

In Loving Memory of



Harvest J.A. Mayes

November 22, 2021-January 18, 2022



Saturday, February 5, 2022 - 11:00 am

A Better Life Ministry
129 Linden Ave., Jersey City, NJ 07305

Obituary

God blessed Aarion & Quadiera Mayes with the life of **Harvest Joy Aaryen Mayes** on 11/22/21 at 12:51pm. Harvest was no ordinary child. Her life was a testament to God's sovereignty. Prenatally, Harvest was diagnosed with a life-threatening condition that required medical care to be received at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). Through a frightening pregnancy of traveling, difficult conversations, and intense doctor appointments, we remained hopeful and prayerful for Harvest's birth. Upon Harvest's entrance and survival in the world, NIICU West Bed 14 became "home" and the many who came through there became family. Our love story with Philadelphia, PA grew as God gave us the gift of Havey J for 56 days.

Although Harvest's lifespan was not a large length of time, the quality of her legacy and example will remain for generations to come. Harvest's will to survive could ONLY be attributed to her connection with God. Harvest's personality became known amongst the nursing staff in NIICU WEST. She was affectionately referred to by nursing staff as "the little cutey who proved us wrong." She was sweet and very strong willed. Although Harvest had a breathing tube, she communicated clearly. Her personality was very loud and clear when she was upset. She was so attentive and present in moments that she enjoyed. Her body told doctors when she was ready to be removed from the ECMO machine, receive corrective surgery, and have her surgery womb closed. Harvest's journey proved that God was leading the decisions of doctors, orchestrating the sequence of events, and keeping her family sustained while she fought to be well. Our family was amazed and blessed by the sovereignty of the Lord.

Harvest's 56 day journey allowed for so many memories to be cherished. Daily, Harvest was affectionately met with songs, scriptures, encouragement, new nicknames, and prayers as she fought to be well. Harvest especially enjoyed book reading with (older sister) Mckenzi Robinson or hearing (older brother) Zion Mayes sing [cocomelon] songs to her. Harvest lit up while listening to stories from (daddy) Aarion Mayes and receiving coconut oil rub downs from (mommy) Quadiera Robinson Mayes. Harvest pushed harder when (nanmaw) Sandra Robinson Green gave "Angel Eyes" forehead kisses and prayed over her body. She fought to open her eyes when (Pop Pop) Anthony Green read Psalms 91 over his "Pumpkin Spice." Harvest was blessed with daily prayers and check ins from (Mimi) Velma Crawford and (Grandpa) Willie Mayes. Harvest's memory will also be cherished by all her uncles, aunts, cousins, godparents and those who made her a household name.

Harvest's life also bread a community of prayer amongst family members and believers near and far. With each surgery, peak and valley, celebration, and new development in Harvest's health there were chains of prayer across the United States. Prayer Warriors across the US became invested in Harvest's life and progress. Harvest Joy was everyone's baby, not just ours. We were happy to share her with all those she was intended to touch. As her daddy eloquently declares, "Harvest didn't live long enough to know or participate in the darkness of this world. Instead, her life brought light and that's how she will be remembered..In Light!" The Journey of Harvest Mayes was well worth the 80,640 minutes, the 1,344 hours, the 56 days. She will truly be missed.

Order of Service



Processional

Selection

Scripture Readings

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Family and Friends

Obituary

Special Remarks from Dad

Aarion Mayes

Selection

Eulogy

Pastor Terrance R. Mays Sr.

Recessional



I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me
I took his hand when I heard Him call

I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day.

To laugh, to love, to work or play.

Tasks left undone must stay that way,

I found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void,

Then fill it up with remembered joy.

A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,

Oh, yes these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow,

I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.

My life's been full, I savored much.

Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,

Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.

Lift up your heart and share with me,

God wanted me now, He set me free!

-author unknown

Acknowledgements

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to the CHOP medical, social work and psychological staff. The family would also like to thank the staff of the Philadelphia, PA Ronald McDonald House as they assisted to ensure the family's comfort throughout their stay in Philadelphia. Lastly, once again thank you to all those who through prayer and community walked by our side through this journey. We love and appreciate you all!



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