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SUNRISE: October 24, 1999 - SUNSET: May 1, 2022

Wednesday, May 18, 2022 - 5pm

**Greater Zion Hill Baptist Church** 2365 8th Avenue, New York, NY 10027





The star that was **Mia Imani Noelle Miller** was born to parents, Margret Groves and Vincent Miller on October 24, 1999. Mia grew up in Harlem with her brother, Damen and two sisters, Hayley and Chelsea. From a young age, her family knew Mia had a "big" personality.

Education and perfect grades were always important to Mia. Mia started her education at Hamilton Heights Academy, where she would have meltdowns if she got anything less than a "4" on her report card. In fifth grade, Mia transferred to Kipp Infinity Charter School. It was here that this star began to shine. Dance was not just what she did but who she was... From "Chicken Noodle Soup" to her signature, "Harlem Shake" .... how Mia loved to dance.

She could always be found dancing in one event or another. Mia performed...dancing and singing on stage... in shows for Black History Month, Hispanic Heritage and many other holiday shows. She participated in the Kipp Infinity Chorus, all while maintaining Dean's List status. Upon graduating from Kipp Infinity, Mia attended Kipp NYC College Prep High School, where her academics and performance skills became more polished. Mia became a member of the Dance Club. As "Annie" or in "The Nutcracker" or "The Wiz"; with no formal training, there was Mia front and center.

Mia was an activist... an extremely socially conscious young lady. She led her classmates on a walkout against gun violence and participated in several Black Lives Matter events. Mia remained an Honor Roll student throughout high school and graduated with Honors and a college scholarship. Health issues prevented her from going to college, but that did not deter her passion for life. Mia recently returned to Kipp Infinity to work as an Instructional Aide. She was also a part of, "Sisters United Mentoring Program", where her profound wisdom belied her "baby face" and she imparted her words of encouragement, love and light to mentees and mentors alike.

As Mia's health became more challenging, she turned to her spirituality. On October 10, 2020, Mia made the decision to get baptized at Bethel Christian Center. Mia's challenges also gave birth to her brand, "Skin Like Mine" whose mission was to empower, uplift and provide healing to others facing self-esteem issues and dealing with the challenges and traumas of life. Mia will always be remembered as a "fashionista", or as she called herself, "the baddest chick," which was expressed in the various styles and colors of her hair. Mia lived her life with passion and greatly impacted everyone who knew her.

Mia's light unexpectedly died on May 1, 2022. Mia is survived by her loving parents; stepfather, John Hamilton; sisters Hayley, Groves and Courtney Miller-Williams; brother, Damen Groves; nieces, Nia Simone, Hayley, Imani and Jade (whom she mentored and loved very much); nephew, Kaden Baskerville; cousin, Ronald Smith II; Aunt Corliss Baskerville (husband, Silas Baskerville); godparents, Dominique Cunningham and Mychal Sledge; mentor, Norelle Bell; beloved and childhood friend, Kayla Lee; her Kipp Family and students; and a host of family, friends and loved ones.

"May Mia's spirit dance with the angels for all eternity" #skinlikemine

rder of Service

**Processional:** Clergy and Family (Unstoppable by Koryn Hawthorne)

**Presiding & Expeditor:** Pastor Joseph Bell, Bethel Holy Church

**Prayer of Comfort & Remarks:** Bishop Derek K. Price, Bethel Christian Center

**Old Testament Reading:** Associate Pastor Donald Bonham, Bethel Christian Center

**New Testament Reading:** Evangelist Dorothena Bonham, Bethel Christian Center

**Selection:** "His Eye is on The Sparrow"

Dance Tribute Choreographed for Mia (via video): Jamia Jordan, Kipp NYC College Prep

**Obituary:** Courtney Miller-Williams, Mia's sister

**Family Reflections:** Ronald E. Smith II, Mia's cousin Corliss Baskerville, Mia's aunt Mychal Sledge, Mia's godfather

## **Remarks:**

Debra Johnson-Sledge, Sistas United Group Norelle Belle, Mentor Kipp Infinity School & College Prep Friends & Associates (2 Minute Limit)

## Selection

**Eulogy:** Pastor Joseph Bell, Bethel Holy Church

**Benediction:** Pastor Joseph Bell, Bethel Holy Church

**Final Viewing** 

Recessional: (Musical Melody)

Repast: Bethel Holy Church, 930 St. Nicholas Ave.

**INTERMENT:** Rosehill Cemetery, Linden, NJ (May 19, 2022)



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 his call, I turned my back and left it all. I could not stay another day, To laugh, to love, to work, to play. Tasks left undone must stay that way, I've found that peace at the close of the day. If my parting has left a void, Then fill it with remembered joy. A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss, Ah 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 savoured 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.

Mcknowledgement

The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. May God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.

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