



Amanda CeCelia Manning

December 26, 1957 - July 25, 2025

AMANDA CECELIA MANNING, lovingly known as “Porsha,” of Baltimore, Maryland, danced her way into eternity on July 25, 2025, surrounded by the same fierce love she so freely gave.

Born on December 26, 1957, in Baltimore, Amanda lived a life ablaze with laughter, movement, and purpose—a life that burned bright like fire: impossible to dim and unforgettable to all who felt her warmth.

As the eldest child of Sandra McDonald and Clarence Davis, Amanda grew up with a profound sense of responsibility and resilience. Though Baltimore was her beginning—where she gave birth to her oldest daughter—Amanda’s journey also led her to Virginia, where she welcomed her two youngest daughters. From her early days modeling and dancing in local recreation center classes to becoming a beloved MaxMedia instructor, Amanda never stopped moving—and never stopped shining.

Her career was as dynamic as she was, though her longest and most meaningful professional chapter was as a research coordinator at Johns Hopkins University. Still, Amanda would tell you that her proudest roles were Mother, Granny, and Mom-Mom. She poured boundless energy, wisdom, and

support into her three daughters—Sheree Lightner, Keamba Manning, and Khaira Mitchiner—and she celebrated every milestone of her five grandchildren: Nizah Dillon (Pumpkin), Kyreese Dillon (Reesome), Chauncey Moody, Panther Adams (Panther Poo), and Dion Mitchiner Jr (DJ).

Amanda believed in working hard and playing even harder. She loved deeply, laughed loudly, danced often, and traveled whenever she could. Her favorite color was red—bold, vibrant, and alive—just like her. She adored elephants and butterflies, found peace near water, and left every space brighter than she found it. With her lifelong love of music, family, and fun, Amanda was truly the life of every room she entered.

She was a woman of immense strength, deep soul, and unapologetic self-expression. She taught her daughters that it's okay to be different, to stand strong in who they are, and to set boundaries with grace. She nurtured not only dreams but identities, gifting her family with the rare and enduring comfort of unconditional acceptance.

Amanda is survived by a loving constellation of family: her sisters, Sandy Williams (“Poochie”) and Schrae Baker (“Rae”); her stepmother, Barbara Lambert; her sister-in-laws, Shalaya Brown, Sharon Brown, and Prell McDonald; her brothers, Rodd Brown and Erskin “Ricky” Brown; and her brother-in-law, Edwin Baker. Her legacy lives on through her daughters, her sons-in-law, Aiken Wilson, Dion Mitchiner, and Akeem Myers; her grandchildren, and her many cherished nieces and nephews, Cierra Andrews, Yolanda Adger (Landie), Brianna Brown, Rodd Brown Jr., Tameika Brown, Davon Brunson, James Brunson (Mook), Tehron Brunson (Boobie), Bentaviya McDonald, Daron McDonald (DaDa), Gordon McDonald (Boo Boo), Erica White, Dartanion Wallace (Antwon), Jamar Whack, and Robert Young Jr.

She also leaves behind her lifelong best friend, Alice Adger—whom she referred to as her sister—and her devoted partner, William “Diesel” Dowdy.

Amanda now reunites with those who went before her: her parents, her sister, Christine “Candy” Davis, Benjamin “Bubbles” McDonald, Melvin Williams, her nephew, Gerard Faulkner; and her niece, Lateshia “Muff” Webb.

Amanda didn’t just live—she lit up life. She would not want our tears, but our celebration. She would ask us to dance in her memory, wear red in her honor, swim in summer waters, and laugh as loudly and as freely as she always did. She would want us to live—boldly, joyfully, and with hearts full of fire.

So, we don’t say goodbye, Amanda. We say thank you. Thank you for the music, the wisdom, the hugs, and the legacy. You are not gone—you are simply dancing in a different light now.

Cemetery Details

Private

Baltimore, MD

Previous Events

Memorial Service

AUG 2. 1:30 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home - East
1101 E. North Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21202

Tribute Wall



“ *March Funeral Homes created a Webcast For Funeral on Amanda Manning in memory of Amanda CeCelia Manning*



March Funeral Homes - August 02, 2025 at 01:51 PM

SH

“ *I'm so sorry I'm just finding out about the passing of Amanda. So heartbreaking. I met her working at JHU. She was always full of so much joy and always had me cracking up. Her love for her children exuded through our many conversations. Her smile, her light, and her energy will forever be missed and cherished. I'm grateful to cross paths with her. Rest well Amanda. Prayers for strength and comfort to her beautiful family.*

Shenika - August 09, 2025 at 09:33 PM

IS

“ *I remember you took me to my 1st block party on the projects. Our walks back to the hotel. We expressed how close our families were going up. I promised you. I will call you or text you every day. The day you passed away. I didn't get a response. I thought you were tired from your chemo treatment. The phone call i received shocked me and my children. I'm so glad I was able to spend time with you. Love you cuz.*

Irrainia Sutton - August 02, 2025 at 02:01 PM

KD

“ I meet Porsha when she lived in Virginia one of the nicest person you could have meet she was full of light Karen Young Dancy I'm the lady who baby sat KeAmba when she was only a few months old so sorry for your lost

Karen Young Dancy - August 02, 2025 at 08:27 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Amanda CeCelia Manning.



August 01, 2025 at 03:21 PM

ID

“ Irene D. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Amanda CeCelia Manning.



Irene D. - July 31, 2025 at 02:22 PM

OC

“ Outpatient Infusion Center purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Amanda CeCelia Manning.



Outpatient Infusion Center - July 31, 2025 at 11:45 AM

AF

“ My heart is truly broken 💔 To my extended family I know you're pain is the greatest of all, but she'll always be with y'all and will live on through your memories!! My deepest condolences and I love y'all!!



Aunt Alice

Alice/ sister/best friend - July 31, 2025 at 08:03 AM



“ Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Amanda CeCelia Manning.



July 30, 2025 at 09:12 PM



“ Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Amanda CeCelia Manning.



July 30, 2025 at 12:19 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Amanda Celelia Manning.

July 30, 2025 at 12:19 PM



“ We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

March Funeral Homes - July 29, 2025 at 03:25 PM