If he hugged you spontaneously, even for only 3 seconds, you were on that list. There were times when he was watching his favorite program and you tried to get his attention and all he did was pretended you did not exist.

Lastly, Xhaiden was a real fighter. He endured much but complained little. In his brief time on Earth, he underwent 4 or 5 surgeries and came out triumphantly every time. At every hospital or institution he went to (Cohen's Children's Hospital, Blythdale Children's Hospital, Staten Island Hospital, and The Ronald McDonald House), he left a lasting impression on his daily nurses, therapists, social workers, doctors and teachers. He was loved by all whom he came in contact with. He was only with us for a short season but what an impression he has left with us!

Xhaiden departed this life on January 15, 2022 leaving his mom and dad: She-keisha and Johan Brookes, Grandparents: Sharon Gibson, Donald Scott and Yvette Walters-Brookes, Aunts: Sherika Gibson, Rochelle Gibson, ShaunaKay Scott, Uncles: Jelani Brookes, Evan Brookes, Donald Jr Scott, Roshani Scott, Marlon Gibson, grand aunts, grand uncles, cousins, god parents, teachers, nurses, therapists and friends.

Order of Service



Processional

Officiant: Pastor Lincoln Graham Jr.

Opening Hymn: OPT Praise and Worship Team (Blessed Assurance)

1st Corinthians 15:51-55: Elsa Duncan-Ebanks

2nd Corinthians 5:1-10: Jamiyla Shroud-Garrett

Prayer of Comfort: Pastor Lincoln Graham Jr and Pastor Alec Mitchell

Poem: Karone Playfair

Tribute 1: Sis. Sherika Gibson

Tribute 2: Mr. Evan Brookes

Tribute 3: Ms. Lauren Brown

Tribute 4: Ms. Sasha-Gaye Weise

Tribute 5: Sis. Sanya Grange

Poem: OPT Sunday School Department

Tribute 6: Sis. Aisha Williams

Open Tributes

Musical Selection: OPT Praise and Worship Team (Precious Lord Take Me Home)

Eulogy: Sis. Marie Graham

Message and Closing Prayer: Pastor Lincoln Graham Jr.

Final Viewing

Recessional

Interment
Friday, February 4, 2022 - 10:00am
Pinelawn Cemetery, Farmingdale, New York







Acknowledgements

The family would like to express sincere thanks and appreciation to all our friends for their well wishes, words of comfort, prayers and other acts of kindness during this time of sorrow.

Funeral Arrangements Entrusted To

Perfect Peace Funeral Homes Inc.

2200 Clarendon Road Brooklyn, NY 11226 Floyd W. Gilmore, President



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